

FALL 2015

STOLEN LEAF

MAGAZINE

GLOBAL
ENGAGEMENT

ROOM FOR
DEBATE

WRITTEN ALL OVER
YOUR FACE

ON THE COVER

The Old Music Hall was renovated in 2008 as part of the Regents Hall of Natural and Mathematical Sciences complex, and houses the mathematics, statistics, and computer science departments.

PHOTO BY TOM ROSTER



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ST. OLAF MAGAZINE

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BY ERIN PETERSON

A new cross-disciplinary Institute for Freedom and Community at St. Olaf aims to improve the quality of public discourse on important issues of the day. In the institute's first lecture series, "Community, Race, and Policing in America," guest speakers George Kelling '56, author of "Broken Windows," one of the most prominent theories of policing, and University of California-Santa Barbara sociology professor Victor Rios, wrestled with questions about a topic that has roiled a nation, a conversation that is continued here by Kelling, social science analyst Sarah Estill '06, and St. Olaf religion and philosophy professor Edmund Santurri.

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BY JEFF SAUVE

Almanac remembers the college's annual Homecoming bonfire, one of the longest-held traditions at St. Olaf.



16





Greetings, Oles:

IN ITS MISSION STATEMENT, our College challenges students to become “responsible and knowledgeable citizens of the world.” St. Olaf prepares students to meet that challenge in many ways. Our general education program introduces them to, and grounds them in, the different ways of looking at and understanding the world that are reflected in the various academic disciplines. In their courses, students develop and then hone their ability to use analytical reasoning to recognize and solve problems. Small class sizes, discussion-based pedagogies, and myriad opportunities to work in groups help students develop the ability to formulate arguments, to support them with evidence, and then to test them against the arguments of others.

Our signature international and off-campus study programs enable students to locate themselves and their learning in a global context, and the compelling images in this issue from the Gimse International and Off-Campus Studies Photo Contest afford us some glimpses into the places where our students have had that experience.

The new Institute for Freedom and Community, described in these pages, also advances this work. It seeks to foster sustained, informed, respectful study and debate about the big issues facing our country and the world, with the goal of achieving a deeper understanding of those issues and identifying productive solutions to them. The work of the institute is intended to be provocative because it addresses provocative issues, but the goal is always to advance understanding and therefore to yield productive answers to difficult questions.

The series of talks about race and policing in America sponsored by the institute in its inaugural year exemplify this kind of programming. The series confronted an important and fraught issue head-on, brought to campus thoughtful voices with multiple perspectives on that issue, and provided students the opportunity to consider and debate how best to address the issue.

We tend to think of the outcomes of a college education in terms of the development of individual students, and that is certainly an important part of the value proposition at St. Olaf, but colleges and universities also exist to contribute to the commonweal. Think of St. Olaf as a private college with a public mission to produce responsible and knowledgeable citizens of the world. With our programs already in place and, now, with the addition of the Institute for Freedom and Community, we embrace our responsibility to produce such citizens and thus to make meaningful contributions to our collective well-being.

David R. Anderson



UM! YAH! YAH!



FRAM! FRAM!

welcome welcome

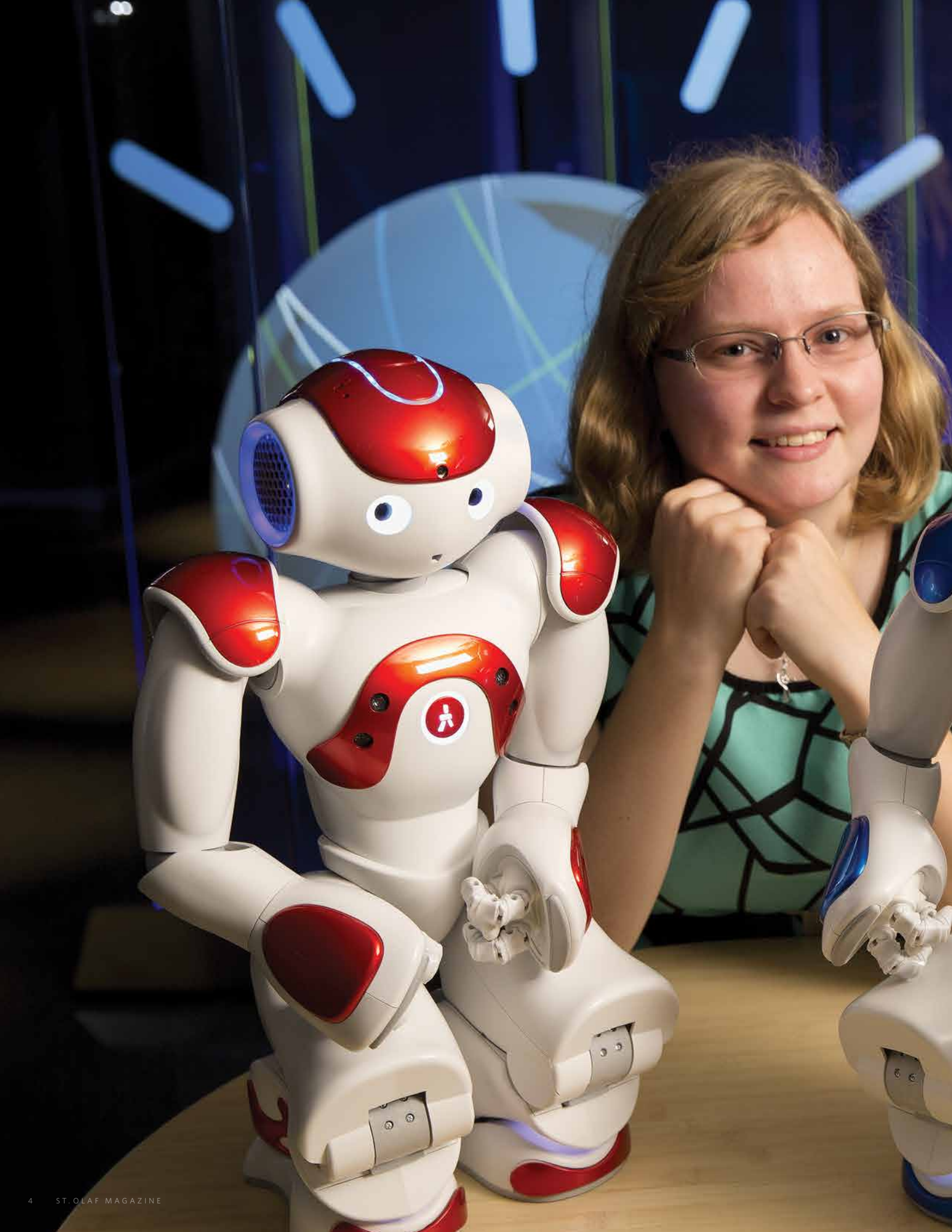
AFTER ITS COMPLETION in the spring of 1948, the St. Olaf water tower mostly stood unnoticed among the trees on the west edge of Norway Valley as generation after generation of Oles came and went.

This summer, the landmark water tower was given new life, undergoing a thorough renovation that included structural repairs, sandblasting, cleaning, and painting — both inside and out. An important piece of campus infrastructure, the tower not only stores 150,000 gallons of water for firefighting purposes but also supplies the water pressure that helps to serve campus buildings.

Ole the Lion now ensures that the water tower's days of anonymity are past.



THE WATER TOWER, CIRCA 1949





Elementary

WATSON, IBM'S COGNITIVE computing system, takes in data from myriad sources, from research reports and TED Talks videos to Tweets — all the information people produce for others to consume. Watson's computing capabilities are limitless. No one knows this better than Mary McManis '17, who spent her summer at the IBM research lab in Austin, Texas, "teaching" Watson the intricacies and inner workings of higher education.

This effort will help to create a Watson platform that can improve the college choice experience by answering questions any prospective student might have about a college or university, its student services, campus life, costs, and academic courses. It's not the same as searching with Google or Yahoo, says McManis, who worked with a system known as the Watson Engagement Advisor.

Watson, she explains, is built to mirror the same mental steps we go through when we use the power of cognition: observe, interpret, evaluate, and decide. "Watson is in health care, medicine, banks, robots, and even the kitchen. Higher education is another great avenue. Hopefully, we can keep making cognitive computing more accessible, because this is a technology that can really make a difference in our world," says McManis.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY BOB DAEMMRICH/POLARIS

THE 2015 GIMSE
INTERNATIONAL AND
OFF-CAMPUS STUDIES
PHOTO CONTEST

GLOBALLY
ENGAGED

FOR NEARLY A HALF CENTURY,
St. Olaf students have taken advantage of
international and off-campus study programs
that offer profound, often life-changing
experiences. Living and studying abroad is
fundamental to understanding other cultures
and perspectives, to becoming an educated
citizen in a changing world. Documenting their
experiences through photography is one way
students come to terms with such diversity.





COPENHAGEN

Amaleneborg, Denmark · Erin McCoy '16
Danish Institute for Study Abroad



SAND · Heron Island, Great Barrier Reef, Queensland, Australia
Stuart Behling '16 · Environmental Science in Australia



THE LOOK · Galápagos Islands, Ecuador
Ruoyang Wang '16 · Equatorial Biology Interim

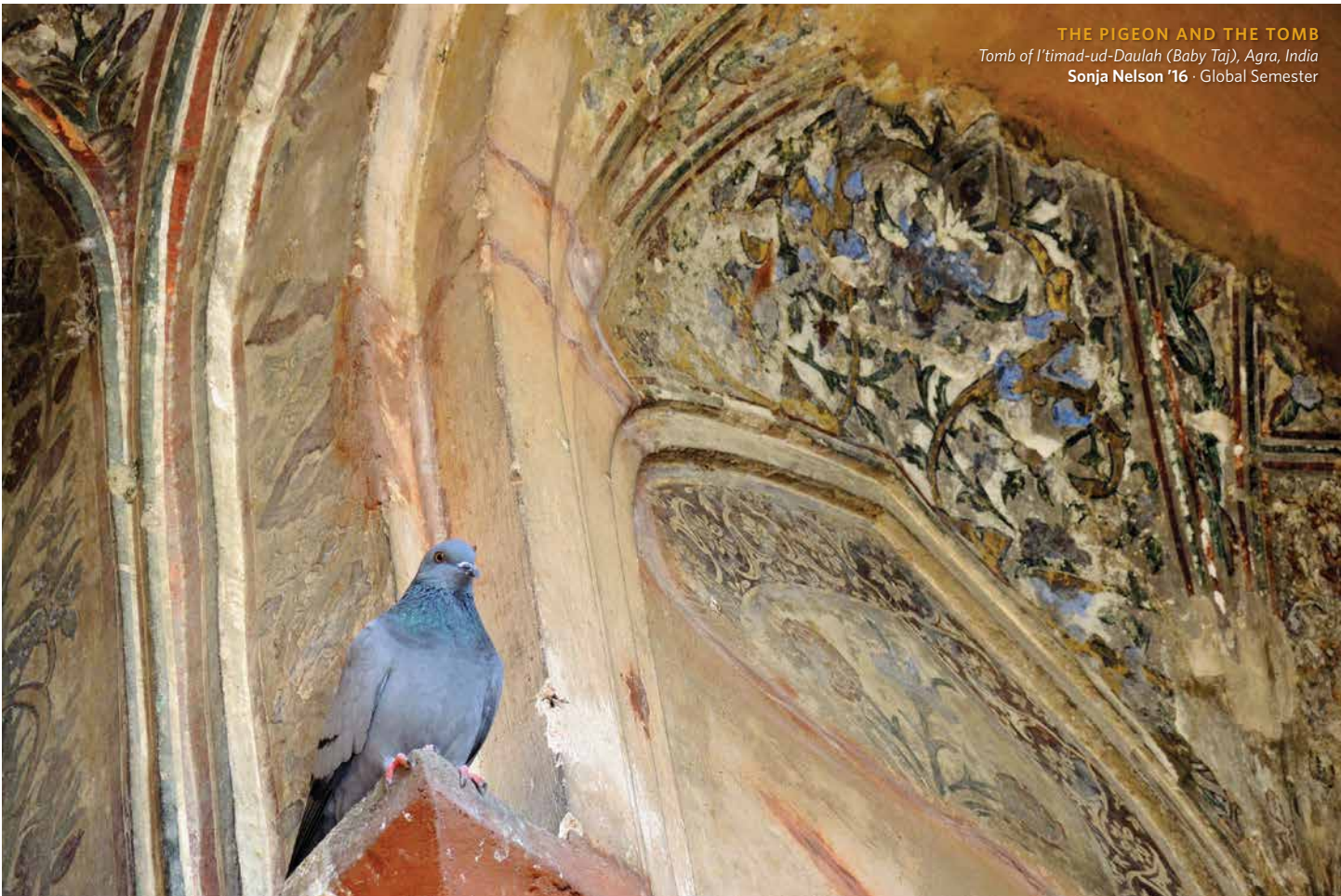


CLIMBING GOATS
Morocco · Kathryn Brunstein '16
Mediterranean Semester

“Goats in Morocco love to climb Argan trees. The beans from this tree are harvested by self-supporting women who extract the bean oil for food and beauty products, which they produce on a large scale. I had certain images that came to mind when I thought of the Middle East before my study abroad experience, but I never imagined I would find so much life, laughter, love, and communication in this beautiful region.” — KATHRYN BRUNSTEIN '16



SNOWFALL ON FLATTOP
Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado
Andrew Wilder '15 · Rocky Mountain Interim



THE PIGEON AND THE TOMB
Tomb of I'timad-ud-Daulah (Baby Taj), Agra, India
Sonja Nelson '16 · Global Semester



TRANSPORTATION: OLD AND NEW
Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India · Lisa Jean Koetke '16 · Biology in South India

“India is more than what is seen on the surface, more than saris, henna, and elephants. Many cultural influences create the unique experience that is India, yet the traditional aspects remain strong and proud.” – LISA KOETKE '16



WINTER FRUIT
Giardino delle Rose, Florence, Italy
Liam John '16
Italian Art in Context Interim



TYING US TOGETHER · Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea
Kaelie Lund '16 · Global Semester



STREET ART · Sofia, Bulgaria · Elizabeth Bews '15
Institute for the International Education of Students (IES) French Studies in Paris

“We Global Semester students and our South Korean “buddies” from Yonsei University visited the Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea on a somber, gray day. Thousands of ribbons were tied to the barbed wire marking the border. On a steel overlook, surrounded by South Korean soldiers, we strained to see North Korea. Korea was one for so long, how can it be that they hate each other so much yet have such a long history together? How can there be such a divide?” – Kaelie Lund '16



CAGED
Fes, Morocco
Alexandra Madsen '18
French in Morocco Interim

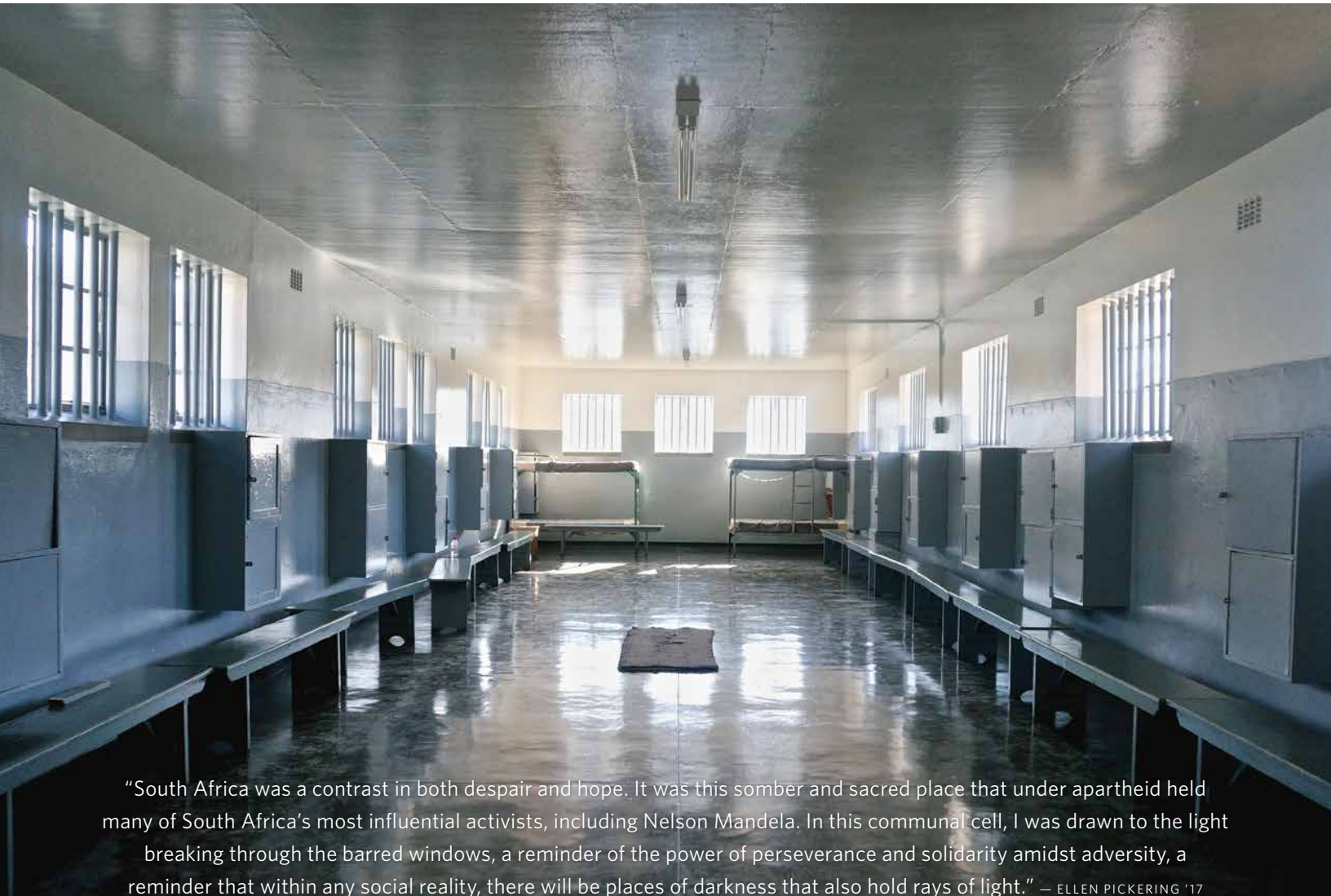


THE HEART OF MELBOURNE · Melbourne, Australia
Sam Weaver '16 · Environmental Science in Australia



AFTER THE STORM · Great Otway National Park, Australia
Sam Weaver '16 · Environmental Science in Australia

“From the sight of this drenched koala clinging to the bark of a eucalyptus tree after a rare rainstorm in Otway Forest to the brilliant colors and designs of street art that covered almost every inch of wall space in Melbourne’s alleyways, I gained an appreciation for the beauty and value of Australia’s natural and urban environments.” – SAM WEAVER '16



“South Africa was a contrast in both despair and hope. It was this somber and sacred place that under apartheid held many of South Africa’s most influential activists, including Nelson Mandela. In this communal cell, I was drawn to the light breaking through the barred windows, a reminder of the power of perseverance and solidarity amidst adversity, a reminder that within any social reality, there will be places of darkness that also hold rays of light.” – ELLEN PICKERING '17

REFLECTIONS · Robben Island, Cape Town, South Africa · Ellen Pickering '17 · Social Realities of South Africa Interim



A photograph of a rock climbing wall. The wall is dark grey and textured, with numerous colorful climbing holds in red, green, blue, and orange. A blue rope runs vertically down the center of the wall. In the foreground, there is a black safety net with a grid pattern. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the climbing wall.

