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THE EXERCISES OF COMMENCEMENT

In the 179th Year of Grinnell College

May 19, 2025





SENIOR COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

Essi Benedicte Adokou

Deborah Oluwakanyinsola Afeni

Destany Best

Nam Do

Eleanor Jeanne Hedges Duroy

Erin Elise Jarvis

Bianca Awah Morcho

Anastasia Rompi

COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE RECOGNITION

The Senior Commencement Committee has dedicated their time and effort to planning key aspects of this special celebration. Their hard work behind the scenes has helped create a meaningful and memorable experience for our graduates, families, and guests. We extend our deepest gratitude for their contributions and wish them all the best in their future endeavors!



THE ORDER OF EXERCISES

The Ringing of the College Bell

Todd Armstrong, Professor and Chair of Russian
College Marshal

Processional

Brighton Beach by William Latham
Crown Imperial by William Walton
Grinnell High School Band

Invocation

Rabbi Sarah Brammer-Shlay
Dean of Religious Life and Chaplain

Welcome

President Anne F. Harris

Transitioning to Senior Faculty Status

Kevin Engel, Associate Professor, Library
H. Wayne Moyer, Rosenfield Professor, Professor of Political Science

Special Recognition

Jennifer Williams Brown, Professor of Music, Senior Faculty Status

Recognition of Emeriti Faculty

Jonathan Andelson, Rosenfield Professor in Social Science, Professor of Anthropology
Vicki Bentley-Condit, Professor of Anthropology
Lesley Delmenico, Associate Professor of Theatre
Evelyn Freeman, Assistant Professor of Physical Education
William Freeman, Associate Professor of Physical Education
Erin Hurley, Associate Professor of Physical Education
Kesho Scott, Associate Professor of American Studies
Laura Sinnett, Associate Professor of Psychology
Jim Swartz, Dack Professor of Chemistry



The Commencement Address

Isabel Alexis Wilkerson

Presentation and Conferring of Recipients of Honorary Degrees

Jerry Seaman, Interim Dean of the College and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Isabel Alexis Wilkerson

Doctor of Humane Letters

Robert Hodierne '68

Doctor of Humane Letters

Dr. JoEllen Hoth '62

Doctor of Science

Jasmine Gilstrap Hunter

Doctor of Social Studies

Presentation of Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts

Interim Dean Jerry Seaman

Acceptance for the Board of Trustees

Steve Sandquist '95, Grinnell College Board of Trustees

Conferring of Bachelor of Arts Degrees

President Anne F. Harris

Charge to the Graduates

President Anne F. Harris

Benediction

(the audience is asked to stand)

Rabbi Sarah Brammer-Shlay

Dean of Religious Life and Chaplain Grinnell College

Recessional

Black Horse Troop by John Philip Sousa

Pavilion March by Frank Piersol

Hosts of Freedom by Karl King

Grinnell High School Band

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

JENNIFER WILLIAMS BROWN

Since 2005, Professor of Music Jennifer Williams Brown has served Grinnell College with great distinction, working to teach and mentor both music majors and students who simply want to learn more about the art and history of music. She was recently diagnosed with ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), and this spring — with the support of her family, close friends, and colleagues — she has taken medical leave from the College. She will now be invested with Senior Faculty Status.

Professor Brown is recognized as a specialist in the history and performance of Baroque music, particularly 17th-century Italian opera. But in many ways, she is the epitome of a “Renaissance woman,” whose teaching interests and talents range from music history to musical performance, and from classical ballet to historical forms of dance.

Prior to arriving at Grinnell, she taught at the Eastman School of Music, the University of Rochester, and Louisiana State University, where she directed the Collegium Musicum for seven years. At Grinnell, Professor Brown has taught music history and directed the Collegium Musicum, a vocal and instrumental ensemble that uses the College’s excellent collection of early instruments. Each year, she directed the ensemble in something staged, such as scenes from an opera. She has been active as a musicological consultant and coach for both student and professional opera companies nationally, including Simpson College Opera and Haymarket Opera.

