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OCTOBER 6, 2012

www.columbiacollegealumni.org
Deconstructing Complexity

In my many dealings with various constituencies, it is fascinating to learn of their perceptions of the college. Some view it as a small, Midwest, liberal arts and science institution, serving traditional-age students, many of whom live on campus in residence halls. This is a view held by many parents in particular. Then there are those who view it only as a working adult oriented evening program. Others view us as an online portal and do so from a purely electronic perspective. Many know that we cater to the military, but they are uncertain of the relationship. Further still, many are surprised to learn that we operate country-wide via our Nationwide Campuses in addition to online.

The fact is that all of these perceptions are valid. We are truly a hybrid institution dealing with multiple variables on a daily basis. With excellence in teaching and learning as our goal, we are required to be flexible, creative and relevant. We search always for efficiencies and attempt to standardize processes. Given our hybrid nature, however, we are required to customize certain aspects of our policies and procedures. One such requirement pertains to the fact that our day program operates on a 16-week semester and our other programs on eight-week sessions.

Columbia College is a complex organization, a community of hands-on experts, all of whom contribute to achievement of mission. Over the years, we have become adept at deconstructing complexity in order to simplify and devise practical solutions to difficult problems. We have become equally adept at creating, directing and managing change. Many of these activities take place on the back channel and rarely enter into the observer’s perception of the organization. A key goal is to find additional ways by which to increase positive perceptions of the institution from all quarters. That goal will be achieved as our quality and services continue to grow.

Jerald T. Lownder
Inside the Gate
affinity wins three awards, philanthropy at Columbia College, virtual commencement, three new trustees and our 30,000th student

MyCCAA
2012 alumni award winners, Where's Scooter? plus Calling all Columbia College authors!

Faculty profiles
Meet Greg Adank ’94, Fort Leonard Wood, and Dr. Michael Lyman, professor of criminal justice

Big Lots
Chairman, CEO and President Steven S. Fishman ’74 and Columbia College’s unique working relationship with Big Lots

Art professors Ben Cameron, Ed Collings and Tom Watson granted professor emeritus status

Forensic science program celebrates 10th anniversary

Cougar Sports Zone
Meet the new coaches; plus men’s and women’s basketball, volleyball and softball updates

CC Notes
News from your fellow alumni

On the Cover:
Big Lots Chairman, CEO and President Steven S. Fishman ‘74 with Columbia College Big Lots interns Robert Tietjen ‘10 and Karen McCausland ‘12
You are holding an award winner.

The summer 2011 edition of affinity won a silver from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District VI for excellence in communications/periodicals and a Platinum MarCom award from the Association of Marketing & Communication Professionals. More than 5,000 entries were submitted by corporate marketing and communication departments, advertising agencies, PR firms, design shops and production companies from all over the world, so winning platinum — the highest level of award — is an honor. Less than 20 percent of all entries were awarded platinum.

Other MarCom platinum winners include such top international firms as AFLAC, Bloomberg LP, Calgary Economic Development and the Canada Council for the Arts, Carnegie Mellon University, Fidelity Investments and J.P. Morgan, Hilton Hotels & Resorts, Hitachi and Toyota, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab and Lockheed Martin, St. Jude Medical Center and UnitedHealthcare — prestigious company indeed.

CASE also awarded the feature story “Columbia College: Anytime, Anywhere” from the spring 2011 issue a gold for excellence in writing.

We’d like to get your feedback on affinity. What do you like? What do you dislike? Go to www.columbiacollegealumni.org to take a short survey and a chance to win one of three $50 Barnes & Noble gift cards.

I hope you enjoy this issue of your award-winning magazine! nwfandek@ccis.edu.
Philanthropy at Columbia College is about more than giving money. It’s about changing lives.

It’s one of the many reasons why Columbia College has fostered a culture of giving, one that honors not only those who benefit from philanthropy but also those who make it possible. To date, there are more than 1,400 annual donors who help make scholarships, building projects and advancements in learning possible.

"Philanthropy is vital to the success of any institution, and Columbia College is no exception," says Lindsay Lopez, senior director of Development. "Our contributors have a tremendous and positive impact on students, alumni, faculty, programs and building projects. As an institution, we are pleased to celebrate the generosity of our contributors and the philanthropic partnership they share with us through membership in various societies and clubs."

These societies and clubs, including the President’s Society, 1851 Society, and St. Clair Society, have convened annually to celebrate and reflect on the future of Columbia College — a future made possible by the generosity of its philanthropists.

Changing lives? Yes. This culture is thriving.

For more information on giving at Columbia College or how to become a member of one of these societies, please visit www.ccis.edu/development/contributorappreciation.asp.
December commencement: LIVE

May is traditional commencement season, but December is rapidly becoming a contender at Columbia College as nearly 400 students walked in two ceremonies. Sheer numbers necessitated two ceremonies for the first time.

Dr. Gerald Brouder, president, was speaker and Martha Eberhard ’00, CCAA president, gave the alumni charge at both ceremonies. The ceremonies were preceded by the pinning of nursing graduates.

Bachelor’s degree candidates predominated, but there were more than 30 nursing associate degree candidates and nearly 40 graduate students in business, teaching and criminal justice, proof that a true graduate culture has taken root.

Graduating students traveled from more than 20 Nationwide Campuses, some from as far away as Texas, California and Washington.

Brittani Alexander, Elizabeth Weise, Kerianne Russell (inset); Courtney Lauer-Myers and Julie Teeple, Class of 2011

Shaun Aegerter and Trisha Rigsby
Meanwhile, the college has also developed a virtual commencement page for graduates who cannot attend the main campus commencement and celebration. [www.ccis.edu/virtualcommencement](http://www.ccis.edu/virtualcommencement)

Virtual commencement includes just about everything as a live commencement:

- An address by President Gerald Brouder
- A commencement address by Karen Taylor ’89, executive vice president of consumer banking, Boone County National Bank
- An alumni charge by CCAA President Martha Eberhard ’00
- A campus by campus list of graduates, sortable by degree
- A list of all graduates with Dr. Terry Smith reading each name. This page also includes a comment feature so you can write to congratulate your graduate.
- Look for a graduate profile page and the ability to upload a photo, coming soon.

Columbia College joins only a handful of higher ed institutions with virtual commencements. 

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**AND VIRTUAL!**
Year after year, prestigious educational rating services rank Columbia College as one of the best colleges in the nation:

**U.S. News & World Report.** For the eighth year in a row, Columbia College has been ranked in the top tier of “America’s Best Colleges” by U.S. News & World Report. Columbia College also ranked No. 2 for “Least Debt Load,” a new category listing schools whose class of 2010 graduated with the least amount of debt.

**The Princeton Review.** Columbia College was named a 2012 “Best Midwestern College” by The Princeton Review based on academic excellence and surveys of current students.

**GetEducated.com** designated seven Columbia College online degrees “Best Buys:” bachelor’s degrees in criminal justice, business, human services, psychology, sociology and master’s degrees in business and criminal justice.

**Student Horizons, Inc.** named Columbia College a “College of Distinction,” one of only 250 higher educational institutions in the U.S. and six in Missouri to be named to the list.

**Military Advanced Education**, a publication focusing on educational services and opportunities for military students, evaluated more than 3,000 institutions on military-friendly practices. Only 10 percent, including Columbia College, were selected as being military-friendly.

**G.I. Jobs** magazine selected Columbia College as a military-friendly school due to the college’s steadfast commitment to educating military and student veterans. The honor places the college in the top 20 percent of all schools nationwide in this category.

The Princeton Review’s website says it all: “Academics are strong, grounded in the liberal arts and sciences and offered in a learning environment characterized by civility and respect. Students feel at home on the beautiful campus, located in Columbia, Mo., thanks to the private college’s close-knit community where opportunities to get involved are plentiful.”
Georgia Perry is Columbia College’s 30,000th student

Last year, the college hit a student milestone: 30,000 students educated annually.

That 30,000th student has a name: Georgia Perry. She’s from Matthews, N.C., a suburb of Charlotte. Perry, who enrolled in the criminal justice master’s program, largely fits the 21st century demographic of a Columbia College student: she is a working mother, not of traditional college student age and taking classes online.

Perry graduated from the University of North Carolina (UNC)-Charlotte with a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice in 1986 and was very interested in a career in that field. That was before marriage and three children.

Perry said she looked at several online schools and that the prospect of going back to school 25 years after earning her bachelor’s degree was intimidating. She said that a Columbia College advisor listened to her and eased her jitters, walking her through the process and advising her to take such prerequisites as criminal justice procedure first.

“That was just perfect for me,” she said of the prerequisites. “It got me right back into the criminal justice system.”

Dr. Gerald Brouder, president, has been named 2011 Citizen of the Year by the Mid-Missouri Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. Brouder served in the Army from 1962 to 1965.

The association cited Brouder’s support of active duty, guard, reserve personnel and military spouses through an array of college programs, all initiated during his presidency.

“As president of Columbia College since 1995, Dr. Brouder has brought support of military student and family members to the forefront of the culture and policies at the college,” said an association statement.
Veterans Day was commemorated by reading the names of American casualties of Iraq and Afghanistan by main and Nationwide Campus students, faculty, staff and service members. The reading was held simultaneously with more than 180 higher educational institutions in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia.

The list of more than 6,300 names densely covered three very large scrolls in the Atkins-Holman Student Commons.

