

Commencement

May 11, 2024





WELCOME!

WE'RE HAPPY TO CELEBRATE
THE CLASS OF 2024

Commencement Ceremony Procedures and Information

- + There will not be access to the Commencement stage for photos during the ceremony. A professional photographer will take photos of all graduates as they cross the stage. The photos will be available for purchase at a later date.
- + Please hold your applause until the end so all families can hear their student's name.
- + Restrooms are located on the east side of Ron and Joyce Schipper Stadium under the bleachers and inside H.S. Kuyper Fieldhouse.
- + In the event of inclement weather, alert information will be available at central.edu, facebook.com/centralcollege, Instagram [@centralcollege](https://instagram.com/centralcollege) or on KNIA-KRLS 92.1.



2024 *Commencement*

Congratulations, members of the Central College Class of 2024! Your perseverance and dedication to your education has been inspiring to watch throughout your time here. And, with determination, you were unwavering in what success would look like for you. With every turn of the sun, the world changes. You have adapted to new realities, and you stand here today ready to make a difference in the world.

Today is called “Commencement” because it marks a new beginning. This celebration recognizes your hard work and dedication — and signals the beginning of your life as a Central alumnus. Because of you, there is hope in the world today. As you take your much-anticipated walk across the stage, know you matter to us — always have, always will. We want you to be as excited about what comes next as we are for you!

Now is the time to go forth and do great things, Central College Class of 2024. We see you. We believe in you. We are here for you. **We are Forever Dutch®!**

Love,
Central College

Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, May 11, 2024 • 10 a.m.

Ron and Joyce Schipper Stadium • Central College • Pella, Iowa

*** Processional**

“Pomp and Circumstance”
Edward Elgar, Composer

*** National Anthem**

“The Star-Spangled Banner”
Bryson Michael McGowan '24

*** Invocation**

Rev. Joe Brummel
College Chaplain

Welcome and Recognitions

Mark L. Putnam, Ed.D.
President

**Honorary Degree,
Doctor of Science
Adam Duerfeldt '06**

Associate professor in the
Department of Medicinal Chemistry
at the University of Minnesota

Presented by James Shriver
Professor of Chemistry

Address

Adam Duerfeldt '06
“The Road Ahead: Two Principles,
One Challenge and One Tip”

**Presentation of
Candidates for Degrees**

Baccalaureate Degrees
Bachelor of Arts
Bachelor of Science
Class of 2024

Mary E.M. Strey, Ph.D.

Vice President for Academic Affairs
and Dean of the Faculty

Welcome Class of 2024

Sunny Gonzales Eighmy '99
Vice President for Advancement

Concluding Remarks

*** Benediction**

Rev. Joe Brummel
College Chaplain

*** “The Lord Bless You”**

E. Fred Morris, Composer
Central College A Cappella Choir

*** Recessional**

“Barnum and Bailey’s Favorite”
Karl L. King, Composer
The USAF Heritage of America Band

*** Please stand as you are able.**

Faculty Marshal:

Terry Kleven, Professor of
Religion and Dr. Jacob and Gela
Schnucker Sessler Chair in Philosophy
and Religion

Senior Marshal:

Sam Mate-Kodjo, Associate Professor
of Spanish

Student Marshals:

Daysi Ray Harris '25
Gunner John Hutton '25

2024 Graduates

Students who achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.500 may be recommended by the faculty for commencement distinctions. Honors recognition is based on cumulative grade point average using Central College semester credits earned (minimum 60 semester hours). Honors recognition for degree candidates is given according to the following scale:

summa cum laude

3.900 to 4.000

magna cum laude

3.700 to 3.899

cum laude

3.500 to 3.699

The cumulative grade point average earned after the previous fall semester is used to determine the honors listed in this program, and eligible students are wearing gold honor chords. Final graduation honors listed on the transcript depend on the cumulative grade point average earned at the end of the semester when the degree requirements are satisfied.

International pin denotes participation in one of Central's international or off-campus programs.

Abigail Grace Alberti

Kinesiology
Harlan, Iowa
summa cum laude

DelTon L. Alexander, Jr.

Sociology
Iowa City, Iowa

River John Baker

Elementary Education
Pella, Iowa

Simon Baker

Spanish
Blue Mounds, Wisconsin

Emily Ann Bechtel*

Business Management
Johnston, Iowa
cum laude

Brock Andrew Beck*

Business Management
Grinnell, Iowa
cum laude

Brody Dale Bender

Business Management
Mount Pleasant, Iowa

Mitchel J. Benhart

Environmental &
Sustainability Studies
Geneseo, Illinois

Miles Lewis Berg

Political Science
Indianola, Iowa

Kaitlyn Rebecca Berntsen

Kinesiology
Sycamore, Illinois

Anthony James Bestell

Business Management
Newton, Iowa

Grant Edward Biddle

Biochemistry
Norwalk, Iowa
cum laude

Tanner Ryan Bigelow

Business Management
Gilbert, Arizona

Mackenzie Joel Biggs

Music Education-
Instrumental
Bloomington, Illinois
cum laude

Leo Blawou

Sociology
Des Moines, Iowa

Abigail Marie Boorman

Environmental &
Sustainability Studies
Urbandale, Iowa

Jenna Noelle Brady

Music Education-Vocal
Urbandale, Iowa

Kaleb Zachary Brand*

Business Management
Mount Vernon, Iowa
magna cum laude

Nolan Jonathon Brand*

Elementary Education
Mount Vernon, Iowa
summa cum laude

Summer Lynn Brand*

English
Mount Vernon, Iowa
cum laude

Jackson Gardner Bresson

Business Management
Accounting
Ankeny, Iowa

2024 Graduates

Cade Gerrit Brouwer
Computer Science
Cascade, Iowa
summa cum laude

Christian Brown*
Music
Alburnett, Iowa

Lauren Michelle Brown
Communication Studies
Underwood, Iowa
magna cum laude

Tessa Jade Brubaker
Psychology
Chadwick, Illinois

Aiden Brumwell
Computer Science
Pella, Iowa

**Tess Jordanne
Brunsmann**
Elementary Education
Newton, Iowa
summa cum laude

**David Wayne Burrell
Burnett**
Biochemistry
Biology
Fairfield, Iowa
cum laude

Francheska G. Burnett
Chemistry
Ankeny, Iowa

Austin James Burns
Business Management
Williamsburg, Iowa

Jasmyn Faye Bush
Kinesiology
La Porte City, Iowa

Matthew John Busker*
Communication Studies
Oakland, New Jersey

Layken Elizabeth Bytnar
Biology
Bettendorf, Iowa
summa cum laude

Peyton Rose Bytnar
Biology
Bettendorf, Iowa
summa cum laude

Treven Z. Cadwell
Exercise Science
Pella, Iowa

Patricia Paige Cahill
Computer Science
Castle Rock, Colorado

Shale Nikolai Chapel
Biology
Pella, Iowa
cum laude

Quinci Nicole Cottrell
Music Education-
Instrumental
Ottumwa, Iowa
summa cum laude