RYAN BOWLES JOINED ST. OLAF in September as the college's new full-time director of athletics. A former associate athletic director at the University of Maryland, Bowles oversaw 11 varsity sports and led Maryland's transition from the Atlantic Coast Conference to the Big Ten. A liberal arts college graduate, he was a four-time letter winner in men's soccer at DIII McDaniel College. St. Olaf College sponsors 27 varsity sports, more than any other school in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC).

PHOTOGRAPHED BY TOM ROSTER



LAST FALL, A NEW CROSS-DISCIPLINARY INSTITUTE DEDICATED TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF PUBLIC DISCOURSE WAS ESTABLISHED AT ST. OLAF COLLEGE.

THE INSTITUTE FOR FREEDOM AND COMMUNITY

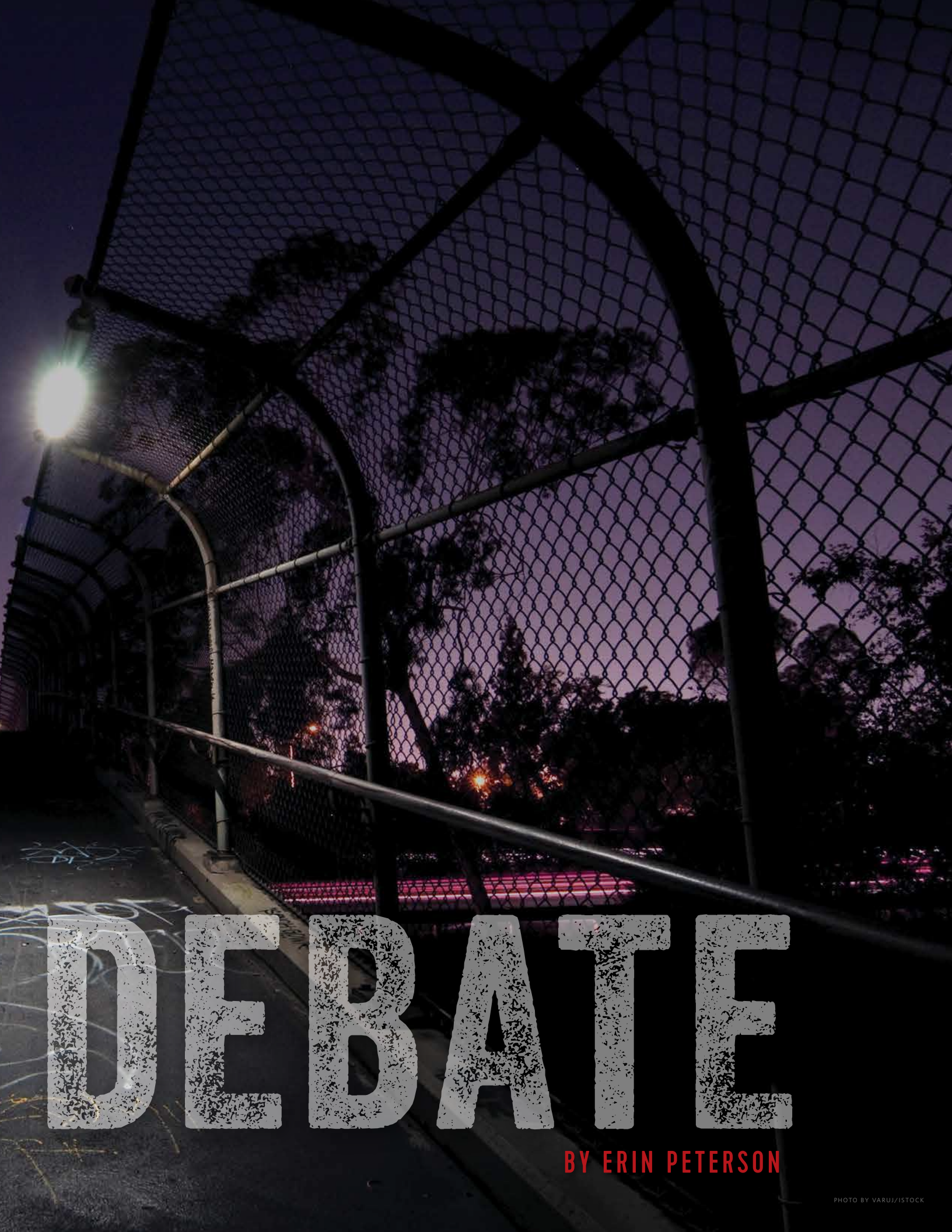
AIMS TO PROMOTE BALANCED SCHOLARSHIP AND INFORMED DEBATE ON CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS IN A RESPECTFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER.

IN ITS FIRST LECTURE SERIES THIS PAST SPRING, GUEST SPEAKERS AND CAMPUS AUDIENCES ASKED THORNY AND CRITICALLY IMPORTANT QUESTIONS ABOUT A TOPIC THAT HAS ROILED A NATION:

COMMUNITY, RACE, AND POLICING IN AMERICA.

THE CONVERSATION IS CONTINUED HERE.

ROOM FOR



DEBATE

BY ERIN PETERSON



JASON ROGERS / FLICKR.COM / RESTLESSGLOBETROTTER

IN THE SUMMER OF 2014, when a Ferguson, Missouri, police officer killed Michael Brown, an unarmed, college-bound black teen, it lit a tinderbox of raw emotion. The multiple and conflicting stories of his death — and everything that followed — unearthed some of our deepest fears and unspoken beliefs linked to race and policing, power and violence.

As the media began delving into the issue, the incidents of white police officers responding aggressively to black citizens cropped up in the news with increasing regularity. In April, African American Walter Scott was shot while running away from an officer; two months later, a white police officer pulled a gun at a pool party with young teens, and threw a black 14-year-old girl to the concrete. With the help of smartphone captures and graphic dashboard and body camera videos that spread through social media, the entire planet saw the violence up close. The names — Eric Garner, Tamir Rice, Walter Scott, Freddie Gray, and, most recently, Sandra Bland and Samuel DuBose — are etched into our collective memory.

At the same time, thousands defended the police officers, who routinely faced complex and dangerous situations without clear-cut guidance. These individual incidents, they said, did not represent policing as a whole. On Twitter, thousands supported officers with the hashtag *#BlueLivesMatter*.

Nonetheless, these explosive incidents highlighted concerns of racial disparity and policing that have simmered for many decades: some police departments had supported slavery; later, the black codes; and, until the 1960s, Jim Crow. While much has changed, a three-year study completed by Gallup in 2014 found that just 37 percent of blacks have “a great deal” of confidence in police — compared to 59 percent of whites. In a powerful speech in February, FBI director James Comey acknowledged that officers have a rocky history with race. To move forward, he stated, they need to “design systems and processes to overcome the very human part of us all.”

The conversation about race and law enforcement has spilled over to our homes, our workplace water coolers, our college and university classrooms, and our Facebook and Twitter feeds. It’s required us to grapple with difficult and often deeply uncomfortable ideas about how to move forward. How do we make sure that all people, regardless of their race or background, are treated fairly by police officers? How do we best respond when police officers go astray? How do we make sure that good police officers get the support they need to do difficult and often dangerous work? How do we encourage and highlight the exceptional policing that happens daily in cities across the country? How do we rebuild trust between police and the citizens they’re called to protect so that everyone benefits?

To find out more, we talked to experts in the field, from George Kelling ’56, author of one of the most prominent theories of policing, to Sarah Estill ’06, who’s using science to build better relationships between police officers and citizens. On campus, we listened to visiting speakers who have spent their careers studying these topics, and professors who are wrestling with the issues along with their students. These men and women shared the work they’re doing, the beliefs they hold, and the best ways they know to move forward.

Should “Broken Windows” Policing be Relegated to the History Books, or Get Ready for its Second Act?

Since “Broken Windows” was published in The Atlantic in 1982, the ideas it set forth to improve policing have attracted both widespread praise and condemnation. Coauthor George L. Kelling ’56, an emeritus professor in the School of Criminal Justice at Rutgers University and currently a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, talks about the development, uses, and misuses of the theory that has transformed policing in America — and what makes him optimistic for the future.

LAST SUMMER IN NEW YORK CITY, Eric Garner died while resisting arrest for selling untaxed cigarettes — “loosies.” His death, widely believed to be the result of a chokehold, led to serious scrutiny of a policing tactic known as “broken windows” — an approach that focuses on addressing disorder and minor crimes with vigilance in order to prevent more serious crimes.

George Kelling publicly called the death “tragic,” and acknowledged that bad police practices have happened in the name of broken windows in many cities. And yet he remains a staunch supporter of the theory he and his colleague James Q. Wilson developed more than three decades ago.

It all started in the late 1970s, when Kelling was spending countless hours walking foot patrol with police officers during the steamy summers and wet, chilly winters in Newark, New Jersey. As a researcher for a project funded by the Police Foundation, Kelling talked to hundreds of community members in crime-saturated neighborhoods, people who were frustrated by the disorder in their communities. Seemingly small things, like improperly maintained buildings, loomed large in their stories. “They’d tell me about broken windows,” he explains, which they connected to a larger lawlessness.

According to Kelling, these unrepaired windows — and other signals of neighborhood disarray, like graffiti and litter — might as well have been neon signs for criminals, announcing that no one was in charge and that it would be easier for them to get away with larger, more destructive acts.

The best officers, says Kelling, helped prevent the chaos before it really got started. He recalls one specific moment that drove that idea home for him: a white officer on foot patrol in a predominantly African American neighborhood saw a drunk African American man harassing a pregnant African American woman and her five-year-old daughter. The officer sprinted down the block to pull him off of the woman. “Joe,” the officer said to the man, whom he knew well, “You’re not to be messing with this woman.” Joe scoffed, and the officer repeated himself. When Joe dismissed the officer again and went back to the pregnant woman, the officer, along with two white colleagues who had arrived on the scene, arrested him. The drunk man’s friends, sitting on a stoop a few steps away, started ridiculing their friend. “Even [the man’s friends] saw the legitimacy of the officer,” says Kelling. “There was a larger idea of community policing: there were white officers in an African American neighborhood, and everyone — except Joe — was in support of what the police were doing. The police had legitimacy because everyone knew the officers, and because they handled the situation appropriately within that context.”

Kelling and Wilson produced a 7,000-word piece for *The Atlantic* that proposed a new way to think about policing in communities — a strategy that focused on addressing

**“BROKEN WINDOWS”
PROPOSED A POLICING
STRATEGY THAT ADDRESSED
DISORDERLY CONDITIONS
AND MINOR CRIMES TO
PROMOTE AN ATMOSPHERE
OF LAWFULNESS THAT
PREVENTED LARGER
TRANSGRESSIONS.**



Criminologist and author George Kelling '56 is a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute and former fellow in the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.
PHOTOGRAPHED BY TOM ROSTER

**OVER TIME, BROKEN
WINDOWS HAS BEEN
STRETCHED TO PROVIDE
THE FOUNDATION FOR FAR
MORE AGGRESSIVE AND
MORALLY QUESTIONABLE
TACTICS, INCLUDING
“STOP, QUESTION, AND
FRISK” AND “ZERO
TOLERANCE.”**

disorderly conditions and behavior and minor crimes to promote an atmosphere of lawfulness that prevented larger transgressions. The article was careful and nuanced — and anything but a viral hit. “Police responded positively to the article, but they also said ‘We have so many calls for service, we just can’t address this,’ ” Kelling recalls.

His ideas seemed to upend much of the prevailing wisdom on the left that suggested that crime was caused by poverty, racism, and social injustice and could only be solved by larger social shifts.

But for Kelling, that theory constrained practical action. “Can you hold crime control hostage to major social change?” he asks. “In the meantime, what about people living in public housing who live in terror because they can’t protect their children from gangs? Broken windows suggested there were more proximate ways to deal with crime.”

Kelling and Wilson’s theory might have descended into obscurity, but a few years later, Kelling got a call from Bob Kiley, a supporter of Kelling’s work and chair of the board of the New York State Transportation Authority. He wanted Kelling to look into the enormous problem of disorder and fare beating in New York City’s subway — every day, 170,000 passengers hitched a ride without paying, exacting a \$75 million annual toll. With Kelling’s help, the city put in place a massive system to restore order and catch fare beaters, including posting clear warning signs around the subway system warning people about the imminent enforcement effort and creating specially outfitted buses to speed the booking process. They nabbed thousands.

In some ways, it hardly seemed worth it to pursue people so aggressively for a \$1.25 offense. But those committing minor offenses sometimes turned out to be major criminals. “We discovered that in some stations, one in 10 people stopped for fare beating were carrying an illegal weapon or were wanted on a felony warrant,” Kelling recalls. “Not all fare beaters are criminals, but a lot of criminals are fare beaters.”

Their work to prevent turnstile jumping in subway stations was just one of many efforts the city put into place to crack down on small crimes: city officials also worked to curtail the “squeegee men” extorting money by scrubbing car windshields at intersections, and they implemented projects to prevent graffiti vandalism. Arrests skyrocketed. And then, as the theory predicted, rates for major crimes in the city went down, perhaps more significantly and in a more sustained way than anyone could have imagined. Homicides, for example, dropped from 2,245 in 1990 to 328 in 2014. Officials in cities across the nation used similar techniques and got similar results.

Broken windows seemed to work — especially when the efforts were orchestrated by Kelling, who understood the nuances of his theory and could ensure its successful and legitimate implementation. But over time, broken windows has been stretched — even distorted — to provide the foundation for far more aggressive and morally questionable tactics, including “stop, question, and frisk” and “zero tolerance.”

And this is part of where the problem lies, says Kelling. Many police departments began to assume that more aggressive policies would lead to an even further reduction in crime, but instead, it led to a backlash. “When you start setting quotas for stop, question, and frisk, or quotas for arrests, you’re inviting a whole lot of trouble,” Kelling explains. “Police have overused arrests.”

What he does know is that broken windows is frequently misunderstood, misapplied, and unfairly targeted. It is a nuanced approach, he says, that eschews across-the-board aggressiveness in favor of policing that is based on officers who deeply know — and are supported by — the communities in which they work, and one in which actions aren’t dictated by algorithms but by context. “There are all kinds of people who think they ‘know’ broken windows, but it’s a metaphor that simplifies very complicated issues,” he explains.

And yet he remains hopeful, in part because of all the high-profile over-policing cases that have gained national media attention during the past year. September 11, he says, made many of us, including police officers, more wary and vigilant, often in dangerous ways. But now we may be more ready for a more thoughtful kind of policing, led by leaders who have the full support of their communities.