On Bass Commons, the U.S. and Columbia College flags were at half-staff and trees were tied with yellow ribbons. Inside, overhead monitors flashed pictures and notes sent in by alumni, faculty and staff for their veterans.

Student veteran Sean Kelly, formerly counterintelligence-human intelligence, Marine Corps, reads the names of the fallen in Atkins-Holman.
Tery Donelson, assistant vice president for Enrollment Management, spoke of the special sacrifices the 9/11 generation made. “Knowing full well that the chances of seeing combat was likely, hundreds of thousands of young men and women volunteered to go in harm’s way, hoping that through their actions they could help prevent another tragedy like September 11th,” he said.

Dr. Gerald Brouder, president and a veteran, began the reading, continued by staff, faculty and students and active-duty personnel in uniform. It took about six hours and was interrupted only by a nationwide minute of silence at 1 p.m. and by a poignant rendition of “Amazing Grace,” sung by Jordan Isgriggs, a junior history major and member of the Jane Froman Singers.

In late 2011, Dr. Gerald Brouder, president, Dr. Terry Smith, executive vice president and dean for Academic Affairs, Mike Randerson, vice president for Adult Higher Education, and other Columbia College leaders hosted the second Community Leadership Briefing Breakfast to discuss current and future college initiatives with community leaders in Columbia, Mo.

Ingram’s, Kansas City’s leading business magazine, has named Columbia College the largest private college in Missouri and Kansas based on undergraduate enrollment.

The magazine also ranked Columbia College No. 5 on its “Top MBA Programs” list and No. 10 for graduate enrollment.

All rankings are based on fall 2010 enrollment.
Inside the Gate

names three new trustees

Columbia College

names three new trustees

Joseph P. Dubinski ’96, Steven S. Fishman ’74 and Susan Solovic ’80 have accepted trusteeships with the Columbia College Board of Trustees effective January 2012.

“I am honored that these distinguished and loyal Columbia College alumni have accepted trusteeships,” said Dr. Gerald Brouder, president. “They bring to the board a wealth of real-world experience, keen drive and determination. I am certain they will make Columbia College a better place for students, faculty and the communities the college serves.”

Dubinski, a partner with Kansas City law firm Bryan Cave LLP, established the Dr. Anthony S. Marshall Scholarship Award in Business Administration for undergraduate business majors. The scholarship honors Marshall, Dubinski’s former business administration professor and mentor.
Fishman is CEO, chairman and president of Fortune 500 retailer Big Lots, Inc. (see feature story). Last fall, Fishman presented a $25,000 check to the Business Administration Department and the company’s Exclamation Award to Brouder and Assistant Professor of Business Administration Sean Siebert in recognition of the successful college-Big Lots internship program.

Solovic is an entrepreneur, author of several best-selling books on business, attorney, Miss Missouri 1979, Columbia College Professional Achievement Award recipient, small business contributor for ABC News and a regular guest expert on MSNBC and FOX. She is CEO and co-founder of ItsYourBiz.com, the first and only video news and information site for small businesses. She regularly speaks on small business on campus and was the 2011 commencement speaker.  

Steven S. Fishman ’74

Susan Solovic ’80
The Christian County campus relocated from Ozark to Springfield, Mo., in December 2011 and held a grand opening and ribbon-cutting by chamber of commerce officials in late January. Kathy Gress, Springfield director, was emcee and Dr. Gerald Brouder also gave brief remarks. The campus also celebrated its 15th anniversary at the event.

The new campus, on Battlefield Road near U.S. 65, provides convenient access for existing students, a central location with increased visibility to attract new students and a facility large enough for staff offices, updated classrooms, a state of the art computer lab, student lounge and sufficient parking to accommodate current and future growth needs.

Mike Randerson, vice president for Adult Higher Education, said that research clearly showed the overwhelming majority of the college’s Christian County students live north toward Springfield.

This campus was founded in 1996 to serve the needs of the greater Springfield area.
In November 2011, the college’s Education Department hosted a free, one-day professional development conference for faculty and staff of local partner schools, recent Columbia College graduates and current students. Sessions on SMART Boards, new Missouri literacy plans and co-teaching were taught by Columbia College Education Department Chair Dr. Paul Hanna, faculty members Linda Bradley, Dr. Teresa VanDover and Dr. Karen Weston.

Columbia College has created partnerships with elementary, middle and secondary schools within Columbia and the surrounding area. It allows teacher certification students from the college to gain teaching experience and faculty from partner schools the opportunity to take a complimentary master-level class.

“These partnerships have created wonderful opportunities for our students,” said Hanna. “This conference is just one way to show our appreciation for the participating school districts.”

Dr. Paul Hanna hosts professional development conference
CONTINUE YOUR LEGACY AT

One of the most valuable contributions you can make to the college is to help recruit talented new students.

How?

- **REFER A STUDENT**, a simple online form you fill in that can yield a student the $500 Alumni Referral Grant
  www.columbiacollegealumni.org/GetInvolved/ReferStudent.aspx

- **Alumni Legacy Grant**, for children of alumni, a 15-percent tuition discount for prospective freshmen students; for grandchildren of alumni, a 10-percent tuition discount

- **Alumni Legacy Scholarship**, for children of alumni with a 26 ACT and 3.5 GPA, a 20-percent tuition discount for prospective freshmen students; for grandchildren of alumni meeting that same criteria, a 15-percent tuition discount

These grants or scholarships are available to students who attend traditional Day classes in Columbia, Mo.

For more information on how you can continue your legacy at Columbia College, contact Kristen Bagwill at (800) 231-2391, ext. 7539 or kbbagwill@ccis.edu; or www.columbiacollegealumni.org/GetInvolved/ReferStudent.aspx.

YourCampus360

Explore the main campus with your smartphone!

YourCampus360 is a self-guided, GPS-enabled tour that allows you to walk around campus, watch student videos, get campus weather and the latest news at www.ccis.edu/360/; or on your mobile device at http://bit.ly/AzNaWA.

If you know a potential new student, why not take them on a walking tour of Columbia College’s beautiful 30-acre campus today?

Must have or download iTunes. YourCampus360 is an iTunes app.
One of the most valuable contributions alumni can make to the college is helping to recruit talented new students. That is one reason why the offices of Admissions and Alumni Relations partnered to create Refer a Student, a new program which allows you to refer a student to Columbia College by filling out a simple online form.

Now Columbia College has an individual who can help, too.

Kristen Bagwill was hired in February as admissions counselor - network recruitment. She earned two degrees from Missouri State University, Springfield, Mo., a bachelor’s degree in international business administration and an MBA; and a master’s in communications from Lindenwood University, St. Charles, Mo. Prior to Columbia College, she was a contract administrator for the Boeing Company, St. Louis.

She will coordinate alumni, faculty, staff and current students who want to assist with admissions recruitment activities such as referring a student, volunteering to attend college fairs, writing letters to prospective students and other volunteer recruitment activities with admissions counselors.

“What a fantastic opportunity we have to help Columbia College!” said Kristen. “I am trying to learn as much as I can about CC, and what better way to do that than from alumni like you?

“When I meet an alumna or alumnus, the first thing I ask is, ‘What was your favorite thing about attending college at CC?’ I am continually impressed at how passionate alumni are about their alma mater. I very much look forward to talking to prospective students, and if you know of anyone who would appreciate CC as much as you did, please refer them today.”

You can contact Kristen at (800) 231-2391, ext. 7539 or kbbagwill@ccis.edu. Or refer a student online at www.columbi,college alumni.org/GetInvolved/ReferStudent.aspx.
Dorsey Hall, main campus, in the spring
Letter from the Alumni Board President

Dear Alumni:

The Columbia College alumni magazine is the result of fantastic collaboration between the college’s Public Relations and Alumni Relations staff. The magazine was re-launched in the summer of 2010 under the name affinity. Since then it has captured the attention of other colleges and universities who have contacted us for suggestions on how to improve their alumni magazines.

In November 2011, the college received a Platinum MarCom award for the summer 2011 edition of affinity; in February 2012, two Council for Advancement and Support of Education awards, a gold for writing excellence for the spring 2011 feature and the other a silver for the summer edition.

We are so proud every year to recognize deserving alumni for their contributions to the community and to Columbia College, and for their professional achievements and recognition in their chosen fields since earning their degree. We hope their stories will inspire and encourage you to make outstanding contributions to society. If you know of an alumnus who is deserving of this recognition, please complete a nomination form located on the CCAA website, www.columbiacollegealumni.org/. We would love the opportunity to get to know them better.

In this edition, you’ll read how one such alumnus, Steve Fishman ’74, is giving back to his alma mater. Fishman, who is chairman, CEO and president of the Big Lots retail chain, partnered with Columbia College to create an internship program for Columbia College business students. In addition, Big Lots donated $25,000 to the Columbia College business department. To find out about other internship opportunities or to receive assistance in finding a job, visit the Grossnickle Career Services Center at the main campus of Columbia College or visit CCNet online.

So, sit back and relax with an award-winning magazine, and let us know how we can serve you.

We are CC!

Sincerely,

Martha Eberhard ’00
President, CCAA
Welcome back to Reunion Weekend 2012! All Columbia College alumni and Christian College alumnae are invited to attend a three-day celebration where you'll reconnect with fellow classmates, share memories and relish in the setting that makes Columbia College so special.