Alysha Marie Coyle
Sociology
Ankeny, Iowa
magna cum laude

Margaret Renee Crum
Psychology
Cape Coral, Florida

Alana Nicole Curtis
Kinesiology
Phoenix, Arizona

Grace A. Daniels
Sociology
Broken Arrow,
Oklahoma

Spencer Edward Daves
Psychology
Kinesiology
Urbandale, Iowa
cum laude

Lindsey Ann Davidson
Elementary Education
Northwood, Iowa
summa cum laude

Riley Ann Davidson
Elementary Education
Newton, Iowa
cum laude

Gavin Lane Davis
Kinesiology
Phoenix, Arizona

Colton John DeRocher
Kinesiology
Sioux City, Iowa

Grace Digmann-Pearson
English
Anamosa, Iowa

**Harold Kenneth
Dobernecker***
Business Management
Accounting
Nevada, Iowa

Jaydan Tyler Donelson
Political Science
Pella, Iowa

Andrew Edward Doyle
Business Management
Bettendorf, Iowa

Emerson Leigh Drake
Political Science
Wilton, Iowa
magna cum laude

2024 Graduates

Sophia Anne Egli
Spanish
Saint Charles, Iowa
magna cum laude

Abbigail Marie Eicher
Music
Bennett, Iowa

Audi Janlin Eichhorn
History
Mount Vernon, Iowa

Ashlynn Leigh Ellenbecker
Psychology
Tama, Iowa

Noah Andrew Erickson
Business Management
Mount Vernon, Iowa

Paige Marie Farrell
Communication Studies
Sociology
Chariton, Iowa

Logan Kaleb Fehlhafer*
Music
Sioux Center, Iowa

Katelyn Danielle Fields
Elementary Education
Maryville, Illinois

Noah John Fischer
Actuarial Science
Economics
Altoona, Iowa
magna cum laude

Maddi Jacquelyn Fisher
Kinesiology
Marion, Iowa

Tyler Lucas Fitzpatrick*
Business Management
Mount Pleasant, Iowa

John Charles Foster
Business Management
Lee's Summit, Missouri

Abigail Frey
Communication Studies
Mesa, Arizona

Nelson Tanner Fry
Biology
Kinesiology
Osceola, Iowa
summa cum laude

Charles Nelson Gaer
Communication Studies
Des Moines, Iowa

Morgan Galbraith
Social Science
Hudson, Iowa

Morgan Rachel Gallentine
Accounting
Business Management
Webster City, Iowa

Kenyon Wayne Geetings
Computer Science
Pella, Iowa
summa cum laude

Jaymi Michelle Gibbs
Accounting
Business Management
Galva, Illinois
summa cum laude

Leah Theresa Gilbertson
Psychology
Biology
Peoria, Arizona
cum laude

Anne MacArthur Gregory
Kinesiology
Alexis, Illinois
magna cum laude

Robert Groves
Biochemistry
Biology
Grinnell, Iowa
cum laude

Abigail Joy Gruver
Elementary Education
Sully, Iowa
magna cum laude

Nicholas John Haberl
Accounting
Business Management
Halbur, Iowa
summa cum laude

Tate Patrik Hagen
Accounting
Britt, Iowa

Cody Robert Hall
Engineering
Bondurant, Iowa
magna cum laude

Taylor Rose Hanna
Kinesiology
Stacyville, Iowa
cum laude

Jack Randall Haren*
Kinesiology
Parkersburg, Iowa

Brayden Wayne Harris
Psychology
Eldora, Iowa

Nathan James Hayden
Exercise Science
Des Moines, Iowa

Garrett William Heater
Accounting
Business Management
Kellogg, Iowa

2024 Graduates

Grace Lou Ann Helgeson
Psychology
English
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Nicholas Allen Helmers*
Accounting
Cedar Falls, Iowa

John Joseph Hemphill
Music
Computer Science
Ankeny, Iowa

**Joanna Louise
Hendrickson**
Political Science
Columbia, Missouri

Luke Patrick Henkhaus
Psychology
Geneseo, Illinois

**Jenna-Marie Denali
Hernandez**
Biochemistry
Biology
Slater, Iowa
magna cum laude

Ethan Andrew Herr
Music
Oskaloosa, Iowa

Taryn Ann Pearl Hintz
Elementary Education
Primghar, Iowa
magna cum laude

**Kate Elizabeth Kohler
Hoogensen***
Mathematics
Ankeny, Iowa
magna cum laude

Carter Hope
Mathematics
Computer Science
Mitchellville, Iowa

Shanna Rae Hudson
Elementary Education
Morrison, Illinois
magna cum laude

Tessa Gray Huff
Biology
Ames, Iowa
summa cum laude

Tristan Thomas Hunt
Environmental &
Sustainability Studies
Britt, Iowa

Hailey Susann Hunter
Communication Studies
Rockford, Illinois

Dawson David Husted
Sociology
Selah, Washington

Amal Idris
Sociology
Des Moines, Iowa

Kaitlyn Michele Isom
Psychology
Political Science
Phoenix, Arizona
cum laude

Zachary Jon Jacobson
Information Systems
Gilman, Iowa

Zachary Kent Jeanneret
Business Management
Overbrook, Kansas

Elyse A. Johnson
Political Science
Spanish
Boone, Iowa
magna cum laude

Grant Eric Johnson
Philosophy
Waukee, Iowa

Megan Kay Johnson
Kinesiology
Parkersburg, Iowa
summa cum laude

Marissa Jonas*
Biology
Blair, Nebraska
summa cum laude

Colton Lucas Jones
Engineering
Lovilia, Iowa

Parker R. Jones*
Biology
Kinesiology
Verona, Wisconsin

Noah Robert Jorgenson
Business Management
Sidney, Iowa
summa cum laude

Andrew William Kelso*
Economics
Indianola, Iowa

Dean Eric Kimball
Biology
Norwalk, Iowa

Landon Neal Kirby
Business Management
Accounting
Grinnell, Iowa
magna cum laude

Brody Patrick Klein
Kinesiology
Rainier, Washington
summa cum laude

Allison Ann Kreider
Actuarial Science
Economics
Norwalk, Iowa

2024 Graduates

Sophie Lynn Kruger*
Art
Newton, Iowa
summa cum laude

Nathan Allen Kuhlman
Biology
Lee's Summit, Missouri
summa cum laude

Abraham Charles Larson*
Engineering
Walker, Iowa

Noah Ryan Leist
Environmental &
Sustainability Studies
Clive, Iowa

Gage Patrick Linahon
Accounting
Business Management
Newton, Iowa
summa cum laude

Sarah Louise Linde
English
Pella, Iowa

Brianna Marie Lindstrom
Kinesiology
North Aurora, Illinois

Logan Allan Linkvis
Engineering
West Des Moines, Iowa

Sydney Rosemarie Lowe
English
Communication Studies
Bennington, Nebraska
cum laude