Her popular introductory course offerings for non-majors include a Music and Society in Paris tutorial, Venice tutorial, and Broadway Musical Theatre, while music majors have benefited from her academic classes, such as Baroque Improvisation, and Music in Europe and the Americas. She also has given harpsichord lessons.

Professor Brown’s research has focused on decoding clues in 17th-century manuscripts and printed sources, then making the results accessible to current performers, students, and scholars through the use of modern editions. She won the top prize for editions from her professional organization. Her research has been awarded grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Delmas Foundation, and she was selected as Grinnell’s 2013 Frank and Roberta Furbush Faculty Scholar.

Professor Brown also is a specialist in historical dance from the Renaissance and Baroque periods. She trained in classical ballet at the National Academy of Dance and studied Baroque dance in Boston. She has directed dances for several historical theatre productions, including 2007’s *The Beggar’s Opera*, which she co-directed with Professor John Rommereim.

Please join Grinnell College in this very special recognition of Jennifer Williams Brown for her many contributions as a teacher, mentor, and colleague; thanking her for her distinguished service to the Grinnell community; and all that she has made possible for so many through the legacy of her work and presence.



RECOGNITION OF FACULTY MEMBERS EMERITI

JON ANDELSON '70

B.A., Grinnell College; M.A., Ph.D., University of Michigan. Joined Grinnell College in 1974. Professor of Anthropology, 1991–2025; Center for Prairie Studies, director, 1998–2020, interim director, 2021–22; Rosenfield Professor of Social Science, 2006–25.

Jon Andelson may be Chicago-born but since coming to Grinnell College as a student, he has become one of the most knowledgeable and passionate champions of the resources, history, culture, and beauty of Midwestern rural places and spaces.

Andelson has taught anthropology at Grinnell for 50 years, helping to educate and mentor students through 40 different course and tutorial offerings. He also taught American Studies when it was a major and served on the Environmental Studies Concentration Committee for his entire time at Grinnell, including two terms as chair of the concentration.

His main anthropology and environmental studies interests are intentional communities, religion, agriculture, and human-environment interactions. His principal field research has been on the Amana Colonies of Iowa, a German religious community that relocated to the United States in the mid-1800s and practiced communal living for nearly a century. He has published extensively on Amana and other intentional communities and done scholarly research and writing on the Meskwaki Nation and Iowa agriculture.

Andelson co-founded the College's interdisciplinary Center for Prairie Studies, helped lead it for over 20 years, and has been centrally involved in two major Center projects. He has been the publisher of the Center's online journal, *Rootstalk: A Prairie Journal of Culture, Science, and the Arts*. He also has served as supervisor of the Grinnell College garden, which grows about 1,800 pounds of produce annually that is shared with the College's dining services and Mid-Iowa Community Action's food pantry.

He has been active in the broader community with organizations such as the Grinnell Area Local Foods Alliance, Poweshiek CARES, the Mayflower Foundation, and the Iowa Kitchen. He and his wife, Karin Stein '82, live near Rock Creek Lake, where he enjoys canoeing, kayaking, birding, and lazy nature walks. He has three daughters, two of whom graduated from Grinnell.

For helping students appreciate anthropology and environmental studies as academic pursuits — and for encouraging all to experience the quiet joys to be found in hiking the prairie and growing a garden — we are honored to recognize Jon Andelson.

VICKI BENTLEY-CONDIT

B.A., University of Louisville; M.A., Ph.D., Emory University. Joined Grinnell College in 1995. Professor of Anthropology, 2010–24.

Vicki Bentley-Condit is a primatologist who has conducted research with both wild and captive baboon populations and captive rhesus macaques. Her primary research interests are mother-infant relationships and infant development. However, her most recent research, conducted at the Smithsonian National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C., has focused on baboon nutrition.

She has taught nearly two dozen different anthropology courses, from introductory to advanced. Students are drawn to course offerings such as Human Evolution, Primate Behavior, Mothers and Infants, Comparative Primate Skeletal Morphology, Human Variation, and Born to Run.