“I think that a lot of African Americans, other minorities, and women, have been stimulated into political action, and that’s going to be reflected in police departments,” he says. “I think that’s terribly important. And I think we’re getting the kind of diversity and intelligence that will serve as a model for the departments that have not met their responsibilities and have fallen behind. We’re holding police accountable. We have a sophisticated police leadership and we’re regaining our focus. I remain very optimistic.”

How Do We Connect Science and Policy to Make the World More Just?

Sarah Estill '06 has worked in a range of positions that have used scientific research and principles to help improve policing and criminal justice.

IN A SUNNY COMMUNITY CENTER ROOM in Seattle last fall, 20 female refugees and 20 female police officers sat across tables from one another, negotiating the price of apples. As part of an exercise, each member of a pair was trying to snag the best deal. For many of the American police officers, it was an awkward few minutes of haggling. For the refugees, most of whom hailed from bartering cultures, it was a triumphant moment. “They just ran the table,” says Sarah Estill. “They were completely in charge.”

It was also a moment of triumph for Estill, who had designed the task. Earlier that year, the city of Seattle had hired her to design and administer an eight-week program, the Refugee Women’s Institute, that would help build stronger relationships between the city’s female refugees and its female police officers. The program was important for refugees, an “invisible” population that underutilizes police or other government services in Seattle, even in serious situations like domestic violence.

One of Estill’s priorities was to upend the vast power differential between the two groups through activities like the negotiation game, which was based on the latest behavioral science research. “We know that there are levers that we can pull to lower defensiveness and flatten the power structure,” she says.

The game they played with the apples, in other words, wasn’t really about negotiation; it was about helping police understand what it felt like to be put in an uncomfortable situation and to feel powerless — an experience that is often all too familiar for female refugees. It was an activity that, in a small way, helped both groups see the world from the other’s perspective. And the more that the officers and refugees could identify with one another, the easier it would be for them to connect with each other in a meaningful way in more serious situations.

Other exercises helped the two groups build meaningful bonds, and to learn to see their shared humanity, despite their differences in culture and language. “As an educated, middle-class white woman, I feel very comfortable calling the police if I don’t feel safe, because they’ve always showed up and treated me well,” Estill explains. “We should all feel that comfortable. But in refugee communities, women may worry that police could take away their children. They may worry about being a target. They may worry about police pulling out a gun or a baton. And so they don’t call for help, even when they should.”



Sarah Estill '06 is a social science analyst at the United States Department of Justice.
PHOTOGRAPHED BY EVELYN HOCKSTEIN/POLARIS

The program was the perfect synthesis of current science and government programs, two areas that Estill believes need to be more closely entwined. “There are so many principles that we’ve learned in the lab that haven’t been making their way into policy,” she says. “There aren’t enough people who can translate between researchers and policymakers.” Estill, who majored in neuroscience and psychology at St. Olaf, is one of those much-needed liaisons. Growing up in Alameda, California, she was always aware of the gang violence that saturated certain areas of the city. She remembers, as a girl, hearing about the riots that erupted in Los Angeles after the beating of Rodney King. At St. Olaf, she began connecting those experiences and memories with a growing interest in social justice.

After graduating in 2006, she headed to Oregon Health and Science University, where she studied the specific neural processes of addiction and relapse. She was astonished to discover exactly how stubborn those processes are — it is all too easy for even the most disciplined person to relapse after years of sobriety. When she later took a job working as a counselor for a program focused on young substance abusers, she saw the ways that those brain processes played out in the messiness of real life.

She was particularly troubled to see how men and women with addiction issues were pushed through a powerful but broken justice system. Her concern was about more than individual offenders; she saw it as a social justice issue. “The incarceration rate for nonviolent drug offenders is high, but putting people in prison isn’t a good way to deal with the problem,” she explains. Indeed, imprisonment can actually exacerbate the issue, as offenders face issues ranging from homelessness to unemployment after they’re released. “That pushed me into looking at why [better solutions] aren’t making their way into policy.”

Estill went on to earn a master’s degree in public policy from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government to learn how to pull together the threads of behavioral science and policy, data and social justice.

The program she engineered in Seattle with officers and refugees allowed her to bring all of her skills to bear on a single problem that encompasses policing, community, and policy. While the long-term data collection will ultimately determine whether the program has measurably improved relationships between the two groups, the program has already been praised by Seattle Mayor Ed Murray and the city’s chief of police, Kathleen O’Toole.

And this past summer, Estill took her unique package of skills to an even bigger stage: she joined the U.S. Department of Justice as a social science analyst. (She had yet to assume her new position at the time of this writing.)

For Estill, the goal is to use science-based solutions backed by current data to address systemic racial and socioeconomic problems. She is encouraged by the increased public pressure for reform and transparency that has come on the heels of recent use-of-force incidents.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 28]

“AS AN EDUCATED, MIDDLE-CLASS WHITE WOMAN, I FEEL VERY COMFORTABLE CALLING THE POLICE IF I DON’T FEEL SAFE, BECAUSE THEY’VE ALWAYS SHOWED UP AND TREATED ME WELL. WE SHOULD ALL FEEL THAT COMFORTABLE.”

HOW DO WE MAKE SURE THAT GOOD POLICE OFFICERS GET THE SUPPORT THEY NEED TO DO DIFFICULT AND OFTEN DANGEROUS WORK?

HOW DO WE MAKE SURE THAT ALL PEOPLE, REGARDLESS OF THEIR RACE OR BACKGROUND, ARE TREATED FAIRLY BY POLICE OFFICERS?

HOW DO WE ENCOURAGE AND HIGHLIGHT THE EXCEPTIONAL POLICING THAT HAPPENS DAILY IN CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY?

HOW DO WE REBUILD TRUST BETWEEN POLICE AND THE CITIZENS THEY'RE CALLED TO PROTECT SO THAT EVERYONE BENEFITS?



Is it Time for a Fundamental Overhaul in our Policing Approach?

Victor Rios, a sociology professor at the University of California–Santa Barbara is the author of Punished: Policing the Lives of Black and Latino Boys. He gave a talk at St. Olaf titled “Questioning the Broken Windows Theory” as part of the Institute for Freedom and Community lecture series on Community, Race, and Policing in America.

FOR VICTOR RIOS, THE PROBLEM OF OVER-POLICING isn't just an academic interest: it's a personal one. He grew up in a poor neighborhood in Oakland, California, and became a gang member and juvenile delinquent. He eventually turned his life around, earning a Ph.D. and landing a job as a professor and researcher.

But even years later, he still gets treated like a criminal: recently, while taking three of his male, Hispanic students on a field trip — just a block from the University of California–Santa Barbara campus where he teaches — the trio of students was stopped by a university police officer.

Rios tried to wave the officer off, explaining that he was a professor working on a project with his students, but the officer didn't relent. “He stopped them, frisked them, took their shirts off, checked for gang tattoos, checked their records,” he recalls. “This was a university police officer policing a professor's project and the students in that project! It was a bad situation.”

For Rios, the tale is just one data point in a much larger story about the ways that policing systematically strips away the dignity of nonwhite people. Indeed, a 12-year study in New York City found that 81 percent of all people receiving summons for minor infractions were black or Hispanic, though they represented just 53 percent of the population.

The problem, says Rios, isn't just that police are implementing what he believes are flawed policies and theories, from broken windows to stop-and-frisk to zero tolerance: it's that they're fundamentally misunderstanding the consequences of these actions.

During a three-year research project in which he followed 40 young men in Oakland, Rios recalls one young man who was stopped by police 21 times while Rios was with him. “He couldn't keep count of how many times he was stopped when I wasn't with him,” he says. The man ultimately turned to drug dealing. “He said to himself, ‘If I'm going to get treated as a criminal, I might as well reap the benefits,’ ” Rios says.

Over-policing doesn't make the recipients more likely to stay on track, he says. It makes them feel like they already *are* criminals. This concept, known as “pushed into jumping” acknowledges that there is both personal choice and systemic nudging that leads some to crime.

Rios is eager to see a shift in policing that looks for promise, not risk, in black and Hispanic communities, an idea he calls “dignity enhancement as crime suppression.” He also wants to find ways to help young minorities change their own perception of themselves. He recalls a young black man in Ferguson who joined the crowds after the death of Michael Brown. He initially thought of himself as someone who was “protesting the police,” but after conversations with others, he now thinks of himself as being “part of a civil rights movement” — an identity with a much larger purpose.

And it's exactly this kind of conversion that Rios sees as a solution. “If we can meet some of these young people where they are and help them process that transformation without patronizing them, we can begin to help young people in marginalized communities,” he says. “It's the fundamental question: Are we born evil, and it is our community's job to ‘civilize’ us? Or are we born good, and our environment corrupts us? Who will we be? What are the consequences when we push the wrong ideas and policies?”

DURING A THREE-YEAR RESEARCH PROJECT IN WHICH HE FOLLOWED 40 YOUNG MEN IN OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, VICTOR RIOS RECALLS ONE YOUNG MAN WHO WAS STOPPED BY POLICE 21 TIMES WHILE RIOS WAS WITH HIM. “HE COULDN'T KEEP COUNT OF HOW MANY TIMES HE WAS STOPPED WHEN I WASN'T WITH HIM.”



Victor Rios is an author
and a sociology professor
at the University of
California-Santa Barbara.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY
STEVE SHAFFER/KET.ORG

How Can We Find Common Ground Between Broken Windows Advocates and Skeptics?

Edmund Santurri, a professor of religion and philosophy at St. Olaf, is a member of the advisory committee for the Institute for Freedom and Community and is teaching the first course in the Public Affairs Conversation, which is supported by the institute.

EDMUND SANTURRI IS THE FIRST TO ACKNOWLEDGE that he's not an expert in race and policing, but he does know more than a few things about political theory and social ethics. He's also studied the policing debates and, like millions of other Americans, followed the events of the past year with growing unease and sadness. As a member of the advisory committee for St. Olaf's new Institute for Freedom and Community, he's been listening deeply to experts on all sides of these complex issues. He has heard their passion and watched them unpack and explain their meticulous research, although he doesn't always agree with their findings.

For example, he's well aware of the disagreement between Victor Rios, sociology professor at the University of California–Santa Barbara and recent guest speaker at St. Olaf, who believes that George Kelling's broken windows theory is flawed and has contributed to over-policing in America, and Kelling, who contends that “broken windows is frequently misunderstood, misapplied, and unfairly targeted.” Santurri, who believes Rios confuses George Kelling's theory with zero tolerance, says the ideas that have been raised from the dispute are important and worth exploring further.

“Whether or not you agree that broken windows policing addresses the micro problem of policing within particular communities, and there is evidence to support its success, I think we can all agree that there are larger problems — such as the deep and rightful dismay over disproportionate arrests in minority communities — that our society has an obligation to address,” he says. “I sometimes have the sense that the two sides are talking past each other. Can the two sides join hands in acknowledging the macro problem?”

St. Olaf, he believes, is the right place to wrestle with these questions and search for solutions. Unlike the echo chambers of politically-driven television networks on both sides, or the broad-brush blog posts aiming for viral distribution on Facebook or Twitter, St. Olaf and its Institute for Freedom and Community are designed for sustained and nuanced conversation. It's a place where students — the people who will be working to solve these problems in a few short years — can spend time deeply thinking about the issues of race and policing, as well as other social and political issues. It's where they can develop ideas based on conversation and study, taking these ideas with them to the many places they will go next.

“The academy is a place where these sorts of conversations can be invited, nurtured, and shaped,” says Santurri.

An Institute Designed for Dialogue

IN LATE 2014, ST. OLAF LAUNCHED the Institute for Freedom and Community, an ambitious program designed to improve public discourse about important and difficult issues. The cross-disciplinary institute is based on the belief that when individuals explore multiple viewpoints and acknowledge the paradoxes and complexity of today's social, economic, and political issues, they will be more effective citizens. They will challenge presuppositions, question easy answers, and engage in meaningful and respectful discussions with those who have differing points of view.

UNLIKE THE ECHO CHAMBERS OF POLITICALLY-DRIVEN TELEVISION NETWORKS OR THE BROAD-BRUSH POSTS AIMING FOR VIRAL DISTRIBUTION ON SOCIAL MEDIA, ST. OLAF AND ITS INSTITUTE FOR FREEDOM AND COMMUNITY ARE DESIGNED FOR SUSTAINED AND NUANCED CONVERSATION.

Through its programs and educational offerings, the institute will underscore the value of spirited exchanges about important and divisive issues facing our nation and world. Its interdisciplinary programming focuses on major public issues: economics, political science, philosophy, and theological ethics are core disciplines, but programming could draw upon academic departments across the campus. Also to be considered are global issues like climate change, immigration, foreign policy, and international trade. The institute seeks to introduce students to a range of perspectives and to promote productive discourse in a democracy.

The institute hasn't shied away from controversy. Its first lecture series, "Community, Race, and Policing in America," brought nationally renowned experts to campus to share a range of viewpoints about a topic that has roiled a nation. Inequality was another topic in a series of lectures approached from different vantage points, and students had the chance to listen to formal talks and meet one-on-one with the experts.

For Dan Hofrenning, director of the institute and a political science professor, these in-depth experiences foster true dialogue among students and faculty. "[The institute is] a way to help our community address these complex — even controversial — issues in a civil, academic, and balanced way."

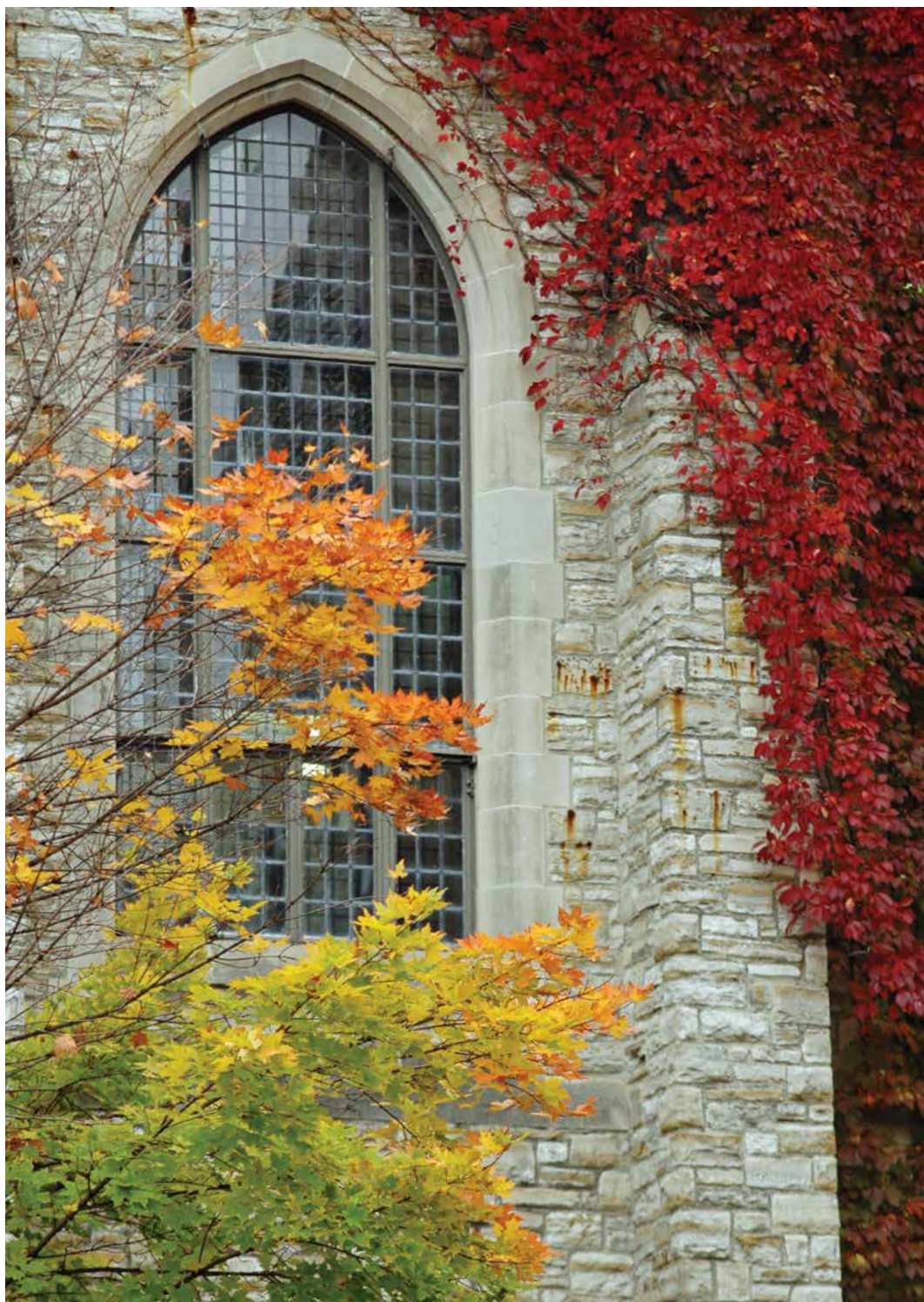
The institute will also incorporate the principle of civil disagreement into the academic program and campus life at St. Olaf. An annual symposium will address a significant public policy issue and encourage the exchange of divergent ideas, and nationally prominent thinkers, activists, and leaders will be invited to campus during the academic year. The spring 2016 symposium will focus on the topic of disagreement and will consider the philosophical, psychological, and political perspectives in which we engage current issues.