Jasper Benjamin Luckritz
Strength and
Conditioning
Clinton, Iowa

Solomon Joseph Mamola
Kinesiology
Urbandale, Iowa

Scott Michael Martin
Art
Wilton, Iowa

Addison Lea May
Sociology
Johnston, Iowa

Colton Lyle Mayberry
Mathematics
Glenwood, Iowa

Alyssa Kay Mayhew
Environmental &
Sustainability Studies
North Aurora, Illinois
magna cum laude

Logan M. McCoy
Kinesiology
Galva, Iowa

Bryson Michael McGowan
Musical Theatre
Urbandale, Iowa

Mary Alexis McGraw
Business Management
Sociology
Waukee, Iowa

Cole Lucas McGriff
Philosophy
New Sharon, Iowa
summa cum laude

Caroline Ruby McMartin*
Biology
Pella, Iowa
summa cum laude

Libby Ann Mensen*
Communication Studies
Red Oak, Iowa

Ethan Wayne Messamaker
Engineering
Centerville, Iowa

Elizabeth Jane Michaelson*
Sociology
Iowa Falls, Iowa

Connor Ryan Miklos
Computer Science
Lockport, Illinois

Hadyn Renee Miller
Kinesiology
Iowa Falls, Iowa
cum laude

Reece Thomas Miller
Strength and
Conditioning
Center Point, Iowa
cum laude

Jackson Christopher Moats
Strength and
Conditioning
Bettendorf, Iowa

Jacob Alan Moffett
Business Management
Mount Pleasant, Iowa

Logan John Mont*
Accounting
Business Management
Aurora, Illinois
cum laude

Cathleen Dee Morgan
Kinesiology
Mount Vernon, Iowa
summa cum laude

Cassandra Jo Moss
Elementary Education
Elma, Iowa
cum laude

2024 Graduates

Derek Daniel Mueller
Business Management
Atlantic, Iowa

Isabella Nath
Psychology
Perry, Iowa

Savannah Leigh Neil
Elementary Education
Pella, Iowa
magna cum laude

Carter James Nelsen
History
Rhodes, Iowa
cum laude

Tate Michael Nelson
Accounting
Business Management
Burlington, Iowa

Emma Catherine Neu*
Communication Studies
Rochelle Park, New Jersey

Ryan Neu*
Kinesiology
West Des Moines, Iowa

Matthew Jordan Neuhalfen
Engineering
Glenwood, Iowa

Elizabeth Nicole Nowlin
Business Management
Council Bluffs, Iowa

Declan Hanson O'Hare
Business Management
Los Angeles, California

Hunter Olson
Engineering
Peoria, Arizona

Johnathan Daniel Oltman
Business Management
Pella, Iowa

Madison Kai Opp
Elementary Education
Pleasant Hill, Iowa
magna cum laude

Jack Apollo Orengo
History
Rogers, Minnesota

Laramie Rose O'Sullivan
Kinesiology
Pella, Iowa

Warren Gerald Page, II
Kinesiology
Pella, Iowa

Chance Gracyn Palm
English
Otley, Iowa

Eli James Park
Business Management
Palo, Iowa

Natalie Nicole Patterson
Kinesiology
Lone Tree, Iowa

Kasey Leigh Pelzer*
Kinesiology
Pleasantville, Iowa
cum laude

Jackson Steven Perkins*
READY Program
Waukon, Iowa

Gabriella Rose Petruzzello
Psychology
French
Janesville, Wisconsin
summa cum laude

Blake Ryan Recker
History
Social Science
Pella, Iowa
magna cum laude

Brielle Christine Reed
Communication Studies
Business Management
Colfax, Iowa

Trenton Tyrick Reed
Strength and Conditioning
Bussey, Iowa

Tyler Jacob Robertson
Business Management
Norwalk, Iowa

Abbigail Michelle Roerdink*
Accounting
Business Management
Tiffin, Ohio
summa cum laude

Elisa Diane Rooda
Elementary Education
Harvey, Iowa
cum laude

Ellie Christine Roorda*
Biology
Pella, Iowa
magna cum laude

Jordan David Rusch
Business Management
Johnston, Iowa

Mami Salima
Sociology
Urbandale, Iowa

Samantha Rose Schelby
Environmental &
Sustainability Studies
Business Management
Middletown, Iowa

Kayla Christine Schneider*
Business Management
Superior, Colorado
summa cum laude

2024 Graduates

Samantha Nicole Scholz
Mathematics
Computer Science
Lincoln, Nebraska
magna cum laude

Emma C. Schossow
Kinesiology
Clive, Iowa

Jacob Christian Schulte*
History
Pella, Iowa

Zachary Douglas Selover
Economics
Business Management
Des Moines, Iowa
magna cum laude