Bentley-Condit's prolific work as a researcher, writer, and presenter has also enriched her students and mentees. She has conducted research and field work in Kenya, Costa Rica, and the U.S. She has mentored more than 16 MAPs and student research projects. She has authored or co-authored more than 55 publications, including journal articles, book chapters, and reviews. She also has been a presenter or co-presenter, including presentations co-authored with students, at more than 40 professional workshops, panels, and conferences.

Bentley-Condit is also a dedicated runner. She was inspired to take up running while conducting graduate fieldwork in Kenya. She began by running 5k races, then moved on to half-marathons, marathons, and even ultra-marathon endurance races. In 2017, she achieved one of her personal goals when she ran a marathon in Maui, Hawaii — completing at least one marathon in each state and Washington, D.C., with a sub-four-hour finish. More recently, she has completed all seven of the World Marathon Majors by running the Sydney Marathon in 2024.

Hard work inspires her, and many times over the course of Bentley-Condit's 30-year career at Grinnell, her passion for teaching, mentoring, and research has intersected in educational and creative ways with her dedication to running.

For helping students explore what anthropology can teach us about humanity — and for being a model of setting and achieving goals — we are honored to recognize Vicki Bentley-Condit.

LESLEY DELMENICO

B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Northwestern University. Joined Grinnell College in 2000. Associate Professor of Theatre and Dance, 2006–25.

Before becoming a Grinnell faculty member, Lesley Delmenico's resume demonstrated richly varied experiences that have shaped her inspiring creative energies and scholarship, as well as her teaching.

After a decade spent living outside the U.S., where she became interested in postcolonial performance, she returned to the U.S. For 10 years, she was a professional actor in Chicago, where she worked in TV, industrial film, film, commercials, and on the stage. Her live acting credits included extended-run productions of *Equus*, *Knuckle*, and *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove*.

Since joining the Department of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies, she has enjoyed a 25-year run as a teacher, mentor, director, and performer that has enriched both her students and theater arts in Grinnell and beyond. She chaired the department during several transitional years.

Her teaching, directing, and research focus on theatre's political roles in contemporary society, particularly performance's intersections with urban spaces, the natural environment, immigration, gender, and culture. She directs and teaches acting, theatre histories, and performance studies, focusing on verbatim theatre, in which plays are created from interviews and oral documents, as well as theatre history, postcolonial, and postwar British drama.

Her performance-as-scholarship engages with site-specific urban performances and marginalized voices. Delmenico's latest published scholarship has addressed the effects of community performance in public spaces. A recent London production explored the testimonies of women whom the British legal system did not believe, and she is currently working on a second play addressing credibility. She also recently created a documentary film on the diverse stories of Evanston, Illinois, residents.

Delmenico's students value her abilities as an excellent professor whose knowledge of alternative, world-relevant forms of theatre make her classes challenging and intellectually stimulating for majors and non-majors alike. Like Delmenico, many of them have gone on to work in professional acting, teaching, and other successful, post-graduate career fields, many of which involve creating art.

For being highly dedicated to her craft and her students — and for sharing her own creativity and art with the world — we are honored to recognize Lesley Delmenico.

EVELYN FREEMAN

B.A.P.E., York University (Canada); B.Ed., University of Toronto (Canada). Joined Grinnell College in 1980. Assistant Professor of Physical Education, 1992–2025.

Evelyn Freeman was a world-class high jumper in her native Canada during the 1970s and competed in Olympic trials in 1972 and 1980. Those experiences were foundational for her 45-year career as a member of the Grinnell College athletics staff, and the 40 years that she served as head women's cross-country coach and head women's indoor and outdoor track coach.

Freeman, who retired from coaching at the end of the 2020 season, led teams to 21 Midwest Conference team titles in cross country and track. The 2006 cross country team finished seventh at the NCAA national championships, which is still the best national finish of any Grinnell College athletic team. She coached athletes who won four individual national championships and several All-American athletes and Academic All-Americans. Nine times, she was named Midwest Conference Coach of the Year in cross country.