Weekend highlights include:


• Alumni Luncheon with Dr. Gerald T. Broder, Columbia College president, and Martha Eberhard ’00, CCAA president.

• Alumni Awards Banquet and Presentation honoring a remarkable group of alumni during this special evening.

• Golden Anniversary Brunch and Ivy Chain Ceremony. Join members of the Class of 1962 as they are inducted into the 50-Year Club, followed by a re-enactment of the Ivy Chain Ceremony for all 50-Year Club members. All alumni are welcome!

• 10th anniversary celebration of the forensic science department featuring noted forensic pathologist, Dr. Cyril Wecht. [www.cyrilwecht.com](http://www.cyrilwecht.com)

• Reception honoring retiring art professors Ben Cameron, Tom Watson and Ed Collings, who combined have more than 120 years of teaching experience at Columbia College.
Alumni Author Series

Calling all Cougars in print!
The Columbia College Alumni Association is pleased to announce the launch of the Alumni Author Series, which will feature alumni authors and their books on our website and a select number in the summer edition of affinity magazine.

If you are a recently published author or know of a Columbia College alumni author, the Alumni Author Series will help promote your book by instantly reaching Cougar alumni around the world.

To submit a book or other work to the Alumni Author Series, please fill out an author form on our website at www.columbiacollegealumni.org.

Take the Survey

This is your alumni magazine. Our aim is to provide you with the best content about Columbia College we can.

We would like your feedback! Tell us at www.columbiacollegealumni.org and win one of three $50 Barnes & Noble gift cards.
Columbia College will honor outstanding alumni with distinguished, community, Columbia College service and professional achievement awards at the annual Alumni Awards Banquet April 21. The awards recognize the exemplary accomplishments of Christian College and Columbia College alumni.

**Distinguished Alumni Award**
For attaining outstanding regional and national recognition in one’s chosen career field.

*Sandy Adams ’00*
Sandy Adams’ rise to the U.S. House of Representatives was a journey that began at age 17 when she joined the United States Air Force.

After leaving the military to raise her daughter, Sandy worked two and three jobs, earned a GED and eventually attended the police academy at night. Sandy served for 17 years as a deputy sheriff in the Orange County Sheriff’s Office before she earned her bachelor of arts degree from Columbia College-Orlando in 2000. Her election to the Florida House of Representatives in 2002 and subsequent re-elections led to her joining the U.S. House of Representatives in 2011.

Sandy has received numerous awards over the course of her career, including the Pace Legislative Leadership Award, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Legislative Appreciation Award and the Legislative Session Outstanding Service Award.
**Columbia College Service Award**
For significant contributions and service to Columbia College.

*James M. Pasley ’87*
James entered his collegiate career as a 30-year-old construction worker, enrolled at CC and earned a bachelor of arts degree from Columbia College–Jefferson City in 1987. He wouldn’t stay away for long.

After earning his master’s degree, James returned to Columbia College to teach history, first at the Jefferson City and then at the Lake Ozark campus in 1992. Now in his 21st year of teaching, James exudes passion into the study of history, teaching and the well-being of his students.

James and his wife Karen, also a graduate of Columbia College, have served as co-chairs of the Columbia College–Lake Ozark Advisory Committee since 2009. James is a sought-after expert on history, regularly speaking on radio stations, at schools and in the community.

**Professional Achievement Award**
For outstanding regional and national recognition in a career field.

*Victoria Bishop Ryan ’99*
Victoria Bishop Ryan emanates leadership in all she does. Her role as director of learning and organizational effectiveness for HD Supply, Inc., demands it; her position as adjunct faculty for Columbia College in management and leadership requires she imparts her skills.

In 2010, Victoria received the Chief Learning Officer Bronze Award for learning leadership.

In 2008, Chief Learning Officer recognized the Learning Team with the GOLD Award of Excellence for Learning Partnership.

Victoria is also a researcher for the American Cancer Society, an active supporter of Habitat for Humanity and a retired long-time Girl Scout leader. Victoria earned a bachelor of arts degree from Columbia College–Lake County, Ill., in 1999.

**Community Service Award**
For outstanding leadership and service to community.

*Shanta Barton-Stubbs ’05*
While Shanta Barton-Stubbs was earning a bachelor of arts degree from Columbia College–Orlando, her nonprofit New Image Youth Center had already opened its doors in Orlando. Founded in 2004, New Image was born of Shanta’s realization that children in the poverty-stricken Parramore neighborhood needed somewhere to go. Shanta emptied her savings account to buy games and supplies, and the investment paid off — in eight years, Shanta has gone from serving eight to 50 children in need.

Shanta works over 40 hours a week without pay. Thanks to outside funding, she can focus entirely on keeping the doors of New Image open.

In 2011, Shanta was nominated for the L’Oreal Paris Women of Worth and received the Leader of the Year Award from Iota Phi Theta University of Central Florida chapter. She won the title of Ms. Corporate America 2009, the 2008 Magic Maker Award and the Bank of America Local Hero Award in 2007.
Where’s Scooter?

You never know where that intrepid feline will pop up next, as these pictures show. For more Scootergraphs, go to real.columbiacollegealumni.org.

Scooter visited the United States Naval Academy for 2nd Class parents weekend with the Wrights from Jacksonville, FL. (From left: Kevan, Julie, MIDN 2/C Brigade Sergeant Major, Kam, and Bill Wright ’09).

Senior Brad Hollingsworth gives Scooter the Cougar a rundown of his water purification collection barrel at the Columbia College-Lake of the Ozarks Environmental Science Fair.
Sergeant Major Jim E. Lanham ’10 of the 3rd Battalion 6th Marines in Marjah, Afghanistan.

Monica Richey Pfeiffer ’88 took Scooter to the Great Wall of China.

Columbia College-Lake of the Ozarks History Professor and alumnus Jim Pasley ’87 with Scooter in front of a pirate ship in Clearwater, Florida.

Daniel Zimolzak ’11 took Scooter to Lion’s Rock in Capetown, South Africa.
Alumni Appreciation Day

The Arena of Southwell Complex roared a little louder on Alumni Appreciation Day, which was held on Saturday, Feb. 25. All alumni and guests received free admission to the doubleheader of the Cougars and Lady Cougars against Harris-Stowe State University and enjoyed a private reception in their honor. Photos from the event are posted at www.columbiacollegealumni.org.
Holiday Party

On Dec. 15, 2011, holiday cheer abounded as we celebrated the 10th annual alumni holiday party. Martha Eberhard ’00, CCAA president, welcomed about 150 guests to the party, which featured carriage rides and holiday toasts. Guests were invited to bring jars of peanut butter to support The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri’s Buddy Pack program, benefitting children in need.
Sometimes an individual’s life story comes through best in their own words. This is one of those occasions.

I was raised in Fountain City, a small community located next to the Mississippi River in Wisconsin. It’s a town where passions run deep for the essential things in life: the Packers, world-class dairy and beef products and finding the most mundane excuse to have yet another festival.

Not wanting to limit myself to this great way of life, I enlisted in the Army as an electrician to pursue a career in building construction. The Army allowed me to travel and live in many places including Alaska, Germany and Turkey.
I completed an associate degree through the University of Maryland while stationed in Germany and a bachelor’s degree in computer information systems with Columbia College while stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. In 1996, I earned a master’s degree in computer resources and information management from Webster University and prepared for a new career in information technology.

I left the Army and joined the Army Civil Service as an information management professional. This was my first opportunity to apply the skills acquired through my Columbia College degree. I then joined the Columbia College adjunct faculty team.

Having an advanced degree allows me to give back to those seeking computer-related degrees. It is extremely rewarding to be around students pursuing their own degrees and to infuse my institutional knowledge and lifelong work experience into their learning experience.

I’m also currently chief of the Business & Plans Division of the Network Enterprise Center (NEC) at Fort Leonard Wood, which employs more than 70 personnel who provide a wide array of technology-related services to the Fort Leonard Wood community.

“As a supervisor for NEC, I often evaluate resumés for higher education experience. When I find an applicant who has earned a Columbia College degree, I already know they have been taught from a solid curriculum that prepared them to enter the workforce with the foundational skills needed to succeed in the IT profession.”
There are three model police cars on the shelf, two sculptures of blind justice with her scales, criminal justice textbooks, police badges from Oklahoma and Kansas, picture IDs showing a scruffy, long-haired man.

Welcome to the world of Dr. Michael Lyman, professor of criminal justice administration. The textbooks, badges and IDs, the latter mementos of his undercover days, are all his. While undercover, Lyman once lay on a ratty Junction City, Kan., floor as armed drug dealers debated how to dispose of his body. He's also had one of his classes monitored by an undercover agent. Not police. An enterprising member of the drug-dealing Outlaws Motorcycle Club.

Lyman didn't start life as an officer, however, growing up in Kansas and attending the University of Kansas as a journalism major. He dropped out his junior year to be a Johnson County, Kan., civilian investigator and stints with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation and Oklahoma Bureau
of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs followed. He somehow found time to earn bachelor’s and master’s degrees in administration of justice from Wichita State University and a Ph.D. in higher and adult education from the University of Missouri. He had moved to Columbia in the late 1980s to be a police trainer then began teaching at Columbia College part-time and was hired full-time a few years later.