Alexander Edward Shafer
Business Management
Pella, Iowa

Caroline Cora Shelton
Communication Studies
Ogden, Iowa

Kami Louise Sickels
Business Management
Des Moines, Iowa

Caleb Lynn Silver*
Communication Studies
Conrad, Iowa

Addison Leigh Six*
Elementary Education
Washington, Iowa
magna cum laude

Tishara RaLynn Slater
Business Management
Norwalk, Iowa

Genevieve Isabel Smith
Business Management
Albuquerque,
New Mexico

Sarah Marie Smith
Psychology
Sumner, Iowa
magna cum laude

Tiffany Elisabeth Smith
Elementary Education
Fulton, Illinois

Luke Adam Snyder
Accounting
Business Management
Bloomfield, Iowa
magna cum laude

Rachel Sohn
Accounting
Actuarial Science
Sutherland, Iowa
cum laude

Zandra May Spiker
Political Science
Sociology
Pella, Iowa
cum laude

Jaeni May Sprague
Psychology
Bondurant, Iowa
summa cum laude

Karsyn Kayleigh Stalzer
Elementary Education
Iowa Falls, Iowa

Kassidi Michelle Steel
Communication Studies
New Sharon, Iowa

Taylor Jade Storm*
Political Science
Saint Charles, Illinois
cum laude

Grant D. Stourac
Computer Science
Williamsburg, Iowa
cum laude

Cera Grace Stroh
Computer Science
Spanish
Fort Dodge, Iowa
summa cum laude

Katherine Elizabeth Stroh
Engineering
Fort Dodge, Iowa
cum laude

Megan Nicole Lynn Stuhr
Kinesiology
Ottumwa, Iowa

Logan Marshall Sunvold
Business Management
Monroe, Iowa

Connor Tsuyoshi Susman
Information Systems
Corona, California

Abigail Renee Sutberry
Kinesiology
Blue Springs, Missouri
cum laude

Colin Michael Suyko
Business Management
Cary, Illinois

Colby Galen Svestka
Business Management
Johnston, Iowa

Devyn Elaine Switzer
Psychology
Liberty, Missouri

Kosuke Takahashi
Business Management
Tokyo, Japan

San Ngun Thang
Accounting
Bondurant, Iowa

2024 Graduates

Taylor Thomas
Psychology
Indianola, Iowa

Jaxon Thompson
Chemistry
Pella, Iowa

Elsie Mae Thoreson
Kinesiology
Knoxville, Iowa
magna cum laude

Jocelyn Ella Timmerman
Biology
Fort Dodge, Iowa
magna cum laude

**Jasmine Trinity Payoyo
Trinidad**
Art
Las Vegas, Nevada

Kole C. Tupa
History
Center Point, Iowa
magna cum laude

Emily Adriana van Eijndt
Accounting
Spanish
Kansas City, Kansas
magna cum laude

Allison Dawn Van Gorp
Kinesiology
Pella, Iowa
cum laude

Isabella Grace Van Gorp*
READY Program
Pella, Iowa

Joshua M. Van Gorp
Business Management
Pella, Iowa

Madi Kate Van Vors
Biochemistry
Biology
Center Point, Iowa
summa cum laude

Derrick T. Voss
Kinesiology
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Lucas Jeffrey Vroom
Political Science
Philosophy
Pleasant Hill, Iowa
magna cum laude

Lauren Nicole Wall
Biology
Donahue, Iowa
cum laude

Hannah Jennifer Walsh
Communication Studies
Creston, Iowa
magna cum laude

Kamryn Marie Waymire
Musical Theatre
Elk Horn, Iowa
magna cum laude

Kaylee Dawn Weber
Kinesiology
Sigourney, Iowa

Alicia Linnea Wendler
Exercise Science
Biology
Prior Lake, Minnesota
cum laude

Keghan Alexander West
Information Systems
Perry, Iowa

Hunter Tracy Wilkinson
Kinesiology
Jensen Beach, Florida

Calvin Joseph Otto Wilner
Social Science
Des Moines, Iowa

Gabriel Thomas Wilson
Biochemistry
Altoona, Iowa
cum laude

Samuel George Wolff
Political Science
History
Chaska, Minnesota

Trey Justice Wood
Psychology
Pella, Iowa
magna cum laude

Avery Irene Woods
Elementary Education
Long Grove, Iowa
cum laude

Taylor Jo Wyeth
Art
Aurora, Illinois
cum laude

Slater Kincade Young
Business Management
Sully, Iowa

Nikolas James Zarlitanes
Strength and
Conditioning
Taylor Ridge, Illinois

Jakob Andrew Zwank*
Communication Studies
Sociology
Adel, Iowa

**Gabriel Matthew
Zwanziger**
Business Management
Indianola, Iowa

Legacy Students

* Legacy students are the children of proud Central College alumni. We are honored to be part of their family tradition and grateful to include these multiple generations of Dutch alumni in our Central family.

Pinning of the Class

We continue the tradition at Central College to welcome our graduates into the family of alumni. On graduation day, every member of the class receives an alumni pin. After leaving our campus and going out to make a difference in the world, whenever alumni meet and one is without a pin, alumni are encouraged to give their pin to the person without one. Upon request, Central College will replace the pin of the one who generously shared. In this manner, the relationships between Central College alumni will continue to expand over space and time as the number and presence of Central pins continue to expand across the globe.

Senior Class Gift

The Senior Class Gift is a longstanding Central College tradition in which the class members join our philanthropic community by supporting a campus improvement or program that is meaningful to them. The Class of 2024 voted to add additional seating to the outdoor community space at the Global Cafe at Geisler Library.

Their generosity will bring even more life and interaction to Central's already beautiful landscape. Funding will provide several new Adirondack chairs with ottomans.

The committee members of the Senior Class Gift are:

Mackenzie Joel Biggs

Nolan Jonathon Brand

John Charles Foster

Abigail Frey

Tessa Gray Huff

Nathan Allen Kuhlman

Cassandra Jo Moss

Avery Irene Woods

Senior Honors Thesis 2023-24

The Emerging Scholars Program presents academically high-achieving students with the opportunity to grow as intellectuals within a community of peers and to forge important mentoring relationships with faculty. Emerging Scholars complete required interdisciplinary seminars, focused course enrichments and a capstone senior honors thesis. Students who complete the program graduate with honors.

Layken Elizabeth Bytnar

Biology

Using DNA Barcoding to Study the Native Bees Species Richness of Big Rock Park

First Reader: **Paulina Mena**, Ph.D.,

Professor of Biology

Second Reader: **Kristin Siewert**,

Senior Lecturer of Biology

Gabriella Rose Petruzzello

Psychology

French

Sexual Risk Taking: STIs and the Presence of Amplified Sexual Stigma

First Reader: **Randall Renstrom**, Ph.D.,

Associate Professor of Psychology

Second Reader: **Linda Laine**, Ph.D.,

Professor of Communication Studies

Alysha Marie Coyle

Sociology

School Social Work in Practice: A Qualitative Analysis of Urban and Suburban School Districts

First Reader: **Shawn Wick**, Ph.D.,

Associate Professor of Sociology

Second Reader: **Alan Hastings**, Ph.D.,

Assistant Professor of Education

Jaeni May Sprague

Psychology

The Effect of Aggression, Empathy, and Alcohol Use on Attitudes of Intimate Partner Violence

First Reader: **Randall Renstrom**, Ph.D.,

Associate Professor of Psychology

Second Reader: **Ashley Scolaro**, Ph.D.,

Associate Professor of Psychology

Kaitlyn Michele Isom

Psychology

Political Science

The Psychology of Nationalism:

Exploring the Relationship

Between Anomie, Nationalism, and Authoritarianism

First Reader: **Randall Renstrom**, Ph.D.,

Associate Professor of Psychology

Second Reader: **Timothy Olin**, Ph.D.,

Associate Professor of History

Madi Kate Van Vors

Biochemistry

Biology

The Synthesis of Fluorinated Indirubins as a Platform for Further Elaboration

First Reader: **James Shriver**, Ph.D.,

Professor of Chemistry

Second Reader: **Jay Wackerly**, Ph.D.,

Associate Professor of Chemistry

Nathan Allen Kuhlman

Biology

Reddit Network Meta-Analysis

First Reader: **Sara Shugar-Fox**, Ph.D.,

Associate Professor of Physics

Second Reader: **James Shriver**, Ph.D.,

Professor of Chemistry

Lauren Nicole Wall

Biology

Iowa Native Bee Species

First Reader: **Paulina Mena**, Ph.D.,

Professor of Biology

Second Reader: **Russ Benedict**, Ph.D.,

Professor of Biology

Alpha Zeta Mu (graduating members)

Membership is awarded to students who are full-time students, have completed at least three semesters at Central College and who have achieved a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.8 on a 4.0 scale.