And it's only beginning. Future public lectures and debates may include a range of complex issues, such as health care, genetic engineering, immigration, the environment, tax policy, affirmative action, religious liberty, privacy and security, teachers' unions and education, free speech, the economics of a college education, intellectual diversity in academia, and other topics that might hit close to home. 🦁

ERIN PETERSON is a Twin Cities writer and editor, and a regular contributor to *St. Olaf Magazine*

WEB EXTRA

Archived lectures by George L. Kelling (April 2015) and Victor Rios (March 2015), as well as additional lectures sponsored by the Institute for Freedom and Community, can be found online at St. Olaf Multimedia (stolaf.edu/multimedia) under "Academics."



A portrait of a middle-aged man with short, light-colored hair, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored, vertically striped button-down shirt. The background is a plain, light gray. Overlaid on the image is the word "Writers" in a large, elegant, white cursive font, with a thin white outline. The text is positioned across the upper half of the man's face.

Writers

ALL OVER YOUR

Pace



MARKET RESEARCH OFTEN RELIES ON FOCUS GROUPS AND CONSUMER SURVEYS TO GAUGE PEOPLE'S EMOTIONAL REACTIONS. BUT DAN HILL '82 BELIEVES OUR REACTIONS TO EXPERIENCES ARE MOST CLEARLY REVEALED IN THE MOVEMENTS AND MICRO EXPRESSIONS THAT CROSS OUR FACES. IN FACT, HE'S BUILT A BUSINESS ON THE CONCEPT.

BY **JOEL HOEKSTRA**
PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL KELLEY



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HEN A PAIR OF MILLIONAIRES bought the Milwaukee Bucks in the spring of 2014 hoping to invigorate the flagging NBA franchise, they wondered how they could build a bench full of basketball players that synched not only physically but also psychologically. They wanted a group of athletes who mentally had the right stuff to win. They wanted a team that had bullet-proof *esprit de corps*.

That's where Dan Hill came in. Founder of a boutique Minneapolis-based market-research firm, Sensory Logic, Hill is an expert in facial coding, a technique that analyzes the movement of muscles in the face to assess an individual's emotional reactions. The Bucks' management hired Hill to help them put together a dream team that would have chemistry on and off the field. Working with the team's psychologist, he spent 10 hours reviewing video of college prospects as they played and answered questions. He then used the data to assess the stability and emotional resiliency of each candidate.

"Facial coding is basically like an emotional x-ray," Hill says. "It's a way into people's lives and how they actually feel."

Such data ultimately helped shape the Bucks' list of draft picks — and perhaps helped the team go from having the worst record in the NBA to securing a place in the 2015 NBA Playoffs.

The Bucks' assignment was unique, says Hill, who has spent most of his 17 years in business doing research for large companies that sell consumer goods and services. Reebok, Jiffy Lube, CBS, and Lego are among the well-known brands that have hired him to do facial coding. But as word of his technique and its successful results has spread, calls have begun to come in from unexpected clients, including professional sports teams.

The appeal of Hill's approach seems to lie in its central tenet: that our faces are the truest measure of our reactions to ideas, sights, sounds, and other stimuli. For marketers, political strategists, and others who have long questioned the accuracy of focus groups and large surveys when it comes to predicting human behavior (remember New Coke?), the idea of a technique that reveals what we *really* feel about something — even if we don't entirely know what that is ourselves — has incredible appeal.

But not everyone agrees with Hill's innovative approach. And some people are unsettled by the idea that the truth is written on our faces. Years ago, Hill told a woman on a date that, while he couldn't tell what she was *thinking*, he did indeed know what she was *feeling*. "She never called me back," Hill recalls.

...

READING FACES WAS A SKILL HILL LEARNED EARLY IN LIFE. When he was just six years old, his father, an engineer with 3M, was sent to work at a film-processing plant in Italy. The boy suddenly found himself living near a fishing village on the Italian Riviera. And he only spoke English. "When you don't know the language," he says, "you quickly learn to read non-verbals."

His family eventually returned to Minnesota and settled in Northfield, where his mother found a job at St. Olaf in the registrar's office. After high school, Hill also came to St. Olaf, pursuing his interests in English literature and art history by enrolling in the Paracollege, an educational approach modeled on the British tutorial system and the forerunner to the current Center for Integrative Studies.

After graduation, Hill set his sights on becoming an academic. “My original intent was to be a poet, be on a faculty, and teach classes,” he says. In short order, he earned a master’s in creative writing from Brown University and another master’s in English literature from Rutgers University, and was on his way to earning a Ph.D. there. Hill taught courses during grad school and for a year after, but his passion for teaching soon waned. So he quit and sought a job in the business world. It wasn’t easy, though.

“There wasn’t a big demand in corporate America for Ph.D.s in English,” Hill recalls. “So I thought, ‘well I could try state government,’ and I got lucky: I got a job at the Department of Consumer Affairs in New Jersey. The woman who interviewed me had a Walt Whitman poster on the wall behind her desk, and I thought, ‘I might have a chance.’”

The Consumer Affairs job, which involved a lot of writing, analysis, and negotiation, was followed first by a stint in communications for a large utility company and then a position at a Minnesota consulting firm that specialized in customer experience. Bit by bit, he was learning about consumer research — and he wasn’t impressed.

“At the utility company, I was asked to co-chair a branding task force. We ran all of these focus groups, and the company chairman was just absolutely underwhelmed. It was very unscientific, and the insights were laughably thin. I called my father, who was in charge of 3M Printed Post-It Notes production, sales, and marketing by then, and said, ‘What do you think about focus groups?’ He replied, ‘I learn a few things, but they’re really squishy.’ I thought, *This is standard practice? There’s got to be an opportunity to do this better.*”

But how? The answer came in February 1998, when Hill came across an article from the now-defunct magazine *American Demographics*. The piece centered on recent breakthroughs in brain science and the implications for marketing and marketing research. “It just made so much sense,” Hill recalls. “We’re intuitive, sensory-emotional decision makers. But business pretends as if we’re primarily *rational* beings.”



Milwaukee Bucks players Michael Carter-Williams (left) and Giannis Antetokounmpo. Hill was hired by the Bucks to analyze the faces of prospective players to help them build a more cohesive team.

AP PHOTO/AARON GASH

The idea intrigued him. But he also wondered if there might be an entrepreneurial opportunity right under his nose. “I didn’t know if I could make a living from it, quite honestly. I just thought, ‘How can I resist trying?’”

A few months later, Hill was laid off. He moved to San Diego — for both the better climate and because an old friend lived there — and decided to give his business idea a try.

...

THE IDEA THAT OUR EMOTIONS ARE WRITTEN ON OUR FACES is nothing new. Charles Darwin was among the first to suggest that faces are the best indicator of what we feel, in his 1872 book *The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*.

But for nearly a century afterward, that theory was picked apart, as anthropologists like Margaret Mead and others argued that nurture trumped nature. Facial expressions, they claimed, varied too much by culture to be a reliable indicator of emotion.

That view began to change in the 1960s, when Paul Ekman, a clinical psychologist and professor of psychology at the University of California–San Francisco, began to research Darwin’s idea of universal expressions and discovered they did, in fact, exist.

In 1967, Ekman began to study deception, starting with clinical cases in which the patients falsely claimed not to be depressed in order to commit suicide when not under supervision. In the very first case, when films were examined in slow motion, Ekman and his UCSF colleague Wallace Friesen saw micro facial expressions that revealed strong negative feelings the patient was trying to hide.

After this discovery, Ekman and Friesen went on to develop the first and only comprehensive tool for objectively measuring facial movement, the Facial Action Coding System

Law firms have approached Hill to ask him how facial coding might be used for jury selection.



(FACS), which categorizes the movements of 43 muscles in the face and remains the gold standard for identifying any movement the face can make, free of interpretive inferences. Ekman and Friesen identified various configurations that last as long as four seconds and as little as half a second, and linked those patterns to seven core emotions: happiness, surprise, fear, anger, sadness, disgust, and contempt. Over time, FACS has become an additional resource used in psychological studies, law enforcement, and even acting.

Holed up in a university library in San Diego, Hill began researching scientific efforts to measure human emotion. He soon uncovered Darwin's theory and Ekman's facial coding work with Friesen, published in 1978. He liked the science behind FACS, and he liked that it didn't require functional magnetic resonance imaging to do the research. Through persistence and a bit of luck, Hill eventually met with Ekman, expressing his interest in adapting FACS for market research.

"Over the course of about a dozen years, Ekman mapped which facial muscle activity corresponded with each emotion. That's the secret sauce I learned from Ekman," Hill says. "But he didn't have a scoring system. He did not have norms. I had to develop those things."

Hill began seeking work as a consultant as a way of refining and proving the value and validity of his facial-coding approach. "My first project was for Target," he recalls. The company was toying with selling the Dayton-Hudson department stores, and wondered if Millennials had an attachment to the brand. Hill reviewed interviews with young shoppers and coded their facial expressions. "What we found was that, essentially, Dayton's was where their aunt bought them a birthday gift," Hill says. "They had no particular emotional ties to the brand. For older people, Dayton's signified quality and good customer service. But to the upcoming generation, it was the place where your aunt shopped, emotionally speaking. Our advice was to let the brand go."

Another key early insight came from Hill's third assignment, with U-Haul. The Phoenix-based company asked him to review customer reactions to signage at its truck-rental dealerships, including one image of a moving truck, another image that displayed the low prices, and a third with an image of an open road stretching into the distance. "The truck performed poorly on both a rational and emotional scale," Hill recalls. "The second one, with the price, did very well rationally. People said the price was important. But emotionally, we found customers went for the open road. And it was at that moment that I went, 'That's a powerful example.' The gap between people's answers and actual feelings was immense."

In 2002, Hill moved back to Minnesota and his clientele continued to grow — not just in the U.S. but globally — promoted by articles he wrote, speeches he gave, and books he published. Nokia, the Finnish cellphone manufacturer, hired him. The Mexican political party PRI asked him to evaluate the popularity of political candidates. He did some work in the Netherlands. Even in places where Hill didn't speak the language, he could offer insights based on facial coding.

Greg Mather, a former marketing executive with BMO Harris Bank, has worked with Hill in the past. "Most of what motivates us to behave in certain ways is beyond our conscious awareness," Mather says. Because facial coding can track emotional shifts in consumers' reactions to experiences, and data analysis can then pinpoint when, how, and even why individuals reacted the way they did, Mather, who once worked in marketing research at McDonalds, calls facial coding "highly reliable."

John McGarr, president of a Toronto-based marketing firm that occasionally partners with Hill, says Hill's approach is catching on because it's based on the Facial Action Coding System pioneered by Ekman. Plus, it makes sense, right? We can recognize fake smiles. We can see fear in people's eyes. "It's why we instinctively know whether a dating

THE FACIAL ACTION
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CATEGORIZES THE
MOVEMENTS OF 43
MUSCLES IN THE FACE,
WHICH LINK TO SEVEN
CORE EMOTIONS:
HAPPINESS, SURPRISE,
FEAR, ANGER,
SADNESS, DISGUST,
AND CONTEMPT.

THE IDEA OF A
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prospect will work. It's why we shake hands with strangers," McGarr says. "We're actually very good at reading body language."

Some skeptics have questioned whether conclusions drawn from facial coding data are reliable or replicable. But Ekman and Hill have yet to be disproven.

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FACIAL CODING HAS BEEN GOOD TO HILL. He estimates his firm has worked with half the world's top 100 marketing-oriented, consumer facing companies, and the three books he has authored on market research have sold well and been translated into multiple languages.

Hill's company, Sensory Logic, ranks among the top three market-research firms in the world, says Mather. "Historically, the advertising industry has been dominated by schmoozers — people who talk a good game and don't really get caught up in the details. And details matter," he says. As the marketing profession matures, fact-based analytics and rigorous empirical research methods are becoming increasingly important. "In fact, most marketers have no clue what they don't know," Mather says. "It takes a lot of effort to truly understand the scientific validity and foundations of accurate measurement."

But Chris Carlson, a Minneapolis entrepreneur who has followed Hill's career, says Hill's success at facial coding isn't the only thing that sets Hill apart. His background in the liberal arts has served him well. "He's not an order taker. He's not a vendor. He doesn't just tell people what they want to hear," Carlson says. "Dan's a critical thinker, and a fantastic collaborator and partner."

As his business has grown, Hill himself has also remained appreciative of the writing, analysis, and critical thinking skills he honed during college. "I think my real ability is interpreting the data," he says, a skill he thinks no current technology can replicate. In recent years, some technology companies have introduced software that automates facial coding. Hill says he's intrigued by such technologies, and he'd definitely consider investing in machines that could tally micro expressions and other facial movements. But the current iteration of facial coding programs doesn't yet deliver reliable data, Hill says, leaving him unimpressed. And he doubts that machines could ever deliver the kind of analysis and interpretation of the data that a human can.

Hill expects his business — and probably the competition — to grow as interest in facial coding expands beyond consumer research. Law firms have recently approached Hill, asking how facial coding might be used in jury selection. Marriage counselors and family therapists have also talked with Hill about collaborations.

In a world where people can't always express themselves, where people sometimes tell lies, and where our behavior can sometimes be unconscious, Hill's approach may be one of the few ways to shed light on why we do what we do. "I think facial coding is uniquely able to get past lip service," Hill says, "because your emotions turn on when something matters to you."

His expertise at reading faces has also benefitted Hill outside his business. "When I was dating the woman who would eventually become my wife, I told her the same thing I'd told my previous date, that I didn't know what she was thinking but I could read her feelings," he recalls. "She said, 'Finally, an emotionally literate male!' " 🐾

JOEL HOEKSTRA '92 is a Minneapolis writer and regular contributor to *St. Olaf Magazine*.

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“Our time as St. Olaf students gave us incredible memories, including competing on the swimming and football teams, traveling to Germany, Cuba, and South Africa, and building lifelong friendships. To give back, we try to donate to the college every year. This year, we decided to take advantage of the tax benefits of giving appreciated stock to maximize our donation. Hopefully, this will help St. Olaf continue to be the wonderful place we remember — maybe even for our daughters, future Oles Addison and Hannah!”

— EMILY LOVE ACHBERGER '06 AND TILMAN ACHBERGER '04

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— VICTOR LEE '82 AND SUSAN WASOWICZ LEE '81, P'14, '16

To learn more about transferring securities to St. Olaf, call 800-776-6523 or email development@stolaf.edu.

Alumni Achievement Awards

Each year, St. Olaf College recognizes alumni whose service and leadership exemplify the ideals and mission of the college. In honoring these graduates for their exceptional achievements and professional contributions, they become an integral part of college history and a testament to St. Olaf's tradition of excellence. The college was pleased to recognize the 2015 recipients — David L. Tiede '62, John J. Marty '78, and Alan C. Shepard '83 — during Homecoming Weekend, September 25-27, 2015.



BY MARLA HILL HOLT '88

DAVID TIEDE '62 IS A WELL-RESPECTED theologian and scholar, having spent his life leading graduate theological institutions and teaching generations of faith community leaders. He was a professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary from 1971 until his retirement in 2005, also serving as the seminary's president for the last 18 of those years. He went on to become the Bernhard M. Christensen Professor of Religion and Vocation at Augsburg College from 2005 to 2010 and recently

served as interim president of both Wartburg Theological Seminary and Luther College.

Tiede graduated from St. Olaf after switching his focus from chemistry to English, with the support of his faculty advisor in chemistry, Professor Albert Finholt, who noticed that Tiede had expressed a possible interest in pre-seminary. Tiede hadn't imagined an academic career, and he credits St. Olaf with leading him toward that path.

"St. Olaf was a deeply formative experience," Tiede says. "I was blessed to be immersed in the life of the mind and to have the

opportunity to develop the convictions of the heart. St. Olaf excels at focusing on the whole person — the body, mind, and spirit — and my experience at the college was a gift."

Thanks to encouragement from St. Olaf faculty members, Tiede received a Rockefeller Fellowship and a prestigious Danforth Fellowship to pursue doctoral studies. "The Danforth was especially rewarding," Tiede says, "as it was given to students with faith convictions to nurture a calling to teach." Tiede attended Princeton Theological Seminary and, in 1966, received a Master of Divinity degree from Luther Theological Seminary. He then became a teaching fellow at



**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
AWARD RECIPIENT**

David L. Tiede '62

Harvard University in 1969, earning a Ph.D. from Harvard in 1971, the same year he was ordained. During his early years as a professor at Luther Seminary, Tiede also served as associate pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Minneapolis from 1972 to 1975.

Throughout his many years in the classroom, Tiede was actively involved in scholarly guilds, including the Society of Biblical Literature, the Catholic Biblical Association, and the International Society of New Testament Studies. In 2002, he became only the second Lutheran to be elected president of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, and in 2005, Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Ohio awarded him the Joseph A. Sittler Award for Theological Leadership. Tiede has served on the board of directors for IN TRUST, a nonprofit organization that provides resources for governing boards of theological institutions, and continues to be an IN TRUST mentor, consultant to new presidencies, and speaker. He is the author and co-author of several academic publications, including *Jesus and the Future*, *Prophecy and History in Luke-Acts*, and *Luke: Augsburg Commentary on the New Testament*.