While her elite-level athletic talents may have helped inspire some of her teams' success, Freeman has always championed the many benefits of wellness, sports, and team participation for individuals of all athletic abilities. Freeman has always insisted that success is not only measured in terms of championships, but also in the personal growth experienced by members of her teams.

She designed and helped teach many popular wellness, fitness activities, and physical education classes. Enrollments for her popular water aerobics class regularly top 60. In the 1990s, she was appointed to serve as the first wellness director for faculty and staff.

She is married to Will Freeman, who served as Grinnell men's cross country and track and field coach. They have three adult children. But many of their former athletes appreciate that the Freemans have cared about them as if they were family, too.

For helping students, faculty, staff, and community members enjoy the benefits of physical activity — and for helping her student-athletes grow as people first and athletes second — we are honored to recognize Evelyn Freeman.



WILLIAM FREEMAN

B.S.P.E., University of Florida; M.S.P.E., Indiana University. Joined Grinnell College in 1980. Associate Professor of Physical Education, 1990–2025.

Will Freeman has never been afraid to take a leap if it helped him to learn, teach, or add to the body of knowledge in education.

During his college days, Freeman was a world-class athlete at the University of Florida, where he competed as an All-America pole vaulter, qualified for two Olympic trials, and earned a spot as a member of the U.S. national team.

After his student-athlete career concluded, he turned his focus to graduate studies in biomechanics, kinesiology, and sport psychology, and discovered a passion for coaching, teaching, and mentoring. Freeman found his place at Grinnell, where his innovative and highly successful athlete-centered training model of coaching was the model for his student-centered classroom. In total, he has spent five decades engaged in successful coaching, teaching, mentoring, and writing at Grinnell.

As a coach, his teams won 31 Midwest Conference team titles in track and field and cross country during his tenure. Respected nationally and internationally as a teacher and mentor of coaches and athletes, his commitment continued far past Grinnell, as he chaired both the NCAA track and field and cross-country committee and the coach's education program for U.S.A. Track & Field. He brought four NCAA championships to Grinnell, two in cross country and two in indoor track and field.

In the classroom, he taught popular courses in Wellness, Biomechanics, Sport Psychology, Sport Sociology, and four first-year tutorials. When he decided to step back from coaching after 42 years, he turned exclusively to teaching in the American studies department. Recently, his successful collaboration with Professor Kesho Scott resulted in four unique and popular courses on themes of “The American Journey.”

Freeman also speaks regularly around the U.S. and beyond. A prolific writer, he has written, or co-written, six books, many articles, and produced nineteen coaching videos.

For helping students make their own leap toward finding success — in athletic competition and in the classroom — we are honored to recognize Will Freeman.

ERIN HURLEY

B.S., University of Nebraska-Lincoln; M.A., University of Iowa. Joined Grinnell College in 1995. Associate Professor of Physical Education, 2003–2025.

Water has been a constant source of interest and purpose throughout Erin Hurley's life, serving as a lodestar in her varied roles as athlete, coach, and teacher. She once shared that she has “been in and around water for all but about four years of my life. It has shaped so much of my life experience and my profession.” In turn, over the course of 30 years at Grinnell, Hurley has shaped the lives of countless students.

But first, she had a successful collegiate career as a swimmer competing in breaststroke and individual medley events at the University of Nebraska. She was a three-time Big Eight Conference Champion and a four-time NCAA-All American.

Hurley joined Grinnell as the head coach of the swimming and diving teams in 1995. She quickly built a reputation as a master recruiter and developer of athletes and was widely respected for her expert knowledge of the sport's techniques and training. She took time to get to know every athlete as an individual, then worked to help each achieve personal goals in the pool, in the classroom, and in their lives. And she enjoyed remarkable coaching success.

Coach Hurley led Grinnell teams to 39 Midwest Conference titles (21 women's and 18 men's), and among many other accolades, she was named MWC Coach of the Year 21 times. She coached 264 conference champions, 23 MWC Swimmers of the Year, and 21 All-Americans, as well as a national champion. Her teams were known for their class, sportsmanship, and unity, and they were regularly honored by the College Swim Coaches Association for excellence in academics.