Abigail Grace Alberti	Kate Elizabeth Kohler	Blake Ryan Recker
Nolan Jonathon Brand	Hoogensen	Abbigail Michelle Roerdink
Cade Gerrit Brouwer	Tessa Gray Huff	Ellie Christine Roorda
Lauren Michelle Brown	Elyse A. Johnson	Kayla Christine Schneider
Tess Jordanne Brunsmann	Megan Kay Johnson	Samantha Nicole Scholz
Layken Elizabeth Bytnar	Marissa Jonas	Addison Leigh Six
Peyton Rose Bytnar	Noah Robert Jorgenson	Sarah Marie Smith
Quinci Nicole Cottrell	Landon Neal Kirby	Jaeni May Sprague
Lindsey Ann Davidson	Brody Patrick Klein	Cera Grace Stroh
Emerson Leigh Drake	Sophie Lynn Kruger	Jocelyn Ella Timmerman
Noah John Fischer	Nathan Allen Kuhlman	Emily Adriana van Eijndt
Nelson Tanner Fry	Gage Patrick Linahon	Madison Van Vors
Kenyon Wayne Geetings	Cole Lucas McGriff	Lucas Jeffrey Vroom
Jaymi Michelle Gibbs	Caroline Ruby McMartin	Kamryn Marie Waymire
Anne MacArthur Gregory	Cathleen Dee Morgan	Trey Justice Wood
Abigail Joy Gruver	Savannah Leigh Neil	
Nicholas John Haberl	Gabriella Rose Petruzzello	

Alpha Alpha Alpha (graduating members)

Membership is awarded to students who have completed at least 36 credit hours toward a degree, have an overall GPA of at least 3.2 on a 4.0 scale and neither of the student's parents, step-parents or legal guardians have completed a bachelor's degree. Central is the first college in Iowa to have a chapter of Alpha Alpha Alpha.

DelTon L. Alexander, Jr.	Jaymi Michelle Gibbs	Elizabeth Nicole Nowlin
Tess Jordanne Brunsmann	Nicholas John Haberl	Elisa Diane Rooda
Jasmyn Faye Bush	Taylor Rose Hanna	Sarah Marie Smith
Quinci Nicole Cottrell	Garrett William Heater	Rachel Sohn
Alana Nicole Curtis	Shanna Rae Hudson	Zandra May Spiker
Riley Ann Davidson	Sydney Rosemarie Lowe	Jaeni May Sprague
Sophia Anne Egli	Jasper Benjamin Luckritz	Kassidi Michelle Steel
Noah John Fischer	Savannah Leigh Neil	Allison Dawn Van Gorp
Kenyon Wayne Geetings	Carter James Nelsen	Lucas Jeffrey Vroom

Student Senate (graduating members)

DelTon L. Alexander Jr., Senator
Jenna-Marie Denali Hernandez, Student Body President
Nathan Robert Larson, Senator
Cole Lucas McGriff, Senator
Carter James Nelsen, Senator
Lucas Jeffrey Vroom, Senator

Student Awards

ALL-COLLEGE

Julia Van Houweling Award
Abbigail Michelle Roerdink 2024

John Allen Writing Award for Synaptic
Sarah M. Smith 2022

DEPARTMENTAL

Biology

Biology Senior Award
Layken Elizabeth Bytnar 2024
John Bowles Biology Award
Marissa Jonas 2024

The Institute for Management Accountants Award
Landon Neal Kirby 2024
The Iowa Society of C.P.A.'s Award
Nicholas John Haberl 2024

Chemistry

Analytical Chemistry Award
Gabriel Thomas Wilson 2024
Biochemistry Award
Robert Groves 2024
Chemistry Senior Award
Madi Kate Van Vors 2024
Freshman Award in Chemistry
Summer Sterrenberg 2020
Organic Chemistry Award
Jaxon Thompson 2024
Physical Chemistry Award
Francheska G. Burnett 2023

Education

Barbara Dieleman Award for Excellence in Elementary Education
Shanna Rae Hudson 2024
Blake Ryan Recker 2024
Bruce and Susan Berical Anderson Education Grant
Nolan Jonathan Brand 2024
Lindsey Ann Davidson 2024
Sophia Anne Egli 2024
Abigail Joy Gruver 2024
Kate Elizabeth Kohler Hoogensen 2024
Shanna Rae Hudson 2024
Madison Kai Opp 2024
Blake Ryan Recker 2024
Addison Leigh Six 2024
Tiffany Elisabeth Smith 2024
Karsyn Kayleigh Stalzer 2024
Kole C. Tupa 2024
Joyce Huizer Award for Excellence in Elementary Education
Addison Leigh Six 2024
Lee Collins Award for Excellence in Elementary Education
Addison Leigh Six 2024
Lindsey Ann Davidson 2024

Communications Studies

C.A. & Frances L. DeBruin Award
Lauren Michelle Brown 2024

Economics, Accounting & Management

Business Management Award
Lauren Michelle Brown 2024
Butler Scholar in Economics Award
Noah John Fischer 2024
Economics, Accounting and Management Department's Outstanding Leadership and Service Award
Abbigail Michelle Roerdink 2024
Robert J. Maurer Accounting
Abbigail Michelle Roerdink 2024
Jaymi Michelle Gibbs 2024

English

Calliope Award
Chance Gracyn Palm 2024

Student Awards

Environmental Studies

Outstanding Environmental Science Award

Alyssa Kay Mayhew 2024

*Outstanding Environmental
Sustainability Award*

Samantha Rose Schelby

Humanities

*The League of Women Voters Washington
Center Award*

Taylor Jade Storm 2022

*The Vander Lugt-Voss Scholarship Fund
and Prizes in the Humanities - English*

Sydney Rosemarie Lowe 2024

*The Vander Lugt-Voss Scholarship Fund
and Prizes in the Humanities - History*

Carter James Nelsen 2024

*The Vander Lugt-Voss Scholarship Fund
and Prizes in the Humanities - Philosophy
Religion*