Tiede continues to shape the Lutheran community. He was the founding chair of the Faith in the City initiative, which coordinates the public engagements of several major Lutheran agencies in the Twin Cities area, and serves on the boards of California Lutheran University and Augsburg College. He also consults internationally with a wide range of theological institutions during times of disruptive change.

Tiede is currently enjoying the "third chapter" of his life, continuing to sustain his New Testament scholarship while acting as board chair of the Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center, where he helps others discern their third chapter callings. He also is focused on his family, which includes his wife, Muffy, two married children, and eight grandchildren.

IN NEARLY 30 YEARS OF SERVICE as a Minnesota State Senator, John Marty '78 has been a tireless advocate for governmental ethics, environmental protection, universal health care, and campaign finance reform. He is currently serving his ninth term, having been first elected to office in 1986 and subsequently reelected eight times.

Marty grew up during the civil rights movement, during a time when his parents — Elsa and Martin Marty (renowned Lutheran scholar and teacher, former St. Olaf Board of Regents member, and interim St. Olaf president) — were heavily involved in advocating for social justice. Out of this upbringing, Marty developed the deeply rooted values of respecting the dignity of all people and working to confront injustice.

He lives out those values in his service in the Senate.

Marty earned a B.A. degree in Ethics and Society through the Paracollege at St. Olaf. "Studying ethics and society prepared me for my current work," he says. "St. Olaf taught me to love learning and to question the way things are. It also taught me to



**ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD RECIPIENT**

John J. Marty '78

sustain hope in a cynical world, and to recognize that we all have a role in building a better society.”

Marty worked as a researcher and a foundation grant administrator before an opportunity to run for office presented itself in 1986. Just a few days past his 30th birthday, he won a major upset victory for the Minnesota Senate. Early on, Marty fought successfully to ban smoking in public places, such as hospitals and schools. He first became known statewide for his work in ethics and campaign finance reform, authoring legislation that prohibited lobbyists and interest groups from giving gifts to public officials and sharply limiting the size of campaign contributions. He is unique in the Senate in personally rejecting all special interest contributions, and he works to reverse the growing influence of big money in politics. “In a democracy, policies should be decided on the merits of the issues, not the amount of money spent by various interest groups,” he says.

During his senatorial tenure, Marty has co-chaired both the Legislative Commission on Ending Poverty and the Legislative Energy Commission. He currently chairs the Senate Environment and Energy Committee, and has previously served as chair of the Health and Housing, Judiciary, and Ethics & Campaign Reform Committees.

Marty is an outspoken advocate for health care reform and a clean environment. He is author of the proposed Minnesota Health Plan, which would cover all people for all of their medical needs, including dental care, mental health, and chemical dependency treatment. Marty was also integral to the recent passage of major legislation to transition Minnesota’s economy from fossil fuels to renewable energy. Part of this law created the community solar program.

Marty’s legislative work has led to numerous awards, including Leadership in Government Ethics from Common Cause Minnesota, the Environmentalist of the Year Award from the Sierra Club, the Legislative Children’s Champion Award from the Children’s Defense Fund, Leadership on DWI Prevention from Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Excellence in Solar Leadership from the Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association, and the Legislator of the Year Award from The Arc of Minnesota. He has been a board member of several organizations, including Goodwill/Easter Seals Minnesota and the National Youth Leadership Council, a St. Paul nonprofit that promotes service-learning in schools and communities nationwide.

Marty continues to stay engaged with the St. Olaf community through his participation in such campus events as the St. Olaf Ethics Seminar and as a mentor to students who are interested in civic engagement and the political process. He lives in Roseville, Minnesota, with his wife, Connie Jaarsma Marty ’79. They are the parents of Elsa Jaarsma Marty ’07 and Micah Jaarsma Marty ’10.

ALAN SHEPARD ’83 STILL BELIEVES in the power of higher education to transform lives, even after more than two decades as a professor and academic leader at universities in the United States and Canada, his adopted home. Each September, he marvels at the magic of a new year. “The excitement about new ideas, the energy brought to solving problems, and the personal growth that occurs among students has never lost its luster for me,” he says.

In 2012, Shepard was appointed president of Concordia University, a public, comprehensive institution with more than 46,000 students



**ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD RECIPIENT**

Alan C. Shepard '83

in the heart of Montreal, Quebec. His leadership at Concordia has focused on strategic directions for the university in the digital age and on the renewal of its historic commitment to access and innovation.

Shepard wasn’t planning on a career in academia when he entered St. Olaf in the fall of 1979, but after taking several classes in the humanities and being “completely drawn in by the big picture questions that were being asked,” he decided to major in English. He also enjoyed classes in philosophy, anthropology, and history, as well as in the physical sciences — the disciplines in which he originally planned to major.

“My broad liberal arts education at St. Olaf was life-changing, and it serves me every single day,” Shepard says. “It prepared me for all the complexities of life, both in my career and in my personal life.”

Shepard went on to earn a Ph.D. in English from the University of Virginia, where he focused on Europe’s early modern period. His research interests are diverse, from the literature, culture, and scientific revolution of 16th and 17th centuries to contemporary theater, writing and logical argument, and social media. He has held teaching and administrative positions at the University of Virginia, Texas Christian University, and the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada. From 2007 to 2012, Shepard served as provost and chief operating officer of Ryerson University in Toronto before becoming president at Concordia University.

A driving force throughout Shepard’s career has been an interest in the academic and administrative challenges facing contemporary universities. He is credited with transformational initiatives that foster innovation and entrepreneurship. He was instrumental in creating Ryerson’s Digital Media Zone (DMZ), one of Canada’s largest business incubators and co-working spaces for entrepreneurs, known as a hub of innovation, collaboration, and experiential learning. Shepard’s team also started Ryerson’s Centre for Urban Energy to promote engineering research collaboration between the public and private sectors. To honor his contributions, the university created the annual Alan Shepard Award, which recognizes outstanding achievements in advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion at the institution.

At Concordia, Shepard has supported the creation of a space similar to Ryerson’s DMZ. The District 3 Makerspace provides Concordia students with the tools and resources they need to test, develop, and advance innovative and entrepreneurial ideas. “It’s a place where students can turn their great ideas into successful companies, and their work can change their lives and careers and make a significant contribution to the world,” Shepard says.

As an academic, Shepard has published books and articles and engaged in public service, including the Montreal Board of Trade, the Stratford Festival, and Fondation Montréal, which supports start-ups in Quebec. He is a dual American/Canadian citizen and lives in Montreal with his partner, Stephen Powell, and their sons, Holden, 15, and Brock, 14, who lament the (still improving) quality of their dad’s French.

MARLA HILL HOLT ’88 is a freelance writer and regular contributor to *St. Olaf Magazine*.



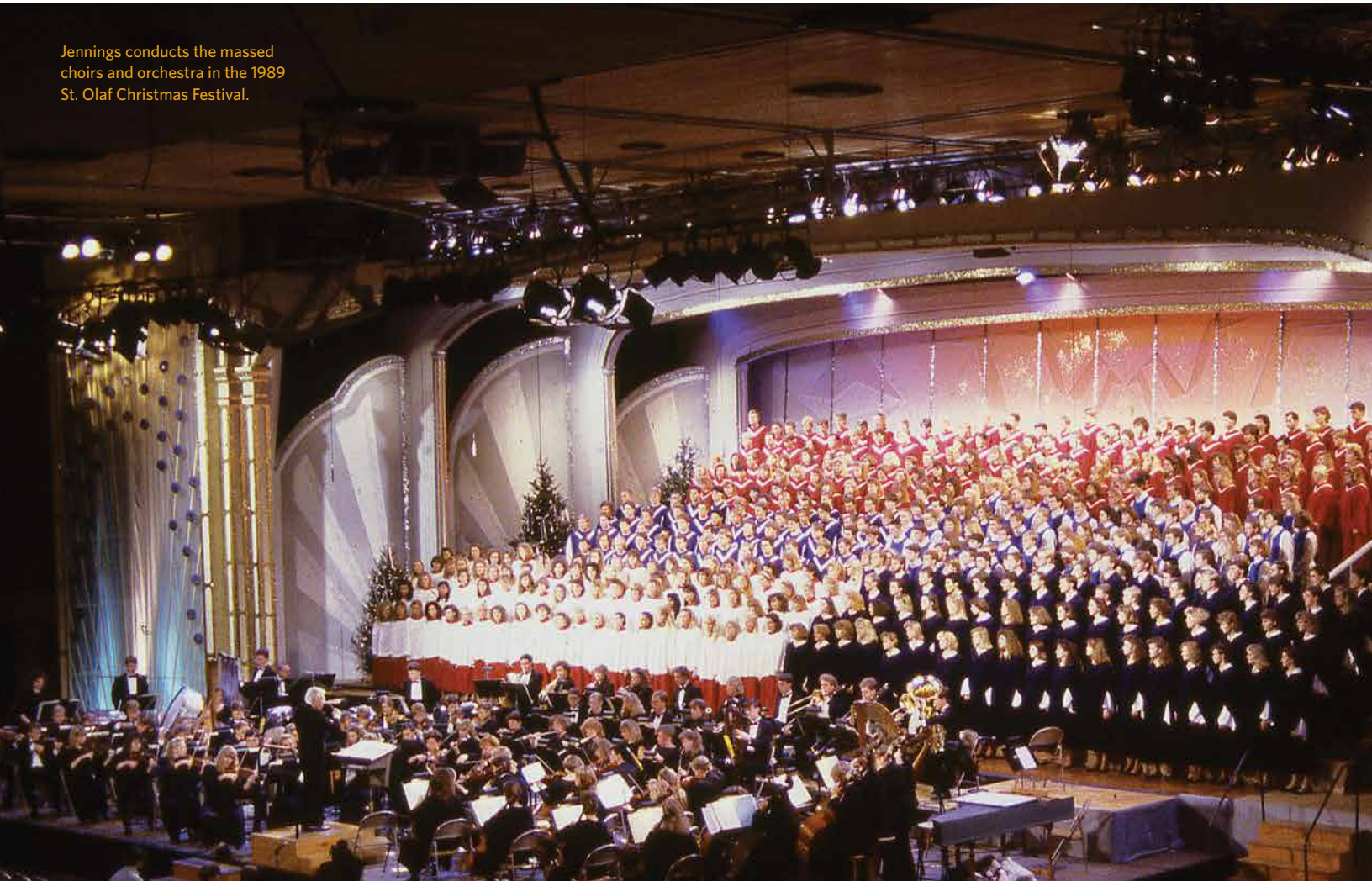
Remembering Kenneth Jennings

St. Olaf College Professor Emeritus of Music Kenneth Jennings '50, who led the St. Olaf Choir for more than two decades, died August 20. He was 90 years old.

“The world of choral music lost a great giant,” St. Olaf Choir Conductor Anton Armstrong '78 told Minnesota Public Radio. “He was an immense influence on many of the leading choral directors of his time, both those who were able to sing under his baton or his beautiful hands and those who experienced his performances with the St. Olaf Choir and the other choirs he conducted. We will remember him with great love and great admiration and, most of all, with great appreciation for the beauty he brought to the world of choral music.”

Jennings was born May 13, 1925, in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and graduated from Staples High School in Westport, Connecticut, in 1943. From 1944 to 1946, while in Europe with the United States Army, he was a member of and soloist with the Fifth Infantry Soldier Chorus under the direction of St. Olaf alumnus Luther Onerheim. Inspired by Onerheim, Jennings enrolled at St. Olaf, where he was a four-year member of the St. Olaf Choir, singing under Olaf Christiansen '25. He graduated with a bachelor of music degree *magna cum laude* in 1950. A scholarship enabled him to attend Oberlin Conservatory, where he earned a master of music degree in composition in 1951. From 1951 to 1953, he taught at Mitchell College in Statesville, North Carolina. In 1953, he was invited to return to St. Olaf as a member of the music faculty. During his tenure, he taught voice, music theory, music appreciation, choral literature, and conducting; directed the Manitou Singers, Viking Chorus, and Chapel Choir; and began the college's first Campus Choir.

Jennings conducts the massed choirs and orchestra in the 1989 St. Olaf Christmas Festival.



In 1958, he took a leave of absence to earn his Ph.D. in choral music at the University of Illinois.

Jennings became the third conductor of the St. Olaf Choir in 1968, taking the helm of a renowned ensemble that up to that point had only been led by founder F. Melius Christiansen and his son, Olaf Christiansen. Jennings remained conductor of the St. Olaf Choir until his retirement in 1990. During those 22 years, he served as director of the annual St. Olaf Christmas Festival and coordinated the Festival's first national telecasts in 1976, 1983, and 1989. Promoted to professor in 1970, Jennings was named the first Harry R. and Thora H. Tosdal Professor of Music, in 1983.

BRILLIANT SOUND

When Jennings became conductor of the St. Olaf Choir, he believed the time had come to start performing larger choral works, including oratorios, masses, and passions. He also included more 20th-century works, with a focus on historically informed renditions. While he

retained much of the a cappella repertoire established by the Christiansens, he also appreciated the contrast between voices and instruments. In 1969, he introduced musical instruments to one of the choir's selections, opening the door for full orchestral accompaniment in the future.

Under Jennings, the choir developed what one reviewer described as "a more vibrant, warm tone — a resonant, lively, brilliant sound that rings with vitality and conviction." Jennings coaxed his students to reach their highest musical potential with a quiet leadership style and a graceful form of conducting.

"He was a soft-spoken conductor. You had to be almost silent to hear what it was he wanted from you," said former choir member Martha Kunau '90 about Jennings in the Winter 2012 *St. Olaf Magazine* story "A Century of Singing." "He was able to bring very young voices together, knowing what it was we could do and then inspiring us to a higher level, producing a sound as a choir that perhaps none of us thought was possible."



From left: New St. Olaf Choir Director Kenneth Jennings, 1968; Bob Johnson, director of St. Olaf Music Organizations, and Jennings about to depart on the choir's East Coast tour in February 1980; the St. Olaf Choir performed in Xian, Shaanxi Province, China, during its 1986 Asian Tour, and were greeted by Chinese dignitaries following the concert.

Jennings also expanded the choir's global reach. The St. Olaf Choir celebrated its 75th anniversary with a tour of Asia in 1986, and in 1988 it was one of only five choirs in the world invited to participate in the Olympic Arts Festival in Seoul, South Korea. Throughout his tenure, Jennings affirmed his belief that art does not stand still. He exposed the St. Olaf Choir to the oral-based musical

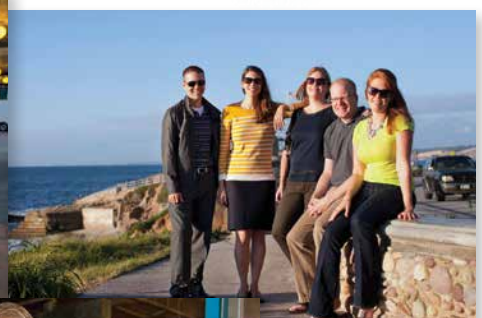
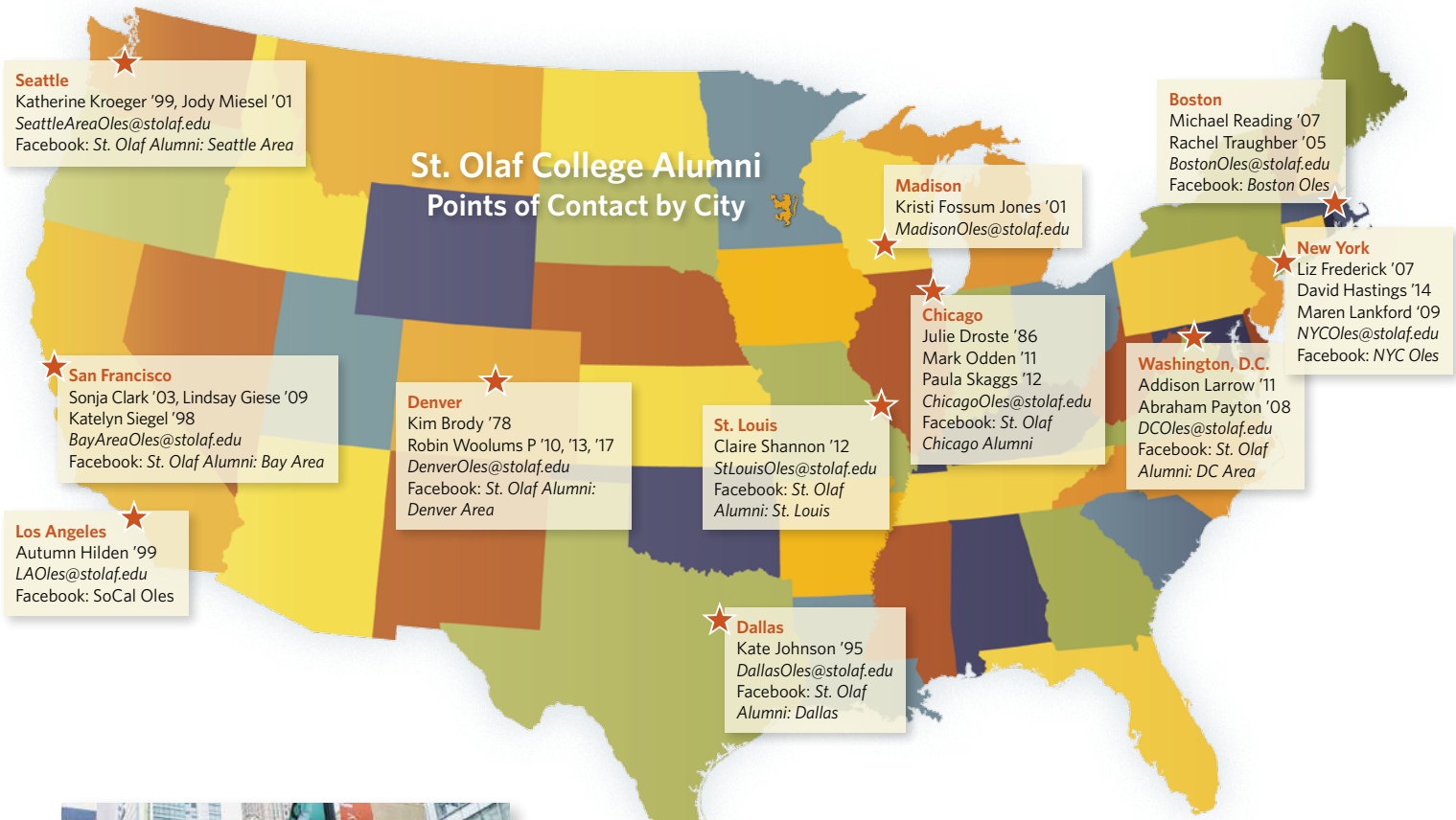
traditions of Asia and the cultures of Eastern Europe at a time when the Berlin Wall was coming down.