Twenty-four years, eight textbooks and hundreds of criminal and civil court expert testimonies later, Lyman presides over one of the top forensics programs in the United States. Lyman says he proposed the program in 2001 as the first CSI shows appeared on TV and admits they’ve been a potent draw. The addition of the science building, for which ground will be broken soon, will also fuel the program’s popularity, he predicts.

Police departments nationwide continue to hire forensic specialists; in the Kansas City police department alone, three of five crime scene techs are Columbia College graduates.

And these graduates then return to speak to students about real crime scene investigation — dirty, dangerous, tedious and disgusting.

But “it [forensic science] is good for society,” he says. “It opens doors that were shut before; helps convict the guilty and exonerate the innocent.”

Lyman facts

- Written eight textbooks
- Participated in over 600 felony arrests
- Provided testimony in over 350 criminal and civil court proceedings
- Designated as a police expert in over 30 states

Note: The Criminal Justice Administration and Human Services Department offers baccalaureate degrees in criminal justice administration, the bachelor of arts and the bachelor of science, and a Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science. This major provides training for students seeking to work in the forensic science laboratories and draws from the biological sciences, physics, chemistry, criminal justice and law.
Chairman, chief executive officer and president of Big Lots, Inc. with Karen McCausland ’12 and Robert Tietjen ’10

Steven S. Fishman ’74

Chairman, chief executive officer and president of Big Lots, Inc. with Karen McCausland ’12 and Robert Tietjen ’10
About one quarter of Big Lots’ Columbia employees are Columbia College students or alumni. Big Lots also partnered with Columbia College last year to create a Store Management Internship Program with the college’s Business Administration Department.

Steve Fishman ’74 is Fortune 500 retailer Big Lots, Inc. chairman, CEO and president, a 1999 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient and a new Columbia College trustee. He graduated with the first Columbia College coed class and has built a great career, rising through retail to become CEO of Big Lots in 2005.

Fishman grew up in the University City area of St. Louis, Mo., with a World War II veteran dad who worked for the Postal Service and a mother who took on typing and accounting to make ends meet. His Russian grandparents lived in the duplex apartment above his family.

This innovative program produced two interns, Robert Tietjen ’10, Columbia College-Crystal Lake, and Karen McCausland ’12, Columbia College-NS Everett/Marysville.
His first real job was working in a kosher delicatessen on Delmar Boulevard, which paid $1 an hour. He also sold shoes in high school and college, supplemented with often very hard summer work in the U.S. Army Reserves.

He met his future wife, Barbara Balyeat Fishman ’74, at Columbia College and was recruited by a high-end Houston department store after graduation. “And I’ve been in retail ever since.”

He’s since won Ernst & Young’s Entrepreneur of the Year award in 2009 in the business turnaround category, transforming Big Lots from a struggling retailer into a $5 billion powerhouse that opened 92 U.S. locations in 2011 alone, including one in Columbia, Mo., in November 2011.

Karen McCausland ’12

“Yes, I can talk now,” says Karen McCausland. “The phone comes through the car speakers.”

McCausland is pretty busy: she’s working toward a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Columbia College-Naval Station (NS) Everett/Marysville and hopes to graduate later this year. She works full-time as a revenue auditor at Angel of the Winds Casino; and she’s in the Big Lots-Columbia College retail internship program.

To get there, she received resumé tips from the Grossnickle Career Services Center. She really wowed the Big Lots team. A Big Lots district manager offered her a full-time position before she even started. The firm readily agreed to one day a week, all the time she can afford.

How’s it working out?

“Great,” she says. “I’m a customer service supervisor, performing basic managerial skills, learning about price cuts, ads, working the register and with stock. That way Big Lots keeps me up to speed and I won’t lose skills within a year.”

She says she didn’t do it alone, though. “I had excellent teachers at Big Lots and Columbia College. I really want to thank everyone at Columbia College and Big Lots for all their support.”
Columbia College helped staff that store by holding a job fair in Dorsey Gym (see next page). About one quarter of Big Lots’ Columbia employees are Columbia College students or alumni. Big Lots also partnered with Columbia College last year to create a Store Management Internship Program with the college’s Business Administration Department.

Fishman says partnerships like Big Lots and Columbia College could infuse the firm with talented people and make Big Lots a $10 billion a year company.

Hard work, he says, pays off. He credits his parents and grandparents for instilling a work ethic. He remembers playing on the porch as his grandfather, a tailor, talked to customers.

“They [his parents and grandparents] set a good example, gave me a good work ethic ... They insisted on us going to college. I know they wished they could have helped more with money. Forty years ago, not everyone went to college.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE & EDWARD JONES WANTS MILITARY STUDENTS AND ALUMNI

Edward Jones has expressed interest in talking to Columbia College military students and alumni who are nearing the end of their military commitment, and might be interested in a career in investment management. Edward Jones believes that military folks, due to training, experience and overall mindset, have what it takes to make a quality Edward Jones agent. The firm offers a salaried training program for new recruits.

For more information, please contact Career Services at (573) 875-7425 or careerservices@ccis.edu; on the web at web.ccis.edu/Offices/CampusLife/CareerServices.aspx
Job Fair

Big Lots recruiters held a job fair in Dorsey Gym in late September 2011 in anticipation of the November opening of Big Lots’ first store in Columbia, Mo. Large sandwich boards and advertising banners proclaiming BIG LOTS! NOW HIRING! were placed at Rogers Gate and outside Dorsey Hall.

Inside the gym, potential employees silently filled out employment applications or waited their turn to be interviewed. A Big Lots recruiter said the event attracted 500 plus applicants in just a few days.

“We are looking for hard workers. We love the nontraditional model, we love the military affiliation,” Fishman says.

Fishman was in the U.S. Army Reserves from 1969 to 1975.
All students and alumni are entitled to free career services through the Grossnickle Career Services Center. The CougarCareerNetwork (CCNet) allows students or alumni to browse, post or apply for a job, some offered first to CCNet users, using multiple job search engines and direct links to employers. InterviewStream allows anyone with a computer camera to hone their interviewing skills. The center also offers résumé tips.

Celinda Stamy ’10 says she was very impressed with a recent résumé workshop. “Students who attended were asked what field they are in, then given corresponding advice and examples for their résumé... they followed through with continuing help long after the workshop.”

The Center also offers numerous regional and national internships. If you’re an employer and want a quality Columbia College intern, let us help you design the internship that’s right for you. Go to web.ccis.edu/Offices/CampusLife/CareerServices for more information. d
Three art professors retire

Cameron, Collings and Watson collectively have nearly 120 years of experience.

Three senior Art Department instructors will retire in May and have been granted professor emeritus status.

Ben Cameron, who teaches just about everything but specializes in painting, drawing and etching. Cameron, who established the juried Paper in Particular show 35 years ago, has been with the college since 1974. Cameron will still teach one class each semester and help run the Sid Larson Gallery through 2013.

“People talk about the good old days,” says Cameron in his office cluttered with giant portraits, items from magazines, posters and sculptures. “These are the good old days. Our programs are flourishing, there’s a lot of enthusiasm in the faculty.”
**Ed Collings**, specialty photography. Collings has been with Columbia College since 1969, an incredible 42 years and longer than any other current instructor. He will still teach online, however.

Collings says he’ll now have more time for photography and pottery. He started the ceramic and photography programs at Columbia College, built the first darkroom on campus and became the first art professor to teach online.

“I wanted to teach a high caliber of students who had a great appreciation of art,” he says of coming to Columbia College in 1969. “I’m really proud of giving my students direction so that they can open their own studios or go into filmmaking,” he says. “I think I’ve given them a good start.”

**Tom Watson**, specialty painting and computer graphics. Watson is second most senior instructor, having started with the college 40 years ago. And he intends to keep learning — taking American history and computer science classes and learning to use the 3D modeling and animation software he recently purchased.

“That’s one of the things I’ve loved about working at Columbia College. I’ve always been encouraged to explore and develop my skills.”

“It sure doesn’t feel like 40 years ago,” he says. “It feels like yesterday.”
Forensic science program celebrates 10th anniversary

The Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science degree program was founded by Dr. Michael Lyman in 2001, who is also its coordinator. The program is currently chaired by Dr. Barry Langford, also assistant professor of criminal justice administration. The program is a true interdisciplinary one, drawing from the biological sciences, physics, chemistry, criminal justice and the law, and is one of the college's most popular majors.

Forensic science alumni, students and celebrities will gather on campus in April to celebrate the anniversary as part of Reunion Weekend. Keynote speaker is Dr. Cyril Wecht, forensic pathologist, attorney and medical-legal consultant on such cases as the Kennedy assassinations, Elvis, O. J. Simpson, JonBenet Ramsey and the Branch Davidian fire. Go to www.cyrilwecht.com for more on Wecht's career.

Adjunct professor Mike Himmel. Photo by Don Shrubshell, Columbia Daily Tribune
Langford says the field is not exactly as portrayed on TV. Some cases take years to solve. Some are never solved.

Columbia College professors and students are helping solve some cases, however:

• In 2011, Columbia College-Lake of the Ozarks history student and Osage Beach (Mo.) detective Tracy Robinett ’12 and his partner helped solve the 2006 disappearance of Brandi Mathews, a local woman.

After endless hours and chasing innumerable leads, Robinett and his partner saw Mathews’ boyfriend convicted of murder. Go to spotlight.ccis.edu/2011/12/columbia-college-student-and-osage.html for the whole story.