Cole Lucas McGriff 2024

Kinesiology

John Roslien Endowed Scholarship

Abigail Marie Frey 2023

Hunter Tracy Wilkinson 2023

Verle Rinehart Award

Anne MacArthur Gregory 2024

Jasper Benjamin Luckritz 2024

Pre-Health Science

*Dr. Herman Vander Meulen Award
for Pre-Med*

Layken Elizabeth Bytnar 2024

Pre-Law

Mock Trial MVP Award

Samuel George Wolff 2024

Modern Languages

Denise Murray Award in French

Gabriella Rose Petruzzello 2024

*Jim Graham Award for Academic
Excellence in Spanish*

Cera Grace Stroh 2024

*Martha Betancourt Prize for Departmental
Excellence and Service in Spanish*

Emily Adriana van Eijndt 2024

Mathematics/Computer Science

Henry W. Pietenpol Award

Cade Geritt Brouwer 2023

Music

Music Major Student Leadership Award

Mackenzie Joel Biggs 2024

Physics

Richard J. Mentink Award

Katherine Elizabeth Stroh 2024

Political Science

Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Award

Kaitlyn Michele Isom 2023-24

Elyse A. Johnson 2022

Political Science Award

Taylor Jade Storm 2024

Lucas Jeffrey Vroom 2022

Sociology/Anthropology

Gordon F. De Jong Senior Award

Alysha Marie Coyle 2024

Megan Sloss Award

DelTon L. Alexander, Jr. 2024

Musical Theatre

Mr. "B" Outstanding Performance Award

Bryson Michael McGowan 2024

Kamryn Marie Waymire 2024

Student Awards

ATHLETICS

Prins Sportsmanship Award

Summer Lynn Brand 2023-24

Ron Schipper Leadership Award

Harold Kenneth Dobernecker 2023-24

Marjorie Giles Student Life Leadership Award

Mackenzie Joel Biggs 2023-24

Baseball

Most Valuable Player Award

Declan Hanson O'Hare 2022

Colton John DeRocher 2023

Men's Basketball

Defensive Player of the Year Award

Kaleb Zachary Brand 2021-22

Kole C. Tupa 2022-23

Gary Dirksen Achievement Award

Kole C. Tupa 2022-23

Kaleb Zachary Brand 2023-24

Mentink Award

Kole C. Tupa 2023-24

Most Improved Player Award

Kaleb Zachary Brand 2021-22

Connie Muyskens Most Valuable Player Award

Joshua M. Van Gorp 2022-23, 2023-24

Grant Eric Johnson 2022-23

Tom Steward Hustle Award

Nolan Jonathan Brand 2022-23, 2023-24

Wassenaar Coaches Award

Kaleb Zachary Brand 2022-23

Women's Basketball

Defensive Player of the Year Award

Kassidi Michelle Steel 2021-22, 2022-23

Allison Dawn Van Gorp 2022-23

Dutch Non-Negotiables Award (DNA)

Kassidi Michelle Steel 2023-24

Gary Dirksen Achievement Award

Allison Dawn Van Gorp 2023-24

Newcomer of the Year Award

Allison Dawn Van Gorp 2021-22

Men's Cross Country

Most Improved Performer Award

Noah Robert Jorgenson 2021

Jack Apollo Orengo 2023

Most Valuable Performer Award

Noah Robert Jorgenson 2022

Newcomer of the Year Award

Noah Robert Jorgenson 2022

Women's Cross Country

Most Improved Performer Award

Kate Elizabeth Kohler Hoogensen 2020

Lindsey Ann Davidson 2021

Most Valuable Performer Award

Caroline Ruby McMartin 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

Newcomer of the Year Award

Lindsey Ann Davidson 2020

Football

Bruce Wendt Offensive Lineman Award

Tristan Thomas Hunt 2023

Claussen Most Improved Player Award

Reece Thomas Miller 2022

Heerema-Schilder Most Valuable Player Award

Ryan Neu 2022, 2023

P.H. Kuyper Award

Colton Lyle Mayberry 2023

Kirk Wagner Offensive Scout Team Award

Hunter Tracy Wilkinson 2021, 2022

Mentink Award

Brody Patrick Klein 2023

Special Teams Most Valuable Player Award

Logan Sunvold 2021, 2022

Hunter Tracy Wilkinson 2023

Men's Golf

Golden Putter Most Improved Player Award

Cole Lucas McGriff 2022-23

Ryerson Most Valuable Player Award

Harold Kenneth Dobernecker

2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23

Student Awards

ATHLETICS

Women's Golf

Most Improved Player Award

Rachel Sohn 2020-21

Most Valuable Freshman Award

Mackenzie Joel Biggs 2020-21

Outstanding Attitude Award

Peyton Rose Bytnar 2020-21

Maurine Timmer Most Valuable Player Award

Mackenzie Joel Biggs 2021-22

Men's Soccer

Most Valuable Player Award

John Charles Foster 2022, 2023

Most Inspirational Player Award

Mitchel J. Benhart 2023

Women's Soccer

Hustle Award

Hailey Susan Hunter 2023

Most Valuable Player Award

Patricia Paige Cahill 2023

Maddi Jacquelyn Fisher 2020-21

Kaitlyn Michele Isom 2021

Most Improved Player Award

Emerson Leigh Drake 2020-21

Hailey Susan Hunter 2022

Outstanding Newcomer Award

Maddi Jacquelyn Fisher 2020-21

Softball

Offensive Player of the Year Award

Francheska G. Burnett 2022

Most Improved Player Award

Megan Nicole Lynn Stuhr 2021

Newcomer of the Year Award

Francheska G. Burnett 2021

Volleyball

Most Improved Player Award

Taryn Ann Pearl Hintz 2021

Freshman of the Year Award

Grace A. Daniels 2020-21

Academic Award

Lauren Michell Brown 2021, 2022

Leadership Award

Elyse A. Johnson 2023

Spirit Award

Elyse A. Johnson 2021, 2022, 2023

Wrestling

Academic Achievement Award

**Gage Patrick Linahon 2021-22,
2022-23**

Lawrence Award

**Brock Andrew Beck 2022-23;
2023-24**

Most Improved Wrestler Award

Gage Patrick Linahon 2021-22

Most Valuable Performer Award

Gage Patrick Linahon 2022-23

Outstanding Newcomer Award

Brock Andrew Beck 2020-21

Faculty

Charles Adamson, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Theatre

Mark Babcock '91, M.M.,
M. Joan Kuyper Farver Endowed Chair in Music and Professor of Music

Mark Barloon, Ph.D.,
Senior Lecturer of History

Russell Benedict, Ph.D.,
Professor of Biology

Valerie Billing, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of English

Shelley Bradfield, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Communication Studies

Adam Bradley, Ph.D.,
Assistant Professor of Kinesiology

Anya Butt, Ph.D.,
Professor of Biology

Anna Christensen, Ph.D.,
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Courtney Comstock '20 C.P.A.,
Lecturer of Accounting

Stanley Dahl, M.M.,
Senior Lecturer of Music

Jennifer Diers, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Education

Mary Donato, Ph.D.,
Lecturer of Communication Studies

Leslie Keuning Duinink '90, M.S.,
Associate Professor of Kinesiology

James Dunne, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Chemistry

Ellen DuPré, Ph.D.,
Professor of Biology

Lance Dyzak, M.F.A.,
Lecturer of English

Erin Durlinger, Ph.D.,
Lecturer of Education

James Fuller, M.Ed.,
Lecturer of Kinesiology

Stephen Fyfe '87, Ph.D.,
Professor of Computer Science

Chad Garber, M.E.,
Lecturer of Physics & Engineering

Ashley Garr, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Chemistry

Elizabeth Golovatski, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Physics