Hurley retired from her coaching roles at the end of the 2022–23 season but carried on with her work as a faculty member. She taught swimming, triathlon, and lifeguard instruction courses. Last fall, she taught a first-year tutorial on *The Experience of Water: Healing and Hardship*, which explored some of the many complex issues surrounding human interaction with water.

Throughout her Grinnell career, Hurley has been a role model and mentor within the athletic department and a builder of connections across campus, devoting herself to working for the betterment of Athletics and of Grinnell College.

For putting others, including her students, athletes, and colleagues, at the center of all she does — and for her many years as a caring coach, mentor, and friend to countless Grinnell student-athletes — we are honored to recognize Erin Hurley.

KESHO SCOTT, DSS '21

B.A., Wayne State University; M.A., University of Detroit; Ph.D., University of Iowa. Joined Grinnell College in 1986. Associate Professor of American Studies and Sociology, 1991–2025.

Over the course of five decades, Kesho Scott has been a scholar/activist, mentor, role model, and inspiration to Grinnell students, alumni, and colleagues alike. Scott was the first African American woman to receive tenure at Grinnell College.

As an educator, Scott values teaching students to be subjects of their own education. Her sociology and American Studies classrooms are active places and safe spaces where she challenges students to become thought leaders and to spread positive influence for social justice on campus and beyond.

In addition to her Grinnell faculty roles, Scott has held several distinguished faculty positions, including visiting professor at Nanjing University in China and Fulbright visiting professor at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia.

A driving force behind the creation of Grinnell's new Department of African Diaspora Studies, Scott is the namesake for the inaugural endowed chair in the department. It is a fitting honor for someone who has taught generations of Grinnellians about the lived experiences of Black people across the African diaspora.

Scott is an award-winning author and frequent speaker on issues of race relations; diversity, equity, and inclusion; women's issues; and cultural competency. She has led hundreds of professional and community-based workshops, been the keynote speaker for national conferences, and participated in several dozen national and local radio debates, discussions, and public service announcements.

The recipient of numerous honors, Scott was recognized by the University of Iowa as the Woman of the Year in 1986. She is especially proud to have been awarded the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice by the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women in 2008. In 2016, she was inducted into the Iowa African American Hall of Fame, and in 2019, she was recognized by that Iowa Legislature for her outstanding contributions to education that have enhanced the quality of life for all Iowans. In 2021, students nominated her to give the Grinnell College Commencement address, and she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Social Science degree during the ceremonies.

For her immeasurable impact through her scholarly research, teaching, community engagement, and activism — and her valuable contributions to Grinnell College and far beyond — we are honored to recognize Kesho Scott.

LAURA SINNETT

B.A., Webster University; M.S., Ph.D., Purdue University. Joined Grinnell College in 1990. Assistant Professor of Psychology, 1990–96; Associate Professor of Psychology, 1996–2025.

Over the course of 35 years, Laura Sinnett has taught psychology to hundreds of students. Some have gone on to achieve honors, such as Truman Scholarships, and to establish their own careers in the field. Many more have learned that psychology can help them better understand themselves, others, and pressing real world problems. All have been touched by Sinnett's care as a teacher and mentor, her expertise in her field, and her interest in research.

Sinnett's training is in personality and social psychology and applied statistics. Her early research focused on the dynamics of personality across time and situations and mechanisms that can account for consistency and change in trait levels. Recent projects have included examining personality predictors of academic performance and adopting a comparative approach to personality trait structure.

Throughout the course of her career, she has earned more than 20 awards for teaching development and academic research, and has taught more than 20 psychology course offerings, ranging from introductory to advanced topics and tutorials. She has also supervised more than 50 student research projects that have resulted in dozens of student co-authored presentations at regional and national conferences.