• In 2009, adjunct professor Mike Himmel and his forensic science class helped the Columbia Police Department solve a 1989 murder after mining hundreds of reports and narrowing the suspect list.

• Also in 2009, then-graduate student Kortnie Ford ’10 teamed up with a science journalist to unearth new leads in the infamous Zodiac killings. Their finding: the deadly Zodiac may have been fueled by ordinary high school rejection.

• In 2006, Himmel and his students delved into the Pulaski County mud to excavate the remains of Mary Nobels, missing for more than 20 years. Their work led to the conviction of her killer.

Det. Tracy Robinett ’12
The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) has named Cougar Athletics a 2010-11 NAIA Champions of Character for the fourth year based on a demonstrated commitment to the program’s five core values:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Sportsmanship
- Servant leadership.

“In today’s complex college athletic environment, where success is often measured only in wins and losses, Columbia College Athletics coaches, staff and athletes stand out because of their balance of academics and athletics and their ethical and moral character,” said Dr. Gerald Brouder, president. “I am proud of every member of Cougar Athletics. They are all true champions of character.”

NAIA member institutions were also measured on character training, conduct in competition, academic focus, character recognition and character promotion.
Five new sports update

Immediately following the announcement of the addition of five new sports to the Columbia College stable of athletic teams, work began to secure top-notch coaches and staff to guide the programs. The intent was to find some of the best in their respective field that can bring these new programs to great heights and based on the pedigree of the new hires, the mission was accomplished. The new coaches (listed here) are on the recruiting trail and are putting together their rosters and staff. Log on to www.columbiacougars.com for the latest updates on the new sports!

Tim Cornell, men’s and women’s cross-country
- Two-time 4A state champion in cross-country and 1600-meter run at Hickman High School in Columbia, Mo.
- Competed for the University of Missouri
- A 12-time Academic All-Big 12 recipient and captain of the cross-country/track and field squad for three seasons

John Klein, women’s soccer
- Has served as Cougar men’s soccer coach since 2000. Klein continues as men’s soccer coach
- Winningest soccer coach in Columbia history
- Played eight years professionally

John Utley, men’s and women’s golf
- Director of instruction at The Club at Old Hawthorne in Columbia, Mo.
- Served as volunteer assistant men’s golf coach for the University of Missouri since 2009
- Former Nationwide Tour professional golfer
In late January 2011, the Cougar volleyball program was inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame for its nearly 30 years of success. It’s the first volleyball program to be inducted into the hall.

The Cougars have posted an incredible record of 1,077-252 in 29 seasons, placing them second in the NAIA in wins. They participated in four straight NAIA National Volleyball Championship matches, winning three national titles. During that time, they set an NAIA record by winning 102 consecutive matches dating from Aug. 28, 1998, until Sept. 22, 2000. The Cougars also have had 57 NAIA All-American recipients, 27 NAIA Scholar-Athletes and three NAIA/AVCA Players of the Year during that time.

Head Coach Melinda Wrye-Washington ’95, a former Cougar volleyball star and Player of the Year, transferred her on-court success to the sidelines and guided the Cougars to a runner-up finish at the National Championships in 2000 and led them to a 38-0 record and the national crown in 2001, for which she was named Coach of the Year.

“Coming back to Columbia College to coach in 2000 was a blessing,” said Wrye-Washington. “The institution gives me the academic and athletic support which has enabled me to produce competitive and well balanced academically motivated volleyball teams.”

In 2011, Wrye-Washington guided the Cougars to their 18th consecutive NAIA National Championship appearance, finishing third. She now ranks first in the NAIA with an 89 percent winning percentage.
Men’s basketball wrap-up

Head Coach Bob Burchard’s 24th season at the helm of the squad featured a balanced attack focused on ball movement and outstanding defensive effort by everyone on the floor. The experienced Cougars auditioned several different line ups during the early season looking for the same winning formula that has led the squad to the NAIA National Tournament three of the last four seasons. Junior forward Jordan Dressler was a dynamic playmaker on both ends of the floor while sophomore shooting guard Devin Griffin provided an offensive spark and was also an effective distributor on the offensive end. The team showed amazing fight and togetherness anchored by defensive energy from senior Matt Woodcock and continued the proud tradition of success for Cougar men’s basketball. The Cougars clinched the American Midwest Conference (AMC) and entered the postseason as the No. 1 seed.

Women’s basketball wrap-up

The Columbia College women’s basketball team has been a force to be reckoned with during all 12 years of Coach Mike Davis’ tenure as leader of the Cougar pack. In 2010-2011, the squad was AMC regular and tournament champions and reached the NAIA National Tournament for the eighth time in the program’s 10-year history and looked to build on that success in 2011-2012. This year’s squad featured a great mix of local, national and international talent and was forced to persevere through several major injuries to their experienced interior players, often times playing smaller lineups and younger players. That being said, the squad put together an outstanding campaign, and ended the season as AMC champions with a 22-8 record, also as the top seed. The Lady Cougars were ranked No. 24 in the NAIA Top 25 Poll.
Coach Wendy Spratt enters her 17th year at the helm of the Cougar softball program with a well-balanced roster that features nine players who are either juniors or seniors and eight who are sophomores or freshmen. Coming off another AMC championship last year (they have finished first or second in the conference 12 of the last 13 years), the Cougars will look to make yet another run at the NAIA national tournament, a level they have reached 14 times in the last two decades including 10 times under Spratt’s guidance. Columbia College opened its schedule in late February.

We asked, and you came through with flying colors — silver and blue to be exact! Cougar Athletics is grateful for your help in designing the new Columbia College Athletics logo. We received many great designs from our online contest, and it was hard to pick just one. The new logo will adorn all Cougar uniforms. WE ARE CC!
SAVE THE DATE!

12TH ANNUAL COUGAR CLUB AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, June 4, 2012

Shotgun starts at 8 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Columbia Country Club
2210 Country Club Drive
Columbia, Mo.

For more information, go to www.columbiacougars.com/CougarClub or contact Drew Grzella at (573) 875-7419 or ajgrzella@ccis.edu.

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- $6 per bundle

These and more at www.ChooseCC.org
Nelda Cunningham McCoy ’41 is retired from teaching music at Marceline (Mo.) Public Schools and lives in Mesa, Ariz. Her family includes daughter, Catherine McCoy, a retired college teacher living in Murrieta, Calif., and daughter, Dr. Martha McCoy, who also lives in Mesa. Her son, John McCoy V, was an international architect living in Singapore, but is deceased.

Kitty Canfield Ritchie Holleman ’43 lives in Dallas, Texas, with her husband, Louis.

Ann Kirkman Meilicke ’58 writes from Livingston, Texas, where she and her husband, Mick, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in December 2011. They continue to enjoy life in their recreational vehicle spending winters in Arizona and summers in the Northwest.

Barbara “Joan” Markham Sorrell ’59 lives in Kirksville, Mo. after almost 30 years of living in Fernandina Beach/Amelia Island, Fla. “Let me know if you’re coming my way.” Email Virginia at ginny@atomicski.org.

Virginia “Ginny” Kerr Lindsley ’67 lives in Fort Collins, Colo., with her husband, Joe. “I’d love to hear from friends who graduated in the years 1965-67.”

Diana Marmorale Buchan ’64 is the first vice president of the Saugerties (N.Y.) Historical Society, a member of the Mt. View artists and the Saugerties Society of Little Gardens. Diana and her husband, Stuart, live in Saugerties, where she is an artist and he is retired from IBM.

Virginia Glover White ’65 is retired and recently moved to Los Alamos, N.M., to be near twin grandsons, Max and Jacob, after almost 30 years of living in Fernandina Beach/Amelia Island, Fla. “Let me know if you’re coming my way.” Email Virginia at ginny@atomicski.org.

Patricia “Pat” Mohr Wood ’70 writes from Dothan, Ala., where she lives with her husband, Milt. Pat has been teaching Bible study to children, teenagers and women for 30 years. She also works with the First Presbyterian Youth Group. Pat and Milt have three grandsons who also live in Dothan. “Keeps me on my toes!”
Jennifer “Jenna” Dorn ’71 has been named chief executive officer of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) based in Alexandria, Va. AAPA represents more than 81,000 certified physician assistants across all medical and surgical specialties in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the majority of the U.S. territories and within the uniformed services. Jenna is also the 2003 Columbia College Distinguished Alumni Award recipient.

John “Greg” Fearing ’72 opened Gary’s on Spring, a casual fine dining restaurant offering contemporary American cuisine, in Louisville, Ky., where he lives with his wife, Margaret.

Donna Worden ’73 lives on the island of Hawaii and works as a K-12 substitute teacher and part-time adult education teacher for the Hawaii Department of Education.

Dolores Quiles ’75 of Stone Ridge, N.Y., was promoted to chair of the English, Philosophy and Foreign Languages Department at SUNY Ulster, a two-year college of the State University of New York. She also traveled to Americana, Sao Paulo, Brazil, where she taught English to business majors.

Dr. Penny Hamilton ’76 was inducted into the Colorado Aviation Hall of Fame on Oct. 16, 2011, at a ceremony inside the Wings over Rockies Air and Space Museum, located at the historic Lowry Air Force Base in Denver. Penny has been an advocate for women in aviation through her “Teaching Women to Fly Project,” www.teachingwomentofly.com. Penny and her husband, Bill, live in Granby, Colo.

Richard Courtney ’77 and his wife, Rosella, are retired and live in Chino Valley, Ariz.