"He inherited a treasured musical tradition from the Christiansens, respected it and let it sing, and added his own musical artistry to the growth and enrichment of the St. Olaf Choir," wrote Joseph M. Shaw '49, professor emeritus of religion at St. Olaf and the author of *The St. Olaf Choir: A Narrative*. "What he accomplished will live on through his compositions, recordings of the St. Olaf Choir under his direction, and especially through the hundreds of students he inspired."



Stay Connected to St. Olaf Alumni Across the Country

AFTER GRADUATING FROM ST. OLAF and leaving the Hill, alumni move to cities all across the country and around the globe. To help Oles stay connected in their new homes, the St. Olaf Alumni Board and the Alumni and Parent Relations Office have developed chapter structures in some of the more Ole-populated cities. These groups hold a variety of events throughout the year: monthly book clubs, lefse-making classes around the holidays, picnics in the park, and much more. They also have designated Welcome Ambassadors, who are great resources if you're moving to a new city and need more information on where to live, good restaurant recommendations, or just a friendly connection back to the Hill.



FIND MORE INFORMATION ON UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS AT stolaf.edu/alumni/events

Update Your Contact Information!

Oles, please update your personal information with the St. Olaf alumni office to receive information about upcoming events at the college.

Much of this information is conveyed by email. As many email addresses change over time, **it is very important that we have your most current email so that we may contact you.** This can be done online by going to stolaf.edu/alumni. Click on "Share" to update.

Among the upcoming events is the 2015 **St. Olaf Christmas Festival**. Ticketing information will be sent to you via email or standard mail. To ensure you receive this important information, please make sure your contact information is current.



THE 2015 ST. OLAF CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

And on Earth, Peace

Thursday, December 3 · 7:30 p.m., Friday, December 4 · 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 5 · 7:30 p.m., Sunday, December 6 · 3 p.m.

Advance ticket sales for Oles will begin the week of October 19, using the log-in information provided to you by St. Olaf. Tickets will be on sale to the general public beginning October 26. Learn more at stolaf.edu/christmasfest.

St. Olaf Study Travel 2016

The Sights, Art, and History of Italy | April 2-18, 2016

Join us in vibrant Italy where we will explore art, architecture, and history, paying special attention to the periods of Ancient Rome and the Renaissance. Although we will focus on Michelangelo and Caravaggio, we will be immersed in the museums and architecture that provide the full range of contributions to the cultures of Ancient Rome and Renaissance Italy. *Led by Edward Langerak, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, and Lois Langerak, Retired Dental Hygienist*

Greece: Pivotal Places | June 10-25, 2016

Explore several places that were pivotal in the history of Greece and the West. Beginning in Athens, we will visit Marathon, Thermopylae, and the island and bay of Salamis, as well as Volos, Meteora, Delphi, and the islands of Santorini, Naxos, Delos, and Mykonos. Along the way, we will sample Greek cuisine, and experience the legendary Greek hospitality, for which the country and its people are justly famous. *Led by Jim May, Professor of Classics, and Donna May, Teacher*

Family Adventure in Thailand | June 18-27, 2016

Designed for parents or grandparents with older children and teenagers, we start in Bangkok, with its grand temples and palaces, before moving to Chiang Mai for outdoor adventures. We will journey to an elephant camp and visit a Hill Tribe village to learn how they preserve their rich cultural traditions. *Led by Mary Griep, Professor of Art and Art History, and Randolph Jennings, Communications Consultant and former Director of International Program Development at Payap University, Chiang Mai*

Eastern Europe: The Cold War Remembered | July 10-23, 2016

Join us as we explore the history of the Cold War and enjoy the art, culture, and cuisine of Russia, Hungary, and Germany. We start in St. Petersburg, travel by train to Moscow, then fly to Budapest and finish in Berlin, where the Cold War began with the Berlin Airlift and ended with the fall of the Berlin Wall. *Led by Robert Entenmann, Professor of History, and Sarah Entenmann, Freelance Editor*

LOOKING AHEAD:

Royals & Vikings of the British Isles: A Cruise Aboard Oceania's Marina
August 3-15, 2016 | *Led by David R. Anderson '74, President of St. Olaf College, and Priscilla Paton, Writer and Scholar*

Excavation and Exploration in Turkey | August 7-19, 2016
(Optional extension in Istanbul, August 19-21, 2016)
Led by Tim Howe, Associate Professor of History

Contemporary South Africa: Culture, Identity and Liberation
November 2-17, 2016 | *Led by Pat Quade '65, Professor Emeritus of Theater, and Kathy Quade, Retired Disability Services Coordinator*



View all the St. Olaf Study Travel adventures and get details on all our international and domestic programs at stolaf.edu/studytravel

SUBMIT YOUR CLASS NOTES ONLINE!

The Alumni and Parent Relations Office has made it easier for you to send us all your latest personal and professional news! This also is the place where you can update your contact information. Check out *mystolaf/alumni* today! Questions? Email *alum-office@stolaf.edu* or call 507-786-3028 or 888-865-6537.

1937 | **Violet Carlson Jacobson** writes, "I am 100 years old, and I urge all Oles who are pushing 100 to have heart. I am of sound mind and [have] a body that functions just fine. So, if I can do it, you can do it, too! I will be forever grateful to my high school biology teacher, who encouraged me to go to St. Olaf. It was 1933, the depths of the *real* depression. I never missed one basketball game, football game, lecture, or concert, even though I took 21-23 hours of classes each semester and got Bs — no As! I married J. Woodrow Jacobson '36, who died at 89. He was a much-loved pastor and a superb clarinetist; I was a biology teacher. We had four children: **J. Robert '52, James '64, Julie '69, and Linda '72.** One final word for the young 80-year-olds: Life can be exciting and beautiful at 100!"

1948 | **Richard Ensrud** was awarded the American College of Physicians Centennial Legacy Award, Southern Illinois Chapter. Now retired, he was a gastroenterologist in Urbana and also served as the founding program director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at the University of Illinois in Urbana.

1949 | **Francis E. Jeffery** received the National Order of the Legion of Honor medal, France's highest honorary award, to honor his WWII combat service in France. Francis served as an infantryman in Patton's 3rd Army, Co. K, 359th Infantry, 90th



Infantry Division. The presentation by Jack Cowan, honorary consul of France, was made at the World Trade Center in Seattle.

1952 | **Bob Tengdin** and his wife **Dorothy Halvorson Tengdin '51** competed in mixed doubles at the recent USTA Senior games and received the bronze medal. Bob and fellow Ole **Dick Kleber '55** competed in the USTA Senior men's doubles and also went home with a bronze medal.

1956 | **John Novotney** writes that he retired again, at age 80, after 12 years as English editor at the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague. "My St. Olaf B.A. in English has stood me in good stead." John moved in 1997 to what is now the Czech Republic, where his four grandparents grew up before immigrating to Wisconsin. His father was also born in Bohemia.

1960 | **Karle Erickson** retired in May as director of the Canticle Choir at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie, Minn. Karle, the artistic director and conductor of World Voices, a Twin Cities-based choral ensemble that specializes in performing international music, is known worldwide for his excellence as a choral conductor, clinician, and educator. Several Oles



attended his retirement celebration, including **Deb Thorpe Hetherington '81, Jan Waterman Maudlin '72, Tom Maudlin '73, Leslie Martens '81, and Vinton Giestfeld '66.**

1961 | **Roger Petrich's** "Zatten Concerto" for Trumpet and String Orchestra has been released on the *21st Century American Trumpet Concertos* CD, performed by Paul Neebe and the State Philharmonic Orchestra of Kosice, Slovakia.

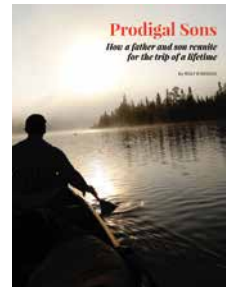
1964 | **Naurine Lennox**, an associate professor emerita of social work and family studies, was awarded the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Minnesota chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. The award recognizes Naurine's founding of the social work program at St. Olaf and her lifelong commitment to students, faculty, field supervisors, and other community partners. It also recognizes her role in the early development of the National Institute for Social Work and Human Services in Rural Areas,

as well as the Social Work in Latin America semester program in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Naurine retired from St. Olaf in 2012.

1967 | **John Mundahl** was selected to be an English Language Fellow to Panama for 10 months beginning this September. The program is funded by the U.S. State Department. John will be working with the Ministry of Education in the Government of Panama on current national English initiatives, including preparing Panamanian English teachers to study English in the U.S., reviewing the national K-12 English curriculum in Panama, and upgrading the teaching skills of Panamanian English teachers.

1968 | **Sharon Langford Babcock** writes, "I'm failing retirement, serving as interim executive director at Citizens for a Healthy Bay, engaging citizens to clean up, restore, and protect Puget Sound's Commencement Bay, its surrounding waters, and natural habitat and writing a blog for the Tacoma Waterfront Association, called *Our Voices/Our Waterfront*, about enduring inspirations, life lessons, and perspectives from the personal experiences of people who live and work on [the waterfront]."

1971 | **Rolf Evenson**, principal of ClearMind Leadership, Inc., has written *Prodigal Sons*, a story of "struggle and reconciliation between a father (me) and my son, Kjell Kartfjord Evenson, and how we came together for a two-week wilderness



Honor Flight Brings Ole WWII Vet to Washington, D.C.

Don Nelson '50 and his niece, **Cindy Huseth '76**, went to Washington, D.C., in April as part of the 13th Honor Flight Twin Cities, a one-day excursion program within the Minnesota Vietnam Veterans Charity. The program offers free flights for World War II and Korean War veterans and their guardians to Washington, D.C., to visit and reflect at their war monuments. Don, who was in the Battle of the Bulge and other significant campaigns, was one of 78 World War II veterans on this flight; Cindy accompanied Don as his guardian.

"It was a very long but wonderful day," writes Cindy. "In Washington, D.C., our bus made seven stops for us to see the following memorials: Iwo Jima, Women's (at Arlington Cemetery), Air Force, WWII, Korea, Lincoln, Vietnam, and the Washington Monument. Our day ended back at Arlington, where we watched the changing of the guard and the lowering of the flag.

The WWII Memorial was the most emotional, obviously, with it being a WWII group. Literally hundreds of people lined the sidewalk as we walked into the memorial, applauding and reaching out to shake the veterans' hands saying 'thank you' to them! A group photo was taken at the memorial, and a good amount of time was spent sharing stories as well as sitting in silence."

A highlight for Don was shaking the hand of Senator Bob Dole, who had positioned himself outside the WWII Memorial, where he could greet the visiting veterans.

Since its inception in May 2005, almost 150,000 veterans and over 88,000 guardians from across the United States have been safely transported as guests of Honor Flight. Oles can learn more about the Honor Flights at honorflighttwincities.org.



canoe trip last summer. I think many parents of teenage children will resonate with our story and find it both encouraging and informative." Oles can get in touch with Rolf at ClearMindLeadership.com.

1973 | **Cary B. Lund** and his wife, Susan, were on campus for Honor's Day on May 1. Their daughter, **Anna Lund '16**, received a Piper Center semester scholarship, made possible by Jackie and **Mac Gimse '58**. They write, "Anna will use the scholarship to help with her Piper Center Bulgaria internship. She [studied] archeology in both Turkey and Bulgaria this summer, the latter through the American Research Center in Sofia, Bulgaria. Anna, who worked with the Archeological Field School at Antiochia, Turkey, was selected by St. Olaf History Professor Tim Howe to serve as a teaching assistant at the Antiochia site."

1976 | **Nancy Keysor Koester** won a Minnesota Book Award in the category of general nonfiction for *Harriet Beecher Stowe: A Spiritual Life*. She was pre-



sented with the award in April at the Minnesota Book Awards Gala in St. Paul. Friends can learn more on Facebook. ■ Nine women who became friends while living in Mellby Hall's freshman corridor in 1972-73 gathered for a wonderful reunion at a cabin in northern Wisconsin. While four of the women didn't graduate from St. Olaf, they've remained friends ever since their Ole days.



Pictured are **Karen Seisler Schlies '76**, **Susan Oндler McIntyre '76**, **Barb Hansen Ross**, **Susan Carlson Schimert '76**, **Betty Matthei Schuck**, **Nancy Dahl Andrews**, **Karen Holt Mattson**, **Wendy Law Machlitt '76**, and **Rebecca Tolo Hakimian '76**.

Remembering Stephen Swanson '54

Editor's Note: As *St. Olaf Magazine* was going to press, we learned that retired St. Olaf Professor of English **Stephen Swanson '54** died on August 23. He was 82 years old.

As a professor of English, Steve Swanson taught writing at St. Olaf for 23 years, retiring in 1997. But that was only part of his life: along with being a professor, he was also a prolific writer, a pastor of 45 churches, a "found-art" metal sculptor, a collector, a mechanic, a fisherman, a coach, and a husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Born on August 31, 1932, in Minneapolis, Swanson was the son of Dorothy and Carl "Cully" Swanson '24, a Hall of Fame Ole quarterback whose legendary passing average brought him national attention. The younger Swanson received his B.A. in English literature from St. Olaf in 1954, after which he earned a theology degree at Luther Theological Seminary and married his wife, Judy Seleen '57. After serving as parish pastor at a church in southwestern Minnesota for three years, Swanson pursued his love of literature and teaching by relocating to Oregon, where he earned a master's degree and doctorate in creative writing at the University of Oregon. He taught literature and creative writing at four Lutheran colleges before joining St. Olaf's fledgling Paracollege faculty as a part-time English professor in 1974.

In addition to teaching, Swanson wrote 26 books, both fiction and nonfiction, including a mystery series for children and short stories for young adults. He also wrote dozens of poems, plays, reviews, and articles, as well as scores of educational materials and interpretive pamphlets for the American Lutheran Church of America. Swanson also worked alongside Judy — who designed St. Olaf Christmas Festival backdrops from 1992 to 2014 — to help construct the annual Christmas Festival set. The Swanson family's work on the Christmas Festival was featured in the Fall 2007 *St. Olaf Magazine* story "Family Affair." Throughout his life, Swanson was passionate about many things, but he was most interested in people — all kinds of people — and he looked for value in them all. Friends will find his obituary at northfieldfuneral.com.



1977 | **Gretchen Dahlen** is serving as interim president/CEO for the South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations in Sioux Falls. ■ **Jerry Dahlen** was one of three individuals inducted into the 2015 Minnesota High School Golf Coaches association Hall of Fame in June. Jerry has been the Wabasha-Kellogg Falcons boys and girls coach for the past 38 years.

■ **Tom Mork** biked roughly 2,100 miles along the Mississippi River from the Gulf of Mexico to Lake Itasca in northern Minnesota this summer to raise awareness and funds for mental illness research. In 2010, Tom and Jeanne's daughter Christine was diagnosed with bipolar



disorder. The bike ride — named "Tom's Big Ride" — was part of an effort to help families in similar situations understand the challenges and struggles of mental illness. Oles can learn more at tomsgbigrade.org.

1979 | **Teddie Potter** received the 2015 Josie R. Johnson Human Rights and Social Justice Award from the University of Minnesota. In 2013, she received the University of Minnesota Nurse Educator of the Year Award. Teddie, an associate professor of nursing at the U of M, is director of inclusivity and diversity and coordinates the Doctor of Nursing Practice in Health Innovation and Leadership program. Her book, *Transforming Interprofessional Partnerships: A New Framework for Nursing and Partnership-Based Health Care*, won the American Journal of Nursing 2014 Book of the Year Award.