Russell Goodman, Ph.D.,
Professor of Mathematics

Andrew Green, Ph.D.,
Professor of Political Science

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Assistant Professor of Kinesiology

Alan Hastings, Ph.D.,
Assistant Professor of Education

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Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science

Keith Jones, Ph.D.,
Mark & Kay DeCook Endowed Chair in Character and Leadership Development and Professor of Psychology

Kate Kanne, M.F.A.,
Assistant Professor of Theatre

Nicole Kaplan, Ph.D.,
Professor of French

Mathew Kelly, M.F.A.,
Professor of Art

Terence Kleven, Ph.D.,
Professor of Religion

Kathleen Korcheck, Ph.D.,
Professor of Spanish

Allison Krogstad, Ph.D.,
Professor of Spanish

Faculty

Linda Laine, Ph.D.,
Professor of Communication Studies

Bradley Lampe, M.M.,
Lecturer of Music

Graham Lemke, Ph.D.,
*Donald T. Butler Endowed Chair and
Professor of Finance*

Thomas Linton, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Mathematics

Lee Macomber, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Biology

Cynthia Mahmood, Ph.D.,
*Frank Moore Chair in Anthropology and
Professor of Anthropology*

Viktor Martisovits, Ph.D.,
Professor of Physics

Tamara Masters, Ph.D.,
Assistant Professor of Education

Samuel Mate-Kodjo, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Spanish

Melissa McAninch, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Education

Ann McDonald, M.B.A.,
Lecturer of Business Management

Elizabeth McMahon, M.L.I.S.,
Associate Professor of Library Science

Paulina Mena, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Biology

Mark Mills, Ph.D.,
Professor of Mathematics

Katherine Nesbit, Ph.D.,
Assistant Professor of English

Tuan Nguyen, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Economics

George Nwaogu, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Economics

Timothy Olin, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of History

Nicole Palenske, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Biology

Stavros Papakonstantinidis, Ph.D.,
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Studies*

David Pavlat, Ed.D.,
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Alexey Pronin, Ph.D.,
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Dawn Stiemsma Reece '89, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Sociology

Randall Renstrom, Ph.D.,
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Óscar Reynaga, M.A.,
Senior Lecturer of Spanish

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Professor of Chemistry

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Associate Professor of Kinesiology

Kristin Siewert, M.S.,
Senior Lecturer of Biology

Mary Stark, Ph.D.,
*John and Anna Poole Endowed Chair in
the Humanities and Professor of English*

Sean Stephenson, D. Arts,
Assistant Professor of Music

Faculty

Tamala Strawser, M.A.,
Lecturer of Education

Mary E.M. Strey, Ph.D.,
*Professor of Chemistry and Professor
of Biology*

Julie Summers, Ph.D.,
Lecturer of Management and Marketing

Mathew Sutter, M.B.A.,
Lecturer of Accounting

Susan Swanson, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Art

Julianne Taylor, M.S.,
Lecturer of Education

Mark Thomas, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Philosophy

Kristen Thompson, Ph.D.,
Lecturer of Engineering

Michael Thompson '98, Ph.D.,
*Associate Professor of
Computer Science*

Katelin Valster, Ph.D.,
Assistant Professor of Kinesiology

Sarah Van Waardhuizen, Ph.D.,
Assistant Professor of Music

Elena Vishnevskaya, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Religion

Jay Wackerly, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Chemistry

Wendy Weber, Ph.D.,
Professor of Mathematics

Paul Weihe, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Biology

Taylor Welden, M.A.,
Lecturer of Education

Shawn Wick, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Sociology

Jonathan Witt, Ph.D.,
Professor of Sociology

Lori Witt, Ph.D.,
*Kenneth J. Weller Distinguished
Professorship of the Liberal Arts and
Associate Professor of History*

Keith Yanner, Ph.D.,
Professor of Political Science

Amy Young, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of German

James Zaffiro, Ph.D.,
Professor of Political Science

Symbolism of the Marshal's Staff

The faculty marshal carries a staff that symbolizes the official nature of the ceremony and indicates to faculty and graduates when to rise or be seated. The staff was hand-crafted in the early 1980s by **Bill Wesselink '31**, son of former Central College president **John Wesselink**. Made of two pieces of cherry wood joined by a gold plate, the staff is topped by a gold "C" surrounding a Bible and torch, with "1853," the college's founding date, in the center.

Parent Council

Parent council members who have students graduating today are:

CLASS OF 2024

Wade and Michelle Eichhorn

Audi Eichhorn '24

Ely, Iowa

Aaron and April Shirkey Six '96

Addison '24, Aden '27, Ajay '27 and

Avery '27

Washington, Iowa

Parent council members who will continue their service next year are:

CLASS OF 2025

Sara Aguilera '99

Noelia Aguilera '25

Gilman, Iowa

Brian '95 and Karen Ellingson

Ahrens '96

Tyler Ahrens '25

Adel, Iowa

Brandon '98 and Aanna Hanson

Hoch '98

Eva Hoch '25 and Ruby '27

Adel, Iowa

Scot and Jen Larson Lamm '98

Karsyn Lamm '25 and Kenna

Lamm '26

Mount Pleasant, Iowa

CLASS OF 2026

Lora Appenzeller-Miller '95

Annaliese Miller '26

Indianola, Iowa

Jeffrey and Colleen Hovinga

Joseph Hovinga '26

Forest City, Iowa

Amy Kenney

Mark Kenney '26

Fennimore, Wisconsin

Dave and Wendy Lindell

North Lindell '26

Ottumwa, Iowa

Brett and Chantelle Lundberg

Derek Beiner '26

Newton, Iowa

CLASS OF 2027

John Chambers '98

Summer Chambers '27

Aurora, Illinois

Dan and Amy McLaughlin

Justin McLaughlin '27

Overland Park, Kansas

Heather Schmidt

Macy Schmidt '27

Webster, Iowa

Doug and Joni Tonnemacher

Mason Tonnemacher '27

Johnston, Iowa

Central Employee Parents of the Class of 2024

Mary E. M. and Charles Strey

Aiden Brumwell '24

Mary and Michael Linde

Sarah Louise Linde '24

Jeffrey '90 and Laurie Rieken McMartin '90

Caroline Ruby McMartin '24

Frank '91 and Stacey Profit Neu '92

Ryan Neu '24

Julie and Shawn Palm

Chance Gracyn Palm '23

Aaron '97 and Andrea Westra Roerdink '97

Abbigail Michelle Roerdink '24

Debra and Dennis Rooda

Elisa Diane Rooda '24

Gretchen and Tony Spiker

Zandra May Spiker '24

Beth and David Wood

Trey Justice Wood '24

Nathan and Stephanie Young

Slater Kincade Young '24

Central College Board of Trustees

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U.S. Ambassador, retired

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Pella, Iowa
President and CEO,
Vermeer Corporation

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Owner, Jaarsma Bakery, retired

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Morgan Stanley Wealth Management

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Plains Angels Investment Fund

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Executive Clinical Account Manager,
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Sr. Vice President/Brokerage
Division Manager, retired,
Leighton Investment Services

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Cedar Falls, Iowa
Elementary Education Teacher, retired,
Cedar Falls Community School

*****Ms. Julie Fisher '90**

Naples, Florida
Corporate Counsel,
Musco Sports Lighting

Mr. James (Chip) Griffith III '92

Carbondale, Colorado
Chairman, Genlink, LLC

Ms. Kara Hoogensen '96

Ankeny, Iowa
Senior Vice President Benefits and
Protection – Head of Workplace
Benefits, Principal
Financial Group

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Pella, Iowa
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Regional Director, Lely International

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CFO, Go2 Logistics

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Services Div., Deere & Company

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Building Products, Inc.