Mark Cox ’77 is the executive director of the Midwest Hemophilia Association in Kansas City, Mo., a nonprofit organization formed in 1990 to promote awareness, provide group support, educate and promote communication for the bleeding disorder community of western Missouri and eastern Kansas.

Roland Pelletier ’77 was elected Ward 3 councilor in Biddeford, Maine. Roland retired from the U.S. Army after more than 20 years of service. He lives in Biddeford with his wife, Valerie. The Pelletiers have three children and four grandchildren.
Gwynn Levy Torres ’74 and her husband, Sid Berger, were nominated for a 2012 Grammy for their funky children’s CD, GulfAlive. Writing and performing as The Banana Plant, Torres and Berger were one of five nominees for Best Children’s Album selected from a field of more than 120 entries that included artists like Amanda Plummer and John Lithgow.

The album’s 10 New Orleans funk, Cajun waltz, island rhythm and gospel songs include “Everything Starts with Plankton,” “The Crab Song,” “Albért Alligator,” “The Ibis, the Egret and the Heron” and “Little Creatures.” You can hear clips of all the songs or order at www.thebananaplant.com.

Complementing the CD is a coloring book by New Orleans artist Gus D. Levy, Torres’ father. The illustrations reflect the subject matter of the songs with jumping dolphins, flying seagulls, pesky alligators, proud pelicans and more. There’s also a video of the Cajun-style song “No Walruses in the Gulf” on YouTube and on The Banana Plant site. “By making this project multi-dimensional, we hope kids and adults will have an opportunity to truly engage in the sound and diversity of this area,” explains Torres.

A portion of the proceeds benefits Gulf Coast restoration.

Torres and Berger are veteran New Orleans advertising executives who’ve frequently used their songwriting skills on client jingles over the years. They also work together on Torres’ online toy store, CreativityInstitute.com, dedicated to offering toys that nurture creativity in children.
Jennifer Banks Hallam ’82 moved to Naperville, Ill.

Cynthia Young Briggs ’83 works as a reading specialist for Lee’s Summit School District and lives in Raytown, Mo.

Kevin Shults ’83 works for VANGEL, an advertising, public relations and strategic communication agency, and lives in Columbia, Mo.

Jimmie Mashburn ’84 is retired from the U.S. Army, works for Duke-Energy and lives in Williamston, S.C. His wife, Nancy Doyle, succumbed to amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, in 2007.

Crystal Williams ’85 was elected in November 2010 to the second district of the Jackson County, Mo., Legislature to represent all residents of the county including Kansas City, Mo. Additionally, she works as a consultant for Policy Matters, a public policy and communications firm in Kansas City. Crystal and her husband, Richard Speidel, live in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Kansas City with their son.

Jackie England ’86 works as a support system administrator-specialist for the University of Missouri. He lives in Fulton, Mo., with his wife, Cheryl.

Gwynn Nobil Loomstein ’79 lives in St. Louis, Mo., with her husband, Don, and works for Altair Travel & Cruises. “I still love selling travel!” The Loomstein’s daughter was married in January 2011 and many lifelong friends were there to celebrate with them.

Bruce Greer ’81 lives in Clermont, Fla.

Clifford Gronauer ’81 was part of a team from the Missouri Highway Patrol awarded a 2011 Governor’s Award for Quality and Productivity in the Technology in Government category for their work upgrading and streamlining law enforcement systems. Clifford was also a finalist for the MIT Sloan CIO Symposium 2011 Award for Innovation Leadership which honors chief information officers who lead their organizations to pursue the innovative use of information technology and business processes. He was also interviewed by Computerworld magazine about his technology overhaul of the highway patrol’s systems. Clifford is the director of information systems for the Missouri State Highway Patrol and an adjunct faculty member at Columbia College. “Not sure any of this tops becoming a grandfather, but it’s been fun!”

Jenny Gummersall ’78 displayed this photograph, “Yesterday’s Snow,” at a special invitational exhibit in Siegen, Germany, last summer. Jenny reports that just 18 photographers from around the world were selected. Jenny and her husband, Greg, an abstract artist, have three boys who are also pursuing careers in the arts. Visit www.gummersall.com to read more about the family.

Kermit Stricklin ’78 retired from Paccar Inc., after 37 years of service as a materials manager. Kermit and his wife, Ruth, moved from Seattle, Wash., to their retirement home in the Phoenix, Ariz., area. They celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in 2011. Kermit also was recently honored for 20 years of service in support of the Seattle Mariners Scout Luncheon, which raises money to benefit the Boy Scouts of America.

Robert Fowler ’79 retired from the U.S. Navy following 40 years of service. He lives in Tampa, Fla., with his wife, Melissa.
Marilyn Frank ’89 earned her master’s degree in business administration in 2010. She lives in Broomfield, Colo., and works in the purchasing department of the Art Institute of Colorado.

Larry Doyle ’94 and his wife, Tina, opened Sunshine Silver Care, Inc., an in-home senior care business. The Doyles live in Jacksonville, Fla.

Amy Modrell-Miller ’94 is the owner of Children’s Orchard, an upscale resale retail boutique featuring kid’s clothing, toys, furniture, equipment, books and accessories located in Columbia, Mo. Her husband, Keith, is a union pipefitter for Officer Mechanical. They make their home in Columbia.

Wendy White ’95 was named executive director of the Lake Area Chamber of Commerce in Lake Ozark, Mo. Wendy holds an associate degree in business administration from Columbia College, a bachelor’s degree in business education from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Mo., and a master’s degree in occupational education from Central Missouri State University (now University of Central Missouri) in Warrensburg, Mo.

Margarita Klinge Emmanuelli ’98 writes from southern Iraq where she has been working in field and industrial security. Prior to Iraq, she was a technical writer, private investigator and police officer. “It has been an exciting career progression for me in that my start was made possible by attending night classes through Columbia College. The effort paid off in ways I had not counted on.” Margarita is currently pursuing a master’s degree in strategic intelligence with American Military University.

Brian Van Arkel ’99 is a senior officer specialist for the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons in Forrest City, Ark. Brian and his wife, Sherine, live in Wynne, Ark.

Julie Wiecken ’99 has been hired by the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross as the community market manager for Audrain, Boone, Callaway and Randolph counties. Julie will be based out of the Callaway County branch office in Fulton, Mo. She has been working as a volunteer and a paid staff member for the Red Cross for more than 11 years. Julie lives in Centralia, Mo., with her son.

Jessica Mojica Rivera ’00 writes from Santa Rita, Guam, where she lives with her husband, Efrain. Jessica is the Navy College director.

Karlla Philpot Dozier ’01 is a Juris Doctor advisor at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, Mo., and a senior attorney and director of systemic investigation for Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing Opportunity Council, a not-for-profit fair housing enforcement agency working to end housing discrimination. Karlla and her husband, Michael, live in St. Louis with their two sons, Cole and Carlton.
Karen Mueller Pasley '01, James “Jim” Pasley ’87, James “Jimmy” Pasley ’01 and Melissa Reynolds Pasley ’03

James “Jimmy” Pasley ’01 participated in the 9/11 KC Stair Climb in which 343 firefighters climbed 110 stories to the top of the Town Pavilion high-rise in downtown Kansas City, Mo., in remembrance of the 343 firefighters killed in New York on 9/11. Jimmy’s wife, Melissa Reynolds Pasley ’03, and his parents, James “Jim” Pasley ’87 — a Columbia College-Lake of the Ozarks adjunct history professor — and Karen Mueller Pasley ’01, were there to support him.

Nicole Deters ’02 was promoted to associate director of Registration and Financial Services at Columbia College. Nicole has a bachelor’s degree in business administration with an emphasis in management and marketing.

Mara Roberts ’02, ’11 was promoted to assistant dean for Academic Affairs for Columbia College. Mara has both a bachelor’s and master’s degree in criminal justice administration.

Claudette Robinson ’02 works as a registered nurse at Centerpoint Medical Center in Independence, Mo., and lives in Lenexa, Kan.

Sixto “Tito” Rodriguez ’02 was elected to the City Council, Place 1, for the city of North Richland Hills, Texas. Tito is an investigator for the state attorney general and lives in North Richland Hills with his wife, Sue.

Jayne Miller ’03 lives in St. Louis, Mo., and works for St. John’s Hospital.
Winder Montano Aliendres ’03 started Montano International Estates in 2010, a real estate company that specializes in buying and selling property and manages residential properties. Winder lives in Seaside, Calif., with his wife, Trina. They welcomed a daughter, Keilanni, in 2010.

Valerie Repasky ’04 earned a project management graduate certificate and is working toward an MBA at Keller Graduate School of Management. Valerie lives in St. Charles, Ill., and is the assistant to the chief information officer at Elgin Community College in Elgin, Ill.

Michael Norwood ’04 is retired from the U.S. Army and lives in Chicago, Ill., with his wife, Truscellia.

Donna McCafferty ’05 started a business called the EAP Transition Group, which provides services to area businesses and their employees. Donna lives in Woodstock, Ill.

Ronielle “Ronni” Pierce ’05 completed her MBA with a concentration in human resource management in June 2011 and accepted a position as a senior staffing specialist with Hospira Worldwide in Lake Forest, Ill. Ronni lives in Beach Park, Ill.

Rosalind “Roz” Johnson ’06 was promoted to property officer for the state of Missouri’s Division of Probation and Parole. Roz lives in Kansas City, Mo.