1981 | **Richard Selvik** was selected as a 2014-15 Health and Aging Policy Fellow in Washington, D.C., and Chicago. He is working on a Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Project to develop a health care workforce that maximizes patient and family engagement and improves health outcomes for older adults.

1982 | **Kristine Dale Kawamura** has published numerous articles this year, as well as a book titled *Cross Cultural Competence: A Field Guide for Developing Global Leaders and Managers*, which has many references to her Global Semester experience with two people Oles know well: Bill and Char Carlson.

Kendall Nominated for Inspector General of U.S. Department of Interior



Mary Kendall '78 has been nominated by President Barack Obama to be the inspector general for the U.S. Department of the Interior, one of three key administration posts the president intends to fill. "The talent and expertise these individuals bring to their roles will serve our nation well. I am grateful for their service and look forward to working with them," says Obama.

Kendall currently has been the deputy inspector general for the Office of Inspector General (OIG) at the Department of the Interior since 1999. From 2001 to 2006, she concurrently served as the acting general counsel of OIG. She previously served in the Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics, and Training at the Environmental Protection Agency as associate director (1998-99), special assistant to the director (1992-98), and attorney-advisor (1989-92).

ON THE SHELF

NEW BOOKS BY ST. OLAF ALUMNI AND FACULTY

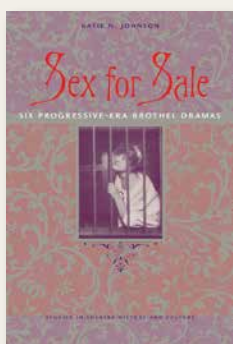
Essays in the Judaic Background of Mark 11:12-14, 20-21; 15:23; Luke 1:37; John 19:28-30; and Acts 11:28 (Studies in Judaism; University Press of America, 2015), by **Roger David Aus '62**

Everything We Know About Leadership Is Less Than We Still Have to Learn (American Leadership Forum, 2013), co-authored by **Sharon Langford Babcock '68**

Accidental Brownie: A Childhood Memoir (Elementa Publishing, 2015), by **Paul Froiland '69**

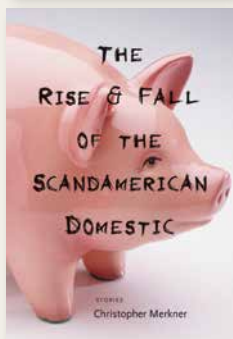
The Ministry of Elders: A Biblical Guide for Today's Church (Outskirts Press, 2014) by **Steven Woita '71**

Transforming Interprofessional Partnerships: A New Framework for Nursing and Partnership-Based Health Care (Sigma Theta Tau International, 2014), by **Teddie M. Potter '79** and **Raine Eisler**



Cross Cultural Competence: A Field Guide for Developing Global Leaders and Managers (Emerald Group Publishing Ltd., 2015), by **Kristine Dale Kawamura '82** and **Simon L. Dolan**

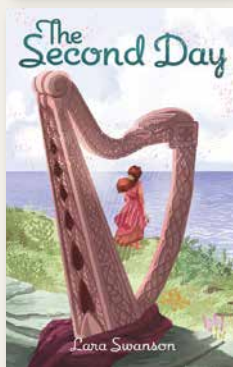
Sex for Sale: Six Progressive-Era Brothel Dramas (University of Iowa Press, 2015), by **Katie N. Johnson '85**



The Twisted Life (Albert Whitman Co., 2016), by **Anne Smith Brown '90**

The Formation of the Child in Early Modern Spain (Ashgate Press, 2014), by **Grace Coolidge '93**

The Rise & Fall of the Scandamerican Domestic (Coffee House Press, 2014), by **Christopher Merkner '97**



The Second Day (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2014), by **Lara Swanson '98**

Gender and Song in Early Modern England (Ashgate, 2014), **Katherine Larson '00** and **Leslie C. Dunn**, editors

Re-Reading Mary Wroth (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015), **Katherine Larson '00** and **Naomi J. Miller**, editors

Teaching in Themes: An Approach to Schoolwide Learning, Creating Community, and Differentiating Instruction (Teachers College Press, 2015), **Matthew Knoester '96**, **Deborah Meier**, and **Katherine Clunis D'Andrea**, editors

1984 | **Laurie Kallevig** has developed a remarkable mission to help survivors of human trafficking through the power of music and love through



her Survivor Girl Ukulele Band project. She's been working in India for several years, teaching ukulele classes to young girls (and, more recently, boys) who have been rescued from human trafficking. Oles can learn more about Laurie's good work on her website, sgub.org.

1985 | **Peter Slen**, senior executive producer at C-SPAN, hosted the White House Correspondents' Dinner at the Washington Hilton Hotel in April.

1986 | **Eric McDowell** earned his Ph.D. in education from the University of Washington and is looking forward to his next challenge as a high school principal. He will help design and open a brand new comprehensive high school in the fall of 2017 just north of Seattle.

1988 | **Tim Ackerman** retired from the U.S. Navy with the rank of captain after 24 years of service, having deployed extensively to Asia and Central and South America. He's returned to Minnesota with his wife, Laura Jo, to join Maplewood Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. ■ **Mark Hatlie** writes, "I now teach history, government, and English at the Johannes-Kepler-Gymnasium in Weil der Stadt, near Stuttgart, Germany. My book, *Riga at War 1914-1919: War and Wartime Experience in a Multi-Ethnic Metropolis*, was published in 2014."

1989 | **Karen Hulbert** received the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award from the Medical College of Wisconsin. The award, sponsored by the Gold Foundation, is given to those who demonstrate outstanding compassion in the delivery of care; respect for patients, their families, and health care colleagues; and clinical excellence.

1990 | **Chad Jerdee** has been appointed general counsel and chief compliance officer of Accenture. ■ **Kris Marshall** is the director of the Edina (Minn.) Community Foundation's Connecting With Kids program and received a Women in Leadership Award from the Rotary Club of Edina in May.

1993 | **Jeffrey Hookom** is serving as *precentor pro tempore* (interim worship director) at Grace Cathedral Episcopal in San Francisco. He has served on staff since 2006 and writes, "It is an indescribable honor to help this place I love."

1994 | **Ryan French** has been appointed associate vice president of advancement at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn.

1997 | **Christopher Merkner** has had a short story selected for inclusion in the 2015 O. Henry Prize Stories anthology. The story was reprinted from his book, *The Rise & Fall of the Scandamerican Domestic*. ■ **Shannon Koch** is working as a clinical nurse research coordinator for Saccamano Research Institute, Grand Junction, Colo., in the field of oncology clinical trials. ■ **Rachel Vogt Nelson** was promoted to the rank of detective sergeant and has assumed command of the Chaska (Minn.) Police Department Investigations Unit.

1999 | **A. Yohann de Silva** has accepted a two-year assignment in Tokyo for the U.S. State Department's Foreign Service. His previous postings were in Uzbekistan and Singapore.

2000 | **Amy Willen** left her job as a certified nurse midwife in Chicago for volunteer midwife work in Uganda. She writes, "I'm working with Mother Health International and Shanti Uganda to train local midwives and birth attendants in lifesaving skills to help decrease maternal and infant



mortality in the underserved regions of Uganda." ■ **Mai Vang** was featured in the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* (twincities.com) in recognition of her tireless work as a "prolific fundraiser" for families in need. The story notes that her "compassionate and entrepreneurial spirit is something East Side residents have come to expect. She cooks



meals for the homeless, raises money for neighbors who have cancer, and buys items at Salvation Army stores for families in need." Mai, who lost her ability to hear in 2013, says her goal in volunteering is to "create miracles for families."

2001 | **Jeffrey Gosse**, a chemistry teacher at Pulaski High School in Pulaski, Wis., received the school's Teacher of Distinction award. ■ **Jason Willis**, general manager of Willis Auto Campus near Des Moines, Iowa, has been named to *Business Record's* Forty Under Forty list.

2002 | **David Marotz** has earned his M.B.A. from the Yale School of Management, a program focused on leadership in health care. He is currently working in Minneapolis for Surescripts.

2004 | **Shenandoah Sowash** has accepted a position at American University's Kogod School of Business as the assistant director of the Kogod Center for Business Communications. At AU, she teaches, tutors, and coaches students in public speaking, writing, and creativity.

2005 | **Laurie Thomas** has received her J.D. degree from William Mitchell College of Law.

2008 | **Jana Larson** has earned her M.A. in church music with an emphasis in handbells from Concordia University in Mequon, Wis.

2009 | **Laura Donnelly** graduated this spring with an M.B.A. from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and is beginning her career in marketing at General Mills, Inc., in Minneapolis. ■ **April Wright** received her doctorate in ecology, evolution, and behavior from the University of Austin, Texas.

2010 | **Anya Abrahamson**, who graduated in May from Erikson Institute in Chicago with an M.S. in child development, has accepted a position as a developmental therapist and therapeutic preschool teacher.

2012 | **Alexander Gaya**, who completed his master's degree in Victorian Literature from the University of Durham in England and has been an English teacher and drama director at Living Word Lutheran High School in Jackson, Wis., is returning to the United Kingdom to attend Aberystwyth University in pursuit of a Ph.D. in 20th-century British literature. ■ After two years of making a difference on sustainable health projects in Senegal, **Kathleen Curtis** has completed her Peace Corps service and returned to the U.S. Kathleen served as a preventative health volunteer in Senegal since 2013, focusing on combating child malnutrition through education and screenings. This fall she begins a master's in global health program at Emory University in Atlanta. ■ **Ryan Evans '12**, **Monica Idzelis Rothe '96**, **Thao Vang '14**, **Monzong Cha '13**, **Chris Lindberg '85**, and **Maddie Hansen '11** (pictured below, L-R) are helping to enrich the lives of the vulnerable and disadvantaged by working at



Wilder Research on research topics ranging from affordable housing to early childhood development. Wilder Research is affiliated with the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation in St. Paul, Minn.

2015 | **Mirwais Wakil**, a Nobel Peace Prize Scholar at the University of Oslo, has received a Rotary Global Grant Scholarship that will help him



pursue a graduate degree at either Oxford University or the London School of Economics. Before enrolling in one of the two graduate programs in the fall of 2016, Wakil will spend a year in Vienna, Austria, working with an organization he cofounded called Ready Power, which employs immigrants and refugees and helps them better integrate into Austrian society. After he completes his graduate program in England, Wakil would like to work with the International Committee of the Red Cross or the United Nations Refugee Agency. ■ **Grant Wintheiser**, an eight-time All-America cross country and track and field

honoree, has been awarded the NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship. Grant won the Division III Cross Country title last fall, making him the first cross country runner in school history to win an individual national title. An accomplished student-athlete, Grant was the USTFCCA Division III Cross Country National Athlete and Scholar Athlete of the Year as well as a three-time MIAC champion in cross country, and an eight-time champion in track and field. He owns the school record in the 8,000 in cross country, and the 5,000 in track and field, and was a captain of each sport. Grant is attending medical school at Creighton University in Omaha.



Rave Reviews for Ole Theater Alumni

Julia Valen '14, who played Essie Carmichael in the Jungle Theater's summer production of *You Can't Take it With You*, directed by St. Olaf Artist in Residence Gary Gisselman, was singled out for her performance in a St. Paul *Pioneer Press* review. The story noted, "Julia Valen maybe doesn't fully understand it now, but there will be a time in her life when she will look back on the summer of 2015 and be awestruck. [In *You Can't Take it With You*] she and a couple of other young performers have the great good fortune to be surrounded by a veritable Who's Who of Twin Cities theater.



The company comprises one of the warmest and strongest ensemble casts in recent memory."

The Jungle Theater in Minneapolis is now led by another St. Olaf theater alumna, **Sarah Rasmussen '01**, who took on the role of artistic director on July 1. And earlier this summer, the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* took note of the performance **Grace Wehrspann '15** gave in a Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theater production just weeks after graduating from St. Olaf.

CORRECTION: *The Quiet Rights Campaign* (St. Olaf Magazine, Spring 2015, page 25)

Editor's Note: Jonathan Myrick Daniels, whose funeral was attended by David Kjerland '66 and Galen Brooks '67, was a white — not black — Episcopal seminarian. Twenty-six year old Daniels, one of 29 members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee who went to Fort Deposit, Alabama, to picket its whites-only stores, died saving the life of a young black female activist, 17-year-old Ruby Sales.

Ole Appointed to White House Staff

The recent appointment of **Raffi Freedman-Gurspan '09** to the White House staff has garnered international attention, from the *Wall Street Journal* to the *Washington Post*, *Christian Science Monitor*, CNN, ABC News, *Le Monde*, *Der Spiegel*, *International Business News*, and Univisión.

Raffi, who is the first openly trans person to work in the White House, was a policy adviser at the National Center for Transgender Equality prior to being hired as director of outreach and recruitment for the White House personnel office. Valerie Jarrett, a senior White House adviser, said in a statement that the hiring "demonstrates the kind of leadership this administration champions. Her commitment to bettering the lives of transgender Americans, particularly transgender people of color and those in poverty, reflects the values of this administration."



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FUTURE OLE
Lucy Hinck '36

Babies

Mary Ellen and Matthew Braaten '95, a daughter, Lillian
 Sandra Ravey Soelter '96 and Timothy Soelter '93, a boy, Paxton
 Robroy and Colette Cloutier MacIver '96, a son, Mark
 Steve and Jennifer Winberg Skavnak '99, a daughter, Winona
 Julio and Jill Bridgman Cisneros '99, a boy, Ryan
 Corby and Kari Forsberg Lewis '00, a son, Mason
 Kelly and Abbie Teslow DeGregorio '00, a girl, Aoife
 Andrew and Jennifer Brown Baer '01, a girl, Cassandra
 Cara and Jeffrey Gosse '01, a daughter, Emma
 Claire Campbell '01 and N. David Prestwood '01, a son, Declan
 Catherine Brown '01 and Matthew Harris, a son, Ethan
 Aaron and Kristina Anderson Sakaria '02, a son, Bodhi
 Amy Naylor Van Slyke '04 and Matthew Van Slyke '04, a son, Wesley
 Tim and Sarah Wangberg Climis '04, a son, Gregory
 Laura Eckstein Orr '05 and Eugene Orr '05, a daughter, Sarah
 Emilie Anderson Stevenson '05 and Andrew Stevenson '05, a daughter, Abigail
 Daniel and Krista Springer Appel '05, a girl, Astrid
 Elizabeth Erie Raecker '05 and Matthew Raecker '05, a son, Luke
 Vanessa Wheeler Townsend '05 and Eli Townsend '05, a daughter, Clara
 Zach and Kristin Dockery Smith '05, a daughter, Wesley
 Alexei and Brittany Larson Samoylov '06, a daughter, Alida
 Alissa LaFrance Gravelle '07 and Michael Gravelle, a son, Benjamin
 Troy and Britt Paulson DeRuyter '07, a son, Bram
 Suzi Hintz Hinck '08 and Bryan Hinck '06, a daughter, Lucy
 Alaina Burkard '08 and David Moon '08, a daughter, Sage
 Elizabeth Stafford Cook '08 and Conor Cook '09, a daughter, Brigid
 Rebecca Ross '08 and Jonathan Thornton '08, a son, Rhett
 Kelsey and Christoph Dundas '08, a daughter, Emmaline, and a son, Jacob
 Summer DeNaples Gaasedelen '11 and Owen Gaasedelen '11, a daughter, Estes
 Megan Techam Swanson '03 and Kelly Swanson, a son, Kenneth

Weddings

Peter Sethre '60 and Karen Bihrlle Sethre, Sept. 19, 2014
 Charles Hagen '66 and Mary Young, Jan. 24, 2014
 Mark Hollabaugh '71 and Jon Moe, Aug. 23, 2014
 Wilma Lanier '77 and Adesina Benton '75, May 10, 2014
 Gregory Jahnke '76 and Brian Richards, Aug. 23, 2014
 Melissa Dunn Anderson '77 and Daniel Baldwin, June 12, 2015
 Bradley Kuether '80 and Michelle Schenck, April 11, 2015
 Richard Volden '81 and Dennis Beauchamp, Aug. 29, 2014
 Martha Tostengard '90 and Paul Johnson, May 8, 2015
 Gordon Cumming '95 and Liesl Farnsworth, Sept. 6, 2014
 Jacob Reilly '98 and Brandi Jones, Sept. 17, 2014
 Katherine Henz '98 and Niki Vitela, Aug. 9, 2014
 Laurie Van Alstyne '00 and Lori Holmes, Aug. 1, 2014
 Abbie Teslow '00 and Kelly DeGregorio, May 17, 2014