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First Niagara Financial Group

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Saint Luke's Physician Group Institute

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Meadville, Pennsylvania
Professor of Political Science and
International Studies, Allegheny College

Dr. Jeffrey Oliver '79

Phoenix, Arizona
Academic Chair, Dept. of Pathology,
Creighton University School of Medicine
– Phoenix; COO, Pathology Associates, Ltd.

Central College Board of Trustees

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Waukon, Iowa
Family Physician, Mayo Clinic Health System – LaCrosse, Wisconsin

Dr. Barbara Pettitt '72

Stone Mountain, Georgia
Professor of Surgery and Director of Medical Student Education, Emory University School of Medicine Department of Surgery

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New York, New York
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Community Volunteer

Mr. Harry Smith '73

New York, New York
Multi-Emmy Award-Winning Reporter

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President, retired, Caterpillar Financial Aftermarket Services, Caterpillar Financial Services Corp.

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Dallas Center, Iowa
Senior Manager Labor Relations, retired, Deere & Company

Mr. Mike Van Voorst '93

Pella, Iowa
Vice President Enterprise Transformation
Pella Corporation

****Ms. Deanna Ver Steeg '94**

Chicago, Illinois
Senior Director, IT Business Relationship Management – Headquarters & Global Consumer Business
S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.

Mr. Kelly Vielmo '99

Washington, D.C.
Risk and Legal Manager,
PricewaterhouseCoopers

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Johnston, Iowa
Investment Analyst, retired
Principal Global Investors

Dr. Markay Winston '87

Bloomington, Indiana
Deputy Superintendent for Monroe County Community School Corporation

Ms. Mary Worstell, M.P.H. '73

Washington, D.C.
Advisor, retired, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS);
Co-Lead, Healthy Aging, 2015 White House Conference on Aging

Ex Officio, Mark L. Putnam, Ed.D.

Pella, Iowa
President, Central College

Commencement Speaker: Adam Duerfeldt '06

Adam Duerfeldt, associate professor in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry at the University of Minnesota, developed his interest in chemistry at Central College. He explored his passion while conducting independent research and a senior thesis project with James Shriver, professor of chemistry.

Duerfeldt, a 2006 Central graduate, currently leads a research group focused on developing new antibiotics and therapies for common eye diseases and teaches in the University of Minnesota's College of Pharmacy. In 2018, Duerfeldt co-founded Excitant Therapeutics, a drug development company focused on developing new therapeutics for diabetic retinopathy and age-related macular degeneration.

While at Central, Duerfeldt played baseball, serving as the team captain for two years. He was the 2006 College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-American of the Year and garnered other athletics awards during his career. He was part of the first Iowa Conference championship team in 31 years. Duerfeldt was inducted into the Central College Hall of Fame in 2022 and served on Central's National Advisory Council from 2015 to 2017.

A native of Urbandale, Iowa, Duerfeldt studied chemistry at Central and graduated with the highest distinction. After graduating from Central, Duerfeldt completed a doctorate in 2011 at the University of Kansas in medicinal chemistry, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at the Scripps Research Institute in California. He began his faculty career at the University of Oklahoma, where he remained for six years and was named Outstanding Professor of the Year in 2017. He moved to the University of Minnesota in 2020.

Duerfeldt and his wife, Katie, have two sons and live in Maple Grove, Minnesota.

Academic Dress

Academic costumes are as old as the universities themselves. Practically all of them derive from some form of clerical or priestly garb worn by the students and faculty in the Middle Ages. In Europe, each institution seems to have its own variant of costume, but in America academic costume follows a uniform code drawn up by a special commission in 1895. The code has three main parts; that is, it deals with caps, gowns and hoods.

The Oxford-type cap or mortar-board seems to have evolved from the square biretta of Renaissance churchmen. It is always black and may be of any appropriate material except velvet, which is reserved for doctors. The tassel worn with the cap has three variations. First, it may be black for any degree. Second, it may be the color of the faculty in which the degree was granted. Third, a tassel made of gold metallic thread is reserved for doctors and governing officials of institutions. At the moment the degree is awarded, the tassel is switched from the right to the left side of the cap.

Gowns, which according to the code are all black, are of three kinds. The bachelor's gown is a relatively simple kind falling in straight lines from a fairly elaborate yoke. Its distinguishing characteristic is the long pointed sleeves. Master's gowns are set apart by a peculiar arrangement of the long sleeves whereby the arms emerge from the sleeves through slits at the elbow. The rest of the sleeve dangles and terminates around the knee of the wearer in a square end into which a semi-circle is cut. In 1960, however, the gown was modified. In place of the elbow slit, an opening was made at the wrist and the gown was made to close. The doctor's gown is an elaborate costume marked by velvet panels down the front and around the neck, as well as by three bars of the same material on the bell-

shaped sleeves. It is cut much fuller than the other gowns and unlike them may be ornamented in color. Both the paneling and the sleeve bars may show the faculty in which the degree was awarded.

The hood alone clearly shows the level of the degree, the faculty in which it was given, and the institution which awarded it. The level of the degree is shown by the size of the hood, the width of the velvet trimming, and in the case of the doctor, by the shape. The bachelor's, the master's and the doctor's hoods are three feet, three and one-half feet and four feet long respectively. The velvet trimming in the same order is two, three and five inches. This extends all around the hood on the exposed edge. To make a more comfortable fit, it is allowed to narrow to the neck band. This same trimming identifies the faculty in which the degree was awarded. For each faculty there is a corresponding color so a glance at the trimming is all that is needed to identify the faculty. The institution which awarded the degree is indicated by the colored lining. Central College hoods are lined with red silk crossed by a white chevron.

The color of the faculty referred to above indicates the field in which the degree was taken. The colors seen most often in a Central College procession, with the fields they represent are:

White	Arts and Humanities
Pink	Music
Dark Blue	Philosophy
Light Blue	Education
Sage Green	Physical Education
Brown	Fine Arts
Golden Yellow	Science
Lemon	Library Science
Drab	Commerce, Accountancy, Business
Scarlet.....	Theology

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