Cecil Skaggs ’06 is an attorney and lives in St. Louis, Mo.

Stephanie Kababie ’07 works as a public relations coordinator for the St. Louis Crisis Nursery, www.crisisnurserykids.org. In the last year, she has been promoted twice and has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the organization. “I truly feel blessed for the education I had and the career I now have!” Stephanie lives in St. Charles, Mo., with her husband, Ryan Steinhoff ’07, an assistant golf professional at Westwood Country Club in St. Louis.

Amber Hardaway Yager ’07 is a crime scene investigator for Iberia Parish Sheriff’s Office in New Iberia, La., and her husband, Ryan Yager ’05, is a funeral director and embalmer for Twin City Funeral Home in Morgan City, La. The Yagers live in Patterson, La.

Michael “Mike” Campbell ’08 passed the bar exam in July 2011 and accepted a position as an associate with Grimes, Fay & Kopp, LLC of Columbia and Centralia, Mo. He lives in Columbia with his wife, Caitlin Campbell ’10.

Anne Churchill ’08 was named Emerging Business Woman of the Year by the Columbia Daily Tribune and a “20 under 40” professional by the Columbia Business Times. Anne owns AnnaBelle Events and Rentals, which provides event planning services including event rentals. She coordinated the Coaches for Kids Golf Classic, which benefited MU Children’s Hospital, and raised more than $77,000 — the largest amount raised at a single charity golf event in Columbia, Mo., history. Her clients also include MU Sinclair School of Nursing, the Community Foundation of Central Missouri, Stephens
College, Fr. Tolton Catholic High School, among others. Anne sits on the Community Foundation of Central Missouri board, New Century Fund Board, Mizzou Career Advisory Council and Ellis Fischel Cancer Center Gala Committee.

Laura Kratzer ’08 lives in Loganville, Ga., with her husband, Reggie.

Frances Thompson Rivera ’08 is a management analyst with the Department of the Army in Fort Belvoir, Va. Her husband, Adam, is a liaison non-commissioned officer with the U.S. Army at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Douglas Cain ’09 is retired from the U.S. Navy and lives in Wichita, Kan.

Ashley Chapman ’09 is a production lead at INDEECO and a recruiter for CROP Hunger Walk, which is a series of interfaith hunger education and fundraising events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by regional offices across the U.S.

Jason Garvin ’09 works as an aviation electronics technician for the U.S. Navy.

Jodiene “Jodi” Myers ’09 and her husband, Tom, moved from Boston, Mass., to San Francisco, Calif., and work for the same company, Genentech. Jodi is a management associate and Tom is a senior manager. “Our niece is taking classes online at Columbia College for her second bachelor’s… small world!”

Rachelle Pulse ’09 is an analyst for the government and lives in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Mindy Johnson Reed ’09 writes from Cambria, Calif., where she has been accepted into the master’s program at the University of Phoenix. Mindy is a teacher at Small Wonders Preschool and her husband, Dirk, is a manager at the Olallieberry Inn, a bed and breakfast on Santa Rosa Creek in Cambria.

Regina Divine ’10 recorded a song available for $0.99 on www.amazon.com, “Heaven.” Regina’s website is www.reverbnation.com/reginadivine and includes a sample of the song. “I hope you enjoy listening to it as much as I enjoyed recording it.” She is managed by J4J (Just 4 Jesus) Music Ministries in Atlanta, Ga.

Regina lives in Jefferson City, Mo.

Elizabeth “Liz” Evans ’10 is an environmental specialist with AquaTerra Environmental Solutions, Inc., in Columbia, Mo. Liz lives in New Bloomfield, Mo.

Jessica Kratz Gibson ’10 lives in Eugene, Ore.

Samuel Gyasi ’10 was selected for promotion to warrant officer class four in the U.S. Navy. Samuel lives in Murrieta, Calif., with his wife, Eva, and two daughters.

Carey Harbison ’10 completed a nine-month training program and is a full-time 911 dispatcher for the Gurnee (Ill.) Police Department. Carey lives in Waukegan, Ill.

Dustin Johnson ’10 is a finance manager for URS Corporation. Dustin lives in Lemoore, Calif., with his wife, Reylene.
Rachel Oswald ’10 has been named to the All-Star team of the Eurobasket Summer League. Rachel was the 2010 American Midwest Conference Player of the Year and finished her career with the Columbia College Cougars second in scoring (1,552 pts.), first in rebounding (860), third in blocks (83) and fifth in steals (171). She has signed with Sports Management Worldwide to pursue a professional basketball career.

Megan Boggess ’11 lives in Columbia, Mo.

Michael Culp ’11 lives in Loveland, Colo.

Darlene Kornick ’11 lives in Lakemoor, Ill.

Amanda Kirkendoll Lay ’11 is a Tier 2 representative for M&M and lives in Wentzville, Mo., with her husband, Kevin.

Doug Weaver ’11 painted a picture of the Joplin, Mo., tornado aftermath and donated it to the city of Joplin, where it will hang in city hall.


Cheryl Wilkinson ’11 writes from Waynesville, Mo., where she is working as an administrative officer for the U. S. Department of the Army after retiring from the U.S. Army Reserve with 23 years of service. Additionally, Cheryl is a public relations specialist and is a certified domestic violence and sexual assault advocate. She has 13 years of civil service and is working toward a master’s degree in human resources from Webster University. Cheryl also has a daughter studying law at Western Michigan University.

Mary Newton ’11 with her daughter, MSNBC and NBC anchor and host Tamron Hall, in the White House at Christmas.


Jane Smith ’95 to Brent Unger, Jan. 11, 2011, in Colorado Springs, Colo. Jane is a senior benefits analyst-technical with the University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo., and Brent is employed by the U.S. Air Force. They make their home in Hallsville, Mo.

Charles “Chuck” Martinez ’98 to Margaret Wayman, May 25, 2011, in Las Vegas, Nev. Chuck is a manager for Save-A-Lot Food Stores in Earth City, Mo., and Margaret is a legal administrative specialist for Husch Blackwell in Clayton, Mo. The couple resides in St. Louis, Mo.

Cassie Gross ’05 to Edgar Myers IV, Sept. 30, 2011, in Grafton, Ill. Cassie has a bachelor’s degree in political science from Columbia College; a master’s degree in political science from the University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo.; and is working toward a Ph.D. in political science from the University
of Missouri in St. Louis, Mo. She is a labor and employee relations specialist with the U.S. Treasury Department in St. Louis. Edgar holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in information systems management from the University of Maryland and the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, respectively. He is an IT project manager with the Department of Defense at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois.

Laura Elliott ’06 to Craig Fallin, Nov. 20, 2010, in Jerseyville, Ill. Laura works as an account executive for the St. Louis Cardinals and is the owner of Paint My Mutt, a business where she paints pictures of customers’ dogs and other furry friends. Craig works for Grafton Technologies. The couple live in Edwardsville, Ill.

Kannon Sanders ’06 to Jessica Gallagher, Oct. 1, 2011, in Columbia, Mo. Kannon is a registration coordinator for Stifel Nicolaus & Company in St. Louis, Mo., and Jessica is a project manager for ArcVision, Inc., in St. Louis. The couple resides in Florissant, Mo.

Sandra Ashley Adams ’07 to Dennis DeLashmutt, April 1, 2010. Sandra is retired from the military and works part-time as a dispatcher for Chariton County 911, and Dennis is an operator for the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUEO) Local 101 of Kansas City. They live in Dalton, Mo.

Briana Doney ’08, ’11 to Brad Johnson, July 2, 2011, in Columbia, Mo. Briana has a bachelor’s degree in sociology and an MBA and is a course review specialist for the Online Campus at Columbia College. Brad is an on-air reporter for ABC 17 News in Columbia. The bridal party took photos in Missouri Hall on the Columbia College campus, and three of the bride’s attendants were Columbia College graduates: Treka Henry ’09, Samantha Meyer ’08 and Amanda Schlottach ’09.

Brooklyn Burke ’10 to Kyle Storm ’10, Aug. 13, 2011. The couple resides in Louisville, Ky.

Jessica Boik ’11 to Clay Lansing, Nov. 5, 2010. Jessica is an administrative assistant for Edward Jones, and Clay is an electrical engineer for TRS Group, Inc. They make their home in Fenton, Mo.

Brynda Reynolds ’11 to John Waller Jr., May 21, 2011, in Lake Ozark, Mo. Brynda is a business manager for Glencove Marina LLC, and John is a cable contractor for Central Missouri Cable. They live in Lake Ozark, Mo.

Births

Madalyn Christine Peach to Heather Hastings ’09 and Ryan Peach of San Pablo, Calif., Feb. 6, 2011.

Wesley Oliver Weaver to Jennifer Groves Weaver ’09 and Jerry Weaver of Mechanicsville, Va., June 10, 2011.