Joseph Holan '01 and Jason Poirier, Oct. 17, 2014
 Caroline "Kate" LeFevere '01 and Chad Gourley, March 7, 2015
 Abigail Betts '02 and Jeffrey Williams, Oct. 19, 2014
 Katherine Singer '04 and Fredrik Strömberg, July 26, 2014
 Sarah Derry '04 and Abel Nelson, Feb. 14, 2015
 Susan Little '04 and Grant Buntje, May 30, 2015
 Lee Langer '04 and Tessa Crowl, June 20, 2015
 Katherine Mabuce '05 and Dane Jaster, May 9, 2015
 Elin Ljung '05 and Nathan Taylor, Oct. 21, 2014
 Carrie McShane '05 and Vik Khamare, Jan. 1, 2015
 Alisha Cowell '06 and Jason McAndrews, Sept. 27, 2014
 Jennifer Kamstra '06 and Breandan Gleason, March 15, 2014
 Kathleen Kephart '07 and Travis Palmer, March 14, 2015
 Leif-Lennart Brombas '07 and Sylvia Zenthöfer, May 15, 2015
 Laura Barnard '07 and Miles Crosskey, Aug. 2, 2014
 Jenna McBride '07 and Stephen Harris, Feb. 22, 2014
 Ariel Nereson '08 and Matthew Durkin, June 21, 2014
 Kelsey Gothier '08 and Benjamin Johnson, Sept. 6, 2014
 Rachel Pierce '08 and Benjamin Landsteiner '07, June 13, 2015
 Charlotte Darling '08 and Bob Buhr, Oct. 12, 2014
 Christopher Rohwer '08 and Jamie Koch, Aug. 9, 2014
 Lara Burkhart '08 and C.J. Diorio, May 30, 2015
 Laura Oliver '09 and Paul Donnelly, August 23, 2014
 Ingrid Anderson '09 and Maxwell Beck '10, May 23, 2014
 Heather D'Evelyn '09 and Thomas Kjolsing, Aug. 9, 2014
 Sarah Meisch '10 and Xavier Lacombe, June 14, 2014
 Christopher Morgan '10 and Amber Morgan, Nov. 1, 2014
 Grace Duddy '10 and Tyler Pomroy, Sept. 28, 2014
 Emily Grooms '10 and Kai Thorson '04, June 21, 2014
 Kayla Benson '10 and Ryan Hoel '10, June 7, 2014
 Elisabeth Granquist '10 and Blaine Alderks, Nov. 8, 2014
 Brittany Gilje '10 and Michael Murphy, March 15, 2014
 Sarah Dean '11 and Julian Bayles '12, June 26, 2015
 Melanie Brooks '11 and Christopher Roberts '10, June 28, 2014
 Erin Thieszen '11 and Brawley Blair, June 13, 2014
 Samuel Greeley '11 and Rosalyn Gill, June 27, 2015
 Hannah Carvalho '12 and Nathaniel Viets-VanLear '11, Sept. 21, 2014
 Brooke Reaser '12 and Christopher Goolsbee, July 5, 2014
 Sarah Olson '12 and Alexander Venning '12, Sept. 27, 2014
 Ellen Hartford '12 and Jonah Hacker '11, July 4, 2014
 Lauren Ehlers '12 and Isaac Prichard '12, July 26, 2014
 Claire Scott '13 and Ethan Duwell '13, Sept. 6, 2014
 Julie Rouse '13 and Kristofer Coffman '13, Aug. 16, 2014
 Lauren Anderson '13 and Bradley Allen, Dec. 30, 2014
 Olivia Koester '13 and Matt Alvshere '13, Oct. 4, 2014
 Rebecca Gobel '14 and Ryan Menssen '14, June 27, 2014
 Daniel Shellberg '14 and Jason Antrim, March 6, 2015

Deaths

Genevieve Lageson Vollum '35, Albert Lea, Minn., Jan. 20, 2015
 Alice Nelson Thomte '35, Whitehall, Wis., April 25, 2015
 Marion Berg Larson '38, Milwaukie, Ore., Jan. 28, 2015
 Ruth Borge Mohn '39, Rochester, Minn., March 31, 2015
 Lillian Krogh Roe '39, Niskayuna, N.Y., Dec. 31, 2014
 *Corrine Andersen Jensen '40, Peoria, Ariz., Jan. 18, 2015
 Lucille Stubkjaer Larson '40, Pullman, Wash., Jan. 25, 2015
 *Orval Amdahl '41, Lanesboro, Minn., Feb. 17, 2015
 Erlisy Anderson Buss '41, Glenville, Minn., Jan. 27, 2015
 Mary Bergman Gurney '41, Mount Vernon, Wash., March 11, 2015
 *Ila Iverson Schmidt '41, Albert Lea, Minn., Feb. 10, 2015
 Mabel Bjornnes Odden '42, Minnetonka, Minn., Jan. 18, 2015
 Charlotte Larson Meyers '42, Minneapolis, March 18, 2015
 *Richard Norby '43, North Oaks, Minn., March 3, 2015
 LaVonne Stolen Johnson '44, Red Wing, Minn., Feb. 17, 2015
 Marvel Rettmann Heath '45, Chaska, Minn., April 14, 2015
 *Vincent Silverthorne '45, Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 23, 2013
 Carol Mickelsen Korf '46, Madison, Wis., Feb. 14, 2015

Naomi Score Aberg '46, Eau Claire, Wis., Feb. 14, 2015
 Mavis Dahl '47, Rushford, Minn., April 25, 2015
 Bette Giere Bass '47, Northfield, Minn., May 25, 2015
 Noramae Haseth Roadfeldt '47, Big Lake, Minn., May 16, 2015
 Duane "Pete" Peterson '47, Tracy, Minn., Feb. 28, 2015
 *Rodney Anderson '48, Owatonna, Minn., March 5, 2015
 E. Roald Carlson '48, St. Paul, Minn., March 13, 2015
 Bonnie Nelson Barsness '48, St. Germain, Wis., Jan. 22, 2015
 *Gilbert "Gib" Wenger '48, Centralia, Mo., Feb. 21, 2015
 Marjorie Albin '49, Montevideo, Minn., April 3, 2015
 *Edwin Bersagel '49, Lakeville, Minn., March 30, 2015
 Arvid Bidne '49, North Oaks, Minn., Jan. 24, 2015
 Philip Gangsei '49, Scottsdale, Ariz., Oct. 22, 2014
 *Harald Haugan '49, St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 26, 2015
 Illa Konold Peterson '49, Nashville, Tenn., March 21, 2015
 Gerald Lundby '49, Carol Stream, Ill., April 15, 2015
 *Newell "Bud" Nelson '49, Edina, Minn., Feb. 8, 2015
 *Allan Altnow '50, Alexandria, Minn., Jan. 2, 2015
 *Dennis Bolstad '50, Northfield, Minn., Feb. 13, 2015
 *Joseph Huseth '50, Madison, Wis., May 17, 2015
 Esther Kleven Prestegard '50, Waunakee, Wis., March 12, 2015
 *Ira "Duke" Tanner '50, Granite Bay, Calif., Jan. 9, 2015
 Raymond Traeger '50, Savannah, Ga., July 18, 2014
 Shirley Knecht Bersagel '51, Lakeville, Minn., Feb. 24, 2015
 John Olness '51, Stony Brook, N.Y., Feb. 15, 2015
 Audrey Olson Hindbjorgen '52, Hendricks, Minn., March 4, 2015
 Ruth Tanner Govig '52, Bismarck, N.D., May 16, 2015
 Robert Devens '53, Fridley, Minn., June 23, 2014
 Marian Olness Farrar '53, Elbert, Colo., Dec. 5, 2014
 Harold Lysne Jr. '53, Maple Grove, Minn., March 23, 2015
 Raymond Jacobsen '54, Los Angeles, Jan. 30, 2015
 George Palmer '54, Long Pine, Neb., March 30, 2015
 *Thomas Saveriede '57, Hudson, Wis., April 26, 2015
 Blenda "B" Theilmann Bullard '57, Blaine, Minn., Feb. 27, 2015
 Clifford Biel '58, Mondovi, Wis., April 17, 2015
 Lloyd Graven '58, Crystal, Minn., March 23, 2015
 Dorothy Dahlk Amare '59, Jacksonville, Ill., Feb. 28, 2015
 David Peterson '59, Apple Valley, Minn., May 19, 2015
 Karen Sorheim Phillips '60, Rockledge, Fla., Jan. 24, 2013
 *Richard Einarson '61, Billings, Mont., Feb. 2, 2014
 *Luther Stortroen '61, Freeport, Ill., April 5, 2015
 *David Drentlaw '62, Fountain Hills, Ariz., Feb. 3, 2015
 Kari Aarsheim Harbakk '63, Oslo, Norway, Nov. 15, 2014
 *David Ness '63, Fort Myers, Fla., March 2, 2015
 Beverly Brey Meyer Garrett '65, Okeechobee, Fla., May 17, 2014
 *Stephen Fuller '65, St. Cloud, Minn., Feb. 6, 2015
 Dolores Moeller Fritz '65, Red Wing, Minn., Feb. 26, 2015
 John Syver '66, Lake Geneva, Wis., June 7, 2013
 Kendall Bank '67, Tucson, Ariz., Feb. 1, 2015
 Jacquelyn Bergstedt Halvorson '68, Goodyear, Ariz., Feb. 16, 2015
 Nadine Ornborg '68, Santa Fe, N.M., Aug. 1, 2014
 Gail Petterson Horsley '68, Topeka, Kan., May 13, 2015
 Lillian Amundgaard Sather '69, Lakeville, Minn., March 27, 2015
 Donald Gaston Jr. '70, Putnam, Conn., March 30, 2015
 Royd Mahowald '70, Los Angeles, Feb. 23, 2015
 Ronald Bolinger '72, Pine Island, Minn., March 1, 2015
 Lance Olson '72, Minnetonka, Minn., Feb. 11, 2015
 Jeffry Strandemo '72, Edina, Minn., Dec. 29, 2014
 Mark Burgdorf '73, Decorah, Iowa, Jan. 23, 2015
 Michael Hillman '74, Ely, Minn., Dec. 11, 2014
 Mark Alan Bennett '77, Columbus, Ohio, June 7, 2015
 Janet Barrows Stotts '77, Wasilla, Alaska, April 26, 2015
 James Waage '80, Glenwood, Minn., March 28, 2015
 Mark Peterson '81, Bethesda, Md., Feb. 21, 2015
 Mary Lundmark '85, Virginia, Minn., Feb. 19, 2015
 Robert Lehman '14, Minneapolis, May 24, 2015

*VETERAN

Professor Emeritus of Mathematics Lynn Steen



Lynn Steen, who spent more than four decades making mathematics accessible to all students and shaping the way teachers approach the discipline, died of heart failure on June 21, 2015, at the age of 74.

One of the highlights of Steen's career was his commitment to gradually transforming mathematics at St. Olaf from a narrow discipline for the few to an inviting major of value for any liberal arts student. By broadening the major and focusing student work on inquiry and investigation, Steen and his departmental colleagues grew mathematics

into one of the top five majors at the college — and one of the nation's largest undergraduate producers of Ph.D.s in the mathematical sciences.

As his teaching led Steen to investigate links between mathematics and other fields, he began writing about new developments in mathematics for audiences of non-mathematicians. Many of his articles appeared in the weekly magazine *Science News* and in annual supplements to the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, and he penned a groundbreaking report for the National Research Council on the challenges facing mathematics education in the United States.

Steen, who retired from St. Olaf in 2009, held numerous leadership posts in national mathematics organizations, serving as president of the Mathematical Association of America and director of the Mathematical Sciences Education Board, a National Academy of Sciences entity with a mission of improving math education. In 2013, he was elected a Fellow of the American Mathematical Society.

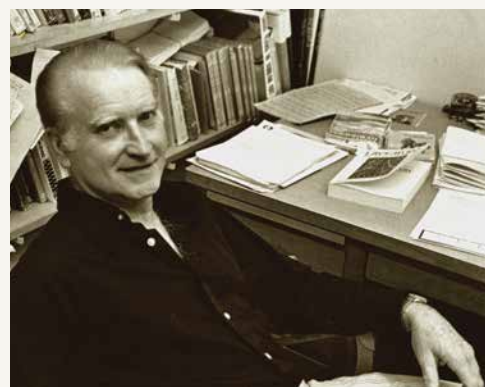
Professor Emeritus of English Richard Buckstead

Richard "Dick" Buckstead, who taught American and Asian literature at St. Olaf College for nearly five decades before retiring in 2010, died peacefully in his home on July 31, 2015. He was 86.

Buckstead touched the lives of countless St. Olaf students. In the summer of 1965, at the height of the civil rights movement, he facilitated a life-changing opportunity for 65 Oles

who participated in the Tuskegee Institute Summer Education Program. Buckstead served as an advisor for the program, in which the St. Olaf students teamed up with 500 Alabama college students to teach reading, writing, music, and drama to African American teens living in segregated rural Alabama. Buckstead also opened up the wider world to students by leading a number of St. Olaf study abroad programs, including his popular Interim in Cuba and the second-ever Term in the Far East (now Term in Asia).

Buckstead received several Fulbright awards, including one that enabled him to teach at Andalas University in Indonesia and another that took him to Thailand, a country he visited often. He was an expert on Ernest Hemingway and was among the first St. Olaf faculty to formally visit Cuba. His articles on American and Asian literature were widely published. In 1994, St. Olaf students nominated him into *Who's Who Among American Educators and Teachers*.



Kodachrome

MEMORIES

BY JEFF SAUVE

ON THE OUTSIDE of a small brown box was written in pencil, “St. Olaf College Days.” The box, recently donated, held 20 35mm Kodachrome slides from the late 1940s to the mid-1950s. Many of these vivid images depict campus life, including Homecoming and its crinoline-clad royal court. The combined beauty of autumn and the rich colors of the slides evoke nostalgia for the era and its traditions, particularly the Homecoming coronation and subsequent bonfire.

The Homecoming bonfire, one of the longest-held traditions at St. Olaf, dates back to the mid-1880s, but it wasn’t until 1953 that Queen Bernice Nycklemoe ’54 became the first to wear the new sterling silver Homecoming crown. According to the student newspaper, the *Manitou Messenger*, “Silversmith Lars Oexning fashioned the simple lines of the crown. A medallion of Norwegian silver in the center of the diadem carries the seal of St. Olaf’s shield.” The crown would be worn until the last Homecoming coronation in 1969, but to this day, women students enjoy stopping by the college archives to try it on and have their picture taken.

The pomp and circumstance of the coronation was exemplified in the 1956 ceremony, when Faith Field ’57 was elected Her Royal Highness, Queen of St. Olaf. She stood regally, as a velvet robe was draped over her shoulders and the silver crown placed upon her head. Queen Field proclaimed to all, “By authority of the student body, I, with the princesses of the Royal House of St. Olaf, do hereby declare that this evening and the following days shall be given over to festive activity.”

With her dozen red roses in hand, Queen Field and her attendants departed down the white linen aisle, escorted by several upperclassmen sporting midnight blue tuxedos. Outside awaited three chariot convertibles that would deliver them



to Old Main, where the bonfire was held on the lawn facing downtown Northfield. Lining the pathway to the bonfire on a picture-perfect night stood 12 young men who formed a torchlight gauntlet. As the royal court passed between them, the torch bearers fell behind the vehicles, with the student body in tow.

In the 1930s, a friendly rivalry with neighboring Carleton College led to a new Homecoming bonfire tradition. The student bodies of both colleges tasked their freshmen with gathering and guarding their school’s wood pile, strongly encouraging them to prematurely set the other school’s wood pile ablaze. As if that weren’t enough for the youngest Oles, they also had to pay for the kerosene to soak their respective heap.

The common sophomore cry of “The Carls are coming! The Carls are coming!” aroused the Green Beanie-wearing freshmen to remain vigilant at their post in front of Old Main for several successive nights. More than once, the raiders across the river arrived in the early morning hours with torches, or even flaming arrows, only to be turned back by the steadfast Oles.

In 1955, for the first time in 16 years, the Oles were successful in lighting Carleton’s bonfire. Perhaps they’d been fueled by a letter received from the “Carleton Incendiary Service,” who took pity on the St. Olaf student body, which had been unable to get the job done. They offered all interested Oles a free course in the “rudiments of military tactics under



the leadership of ‘Matches’ McGinnis of the Campfire Girls!”

The following year, as the St. Olaf bonfire roared and crackled, cheerleaders standing on a flatbed truck led a few chants, including “S-T, S-T, S-T-O-L, O-L-A-F” and “We come from St. Olaf.” The Viking Chorus closed the program with *Um! Yah! Yah!* Afterward, for those interested, a snake dance left Manitou Heights winding its way to downtown Northfield, but staying clear of the Carleton campus.

In the afterglow of reflection, the 1957 Viking Yearbook said of Homecoming, “... these days live in the memories of the undergrads and alumni.” Those still-colorful memories, like long-lasting burning embers, were carefully held by one Ole in a little brown box. 🦁

JEFF SAUVE is associate archivist at the Shaw-Olson Center for College History at St. Olaf College. Share your own stories with him at sauve@stolaf.edu.

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PARTING SHOT



FIFTY YEARS AGO THIS FALL, members of the first women's cross country team at St. Olaf hit the trails for a practice run. Running along with them was their coach and team founder, English professor David Wee '61, a devoted distance runner and member of the St. Olaf Athletic Hall of Fame. Runners on that inaugural 1975 team included (L-R): Marilyn August '76, Janet Pipal '78, Suzanne Larson '79, Coach Wee, Elizabeth Hartwich '79, and Nancy Larson '79.