Brody Allen Martin to Peter Martin ’11 on Aug. 13, 2011.
Marcella Stamm Faustman ’26
May 1, 2011

Arlene Trout Winn ’39
Sept. 25, 2011

Marian Brown ’40
Aug. 6, 2011, age 91, in Duncan, Okla. Marian was born Jan. 19, 1920, in Duncan. She attended Christian College and the University of Oklahoma. She was a decorations designer for two department stores in Oklahoma City, Okla., before moving home to care for her mother. She enjoyed event decorating including extensive holiday decorations and liked to garden and landscape. She was a managing partner for the 77 Bar family ranch where she taught her nieces and nephews to ride horses. She was a founder and president of the Duncan Civic Auditorium Foundation, which sponsored the Civic Capers fundraisers that provided money for the Simmons Center Auditorium. She was a member of the Athene Club, the Philomathic Club, Pi Beta Phi, General Federated Women’s Clubs, Stephens County Historical Society, the Culls Bridge Club, Friends of Duncan Regional Hospital and a charter member of the Elks Women’s Golf Association. She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, a sister and four sisters-in-law. She is survived by several nieces and a nephew.

Betty Bippus Graham ’40
Sept. 12, 2008

Marjorie Searcy Willis ’40
Oct. 30, 2010

Ann Pope Durr ’42
Aug. 23, 2011

Nancy Fisher Faulkner ’42
Dec. 25, 2010

Jane Fisher Fowler ’43
Feb. 15, 2011

Elizabeth Wright Green ’44
May 14, 2011

Mary Duncan Edwards ’47
Aug. 20, 2011

Joanne Beatson Fowler ’47
July 24, 2010

Dorris Floca Black ’48
April 26, 2011

Mary Ann Richardson Hanson ’51
Oct. 15, 2011

Nancy Hughes Bilhardt ’52
Nov. 16, 2011

Barbara Buckles Courtney ’52
Sept. 16, 2011

Tessamae Bizzle McCarty ’54
Aug. 6, 2011, age 76, in Tulsa, Okla. Tessamae was born Aug. 11, 1934, in Macomb, Okla. She met her future husband, Jack, on a blind date; they married in 1955. She attended Christian College and the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Okla. She also earned her master’s degree from the University of Evansville in Indiana and her education specialist degree from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette. She retired in 1999 after 17 years of teaching music and art and 21 years as a high school counselor in Sapulpa, Okla. She is survived by son, Matthew McCarty, and wife, Teresa, of Austin, Texas; daughter, Teri Felts, and husband, Dennis, of Santa Clarita, Calif.; daughter, Tamera Eggebrecht, and husband, Jim, of College Station, Texas; sister, Imogene Patton of Plano, Texas; and 14 grandchildren.
In Memoriam

Linda Wyman ’56
Aug. 29, 2011, age 74, in Jefferson City, Mo. Linda was born April 1, 1937, in Rockford, Ill., and grew up in the Battle House, a hotel in Mobile, Ala., owned by her parents. She was valedictorian of her high school class and went on to attend Christian College. She earned an A.B. degree from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas; an M.A. from the University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo.; and a Ph.D. from George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, Tenn. She also studied at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre Summer School in Stratford, England. Linda spent the majority of her professional life teaching at Lincoln University in Jefferson City following stints with Christian College, Western Kentucky University, George Peabody College and Motlow State Community College. At Lincoln, she taught English and chaired the Department of English, Foreign Languages and Philosophy where she began a program of honors and awards that still exists today. She also chartered and sponsored the Omega Pi chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the international English Honor Society. An accomplished writer, she published articles and poems and presented papers to a number of scholarly organizations. She presented workshops and consulted for the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Missouri Association of Teachers of English, among others. In 1990, she was named the Missouri Professor of the Year by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. Columbia College presented her with its Distinguished Alumna Award in 1991. In 2004, she was honored as outstanding faculty sponsor in the United States by Sigma Tau Delta and traveled with a group of students to Daytona, Fla., to accept the award. Linda retired from Lincoln University in May 2011 and was granted the rank of professor emerita. She enjoyed traveling, the theater and baseball. She was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her sister, Eloise Wyman Portera, and brother-in-law, Paul Portera, one nephew and three nieces.

Barbara Harvey ’58
March 30, 2011

Nancy Leonard Coppinger ’59
Aug. 11, 2011

Teresa “Terry” Thomas Kephart ’67
May 7, 2011

Anne Smith Schmitt ’68
Jan. 29, 2010

William Hasler ’74
Oct. 17, 2011

Ronald “R.L.” Hurtt ’75
June 19, 2009

Carol Wierman ’75
Feb. 28, 2011

Dewey Collins ’78
Sept. 19, 2011

John Ellsworth ’78
Jan. 10, 2010

Gerald Thompson ’81
Oct. 31, 2011
In Memoriam

Robert Bamerick ’85
May 12, 2011, age 90, in Camillus, N.Y. Robert was born in Syracuse, N.Y., and attended Nottingham High School, St. Michael’s College, Columbia College and UNC-Chapel Hill. He flew 11 years in the U.S. Marine Corps Ready Reserve and was discharged with the rank of lieutenant colonel after 38 years of service. He worked as a civil engineer in central New York and was a member of the Retired Officers’ Association, the Reserve Officers’ Association and the Marine Corps League. He was an adult leader for more than 20 years in the Boy Scouts of America and was a recipient of the Silver Beaver Award. He was also active in Catholic Scouting and received the St. George Award. He is survived by his wife, Jane; daughter, Susan Wecht, and husband, Ronald; daughter, Sally Dewitt, and husband, Raymond; daughter, Virginia Hyde, and husband, Douglas; son, Robert Bamerick Jr.; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Thomas Pile ’91
Sept. 28, 2009

Roy Browning ’92
Sept. 24, 2011

Alex Barber ’93
Aug. 29, 2009

Gayrene Luecke ’93
April 21, 2010

Tony Brumback ’94
Oct. 27, 2011

Tracy Freeman Schroeder Martin ’03
Sept. 25, 2011, age 42, in Phoenix, N.Y. Tracy was raised in Maryland and lived in Syracuse, N.Y., since she was 18 years old. She enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1986 and joined the 174th Fighter Wing Security Forces in 1999. In 2003 she was commissioned as a second lieutenant. Later, she was named the first female commander of the 174th Security Forces Squadron. Tracy was an avid runner, who competed in marathons and aspired to compete in an Ironman Triathlon. She is survived by her husband, Major Timothy Martin; son, Joshua Schroeder; daughter, Samantha Schroeder; son, Zachary Schroeder; her parents; four siblings; and several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Gregory Scott ’85
Aug. 22, 2011
William “Bill” Brown
Sept. 24, 2011, age 79, in Wichita Falls, Texas.
Bill was born May 2, 1932, in Washington, Mo. After high school, he was drafted into the U.S. Army. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland in College Park, Md., Wichita State University of Kansas and the University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo. Bill was a former music director, director of Admissions, head of the Extended Studies Division and executive vice president of Columbia College. He spent much of his life as a choral director, opera singer and university professor. Additionally, he was an executive with two chiropractic management companies. He was affiliated with the Disciples of Christ Church and enjoyed golf and politics. He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother and a grandson. Bill is survived by his wife, Diane, of Wichita Falls; son, Kent Brown of Wichita Falls; son, Dr. Mark Brown and wife, Marilyn, of Wichita Falls; son, Dr. Kurt Brown, and wife, Lori, of Graham, Texas; daughter, Kelly Requa, and husband, Larry, of San Antonio, Texas; son, King Brown, and wife, Maria, of Tucson, Ariz.; a brother, Harry J. Brown, and wife, Ruth, of St. Louis, Mo.; and six grandchildren.

Carolyn Ford Dickinson
Sept. 6, 2011, age 76, in Mountain Home, Ark. Carolyn was born May 19, 1935, in Fayetteville, Ark. She married Leon Dickinson, a former English professor at the University of Missouri, in 1970. She earned a Ph.D. in English from the University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo. She taught at Stephens College in Columbia and spent a year each in Japan and France before becoming a professor at Columbia College where she taught English for 30 years. “She was really particular about the English language,” said Dr. Terry Smith, executive vice president and dean for Academic Affairs. “She wanted her students to love the language and use it properly.” She was preceded in death by her parents, brother and husband. She is survived by a niece, two nephews and an aunt.
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: ____________________________________________________________  □ Check if new

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.

_____________________________________________________________

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Deconstructing Complexity

In my many dealings with various constituencies, it is fascinating to learn of their perceptions of the college. Some view it as a small, Midwest, liberal arts and science institution, serving traditional-age students, many of whom live on campus in residence halls. This is a view held by many parents in particular. Then there are those who view it only as a working adult oriented evening program. Others view us as an online portal and do so from a purely electronic perspective. Many know that we cater to the military, but they are uncertain of the relationship. Further still, many are surprised to learn that we operate country-wide via our Nationwide Campuses in addition to online.

The fact is that all of these perceptions are valid. We are truly a hybrid institution dealing with multiple variables on a daily basis. With excellence in teaching and learning as our goal, we are required to be flexible, creative and relevant. We search always for efficiencies and attempt to standardize processes. Given our hybrid nature, however, we are required to customize certain aspects of our policies and procedures. One such requirement pertains to the fact that our day program operates on a 16-week semester and our other programs on eight-week sessions.

Columbia College is a complex organization, a community of hands-on experts, all of whom contribute to achievement of mission. Over the years, we have become adept at deconstructing complexity in order to simplify and devise practical solutions to difficult problems. We have become equally adept at creating, directing and managing change. Many of these activities take place on the back channel and rarely enter into the observer’s perception of the organization. A key goal is to find additional ways by which to increase positive perceptions of the institution from all quarters. That goal will be achieved as our quality and services continue to grow.

Jerald T. Lowander

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