In addition to her teaching and research, Sinnett has made substantive contributions to the psychology department and the College. These have included shepherding a restructuring of psychology course offerings and major requirements; developing criteria for the selection of Grinnell Science Project students; and diversity, equity, and inclusion work to enhance inclusive teaching practices.

Whatever the course or research topic, students agree that Sinnett has enriched their time at Grinnell by taking the time to build a relationship with them as a person, not just as a student.

For being invested in her student's success — both academic and personal — we are honored to recognize Laura Sinnett.



JIM SWARTZ

B.S., Stanislaus State College; Ph.D., University of California-Santa Cruz. Joined the faculty in 1980. Professor of Chemistry, 1993–2025; Dack Professor of Chemistry, 2008–25. Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College, 1998–2008. Interim Associate Vice President of Analytical Support and Institutional Research, 2011–13.

Jim Swartz is a chemist, researcher, and teacher by training and by choice. It has been Grinnell's good fortune that over the course of his 45-year career, Swartz has also willingly answered the call to serve in leadership roles for matters ranging from academic affairs to grant fundraising to building projects — efforts which have been institution-changing for the College.

Swartz's accomplishments have included helping create the Grinnell Science Project to develop the talents of all students interested in science and mathematics. He also helped manage the Health Professions Advisory Committee to better serve the rapidly increasing number of students interested in pursuing careers in health professions.

Swartz's grants efforts helped bring in millions of dollars to support the College's mission: his work with the Pew Midstates Science and Mathematics Consortium led to a major grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts; his outreach to the Mellon Foundation resulted in four large grants to support curricular efforts in the humanities; and he helped secure three major grants from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and two from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to improve science curriculum and teaching. In addition, he helped secure a major NSF grant to improve teaching of introductory chemistry at the national level.

As Dean of the College, Swartz worked to make student-faculty research opportunities a major distinction of a Grinnell education. He revitalized a collaboration that provides pre- and post-doctoral fellowships to encourage scholars to pursue careers as faculty at liberal arts colleges. He also led the development of a strategic plan to foster interdisciplinary learning and the diversity of the faculty; one outcome was the addition of about 30 faculty positions over 10 years.

Among the most visible testaments to Swartz's leadership at Grinnell are two campus buildings central to the College's educational excellence and thriving sense of community. Swartz served as the director for extensive renovation and expansion projects to the Noyce Science Center in 1995-97 and 2005-08. He also co-chaired the committee that planned and oversaw construction of the Humanities and Social Studies Center (HSSC). Dedicated in 2022, the HSSC has created student gathering spaces and facilitated faculty interactions across disciplines in ways that have exceeded all expectations.

For his many years of teaching and his long-standing efforts to provide curricular, financial, and physical resources in support of exceptional teaching and learning — and for his tireless service to furthering the mission of Grinnell College — we are honored to recognize Jim Swartz.

THE RECIPIENTS OF HONORARY DEGREES

ISABEL ALEXIS WILKERSON

Doctor of Humane Letters

Isabel Alexis Wilkerson is a celebrated author, Pulitzer Prize winner, National Humanities Medal recipient, and a leading voice in narrative nonfiction. She is known for her compelling interpretation of the human condition and is respected for her impassioned voice, which demonstrates how history can help us understand ourselves, our country, and current events.

Wilkerson honed her craft as a journalism major at Howard University, where she was the editor-in-chief of the college newspaper and interned at publications including the *Los Angeles Times* and *Washington Post*. She went on to become the Chicago bureau chief of *The New York Times*. She has taught at Emory University, Princeton University, Northwestern University, and Boston University. She also served as a board member of the National Arts in Journalism program at Columbia University.

Through her writing and lectures, Wilkerson brings the stories of previously invisible and marginalized people into America's narrative and into the hearts of her audience. With authority and meticulous research, she explores the need to reconcile the actions and policies of previous generations of Americans with the ideals of our national identity and the reality of lived experiences.

She won the Pulitzer Prize in Feature Writing in 1994, as Chicago Bureau Chief of *The New York Times*, making her the first African American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize in journalism. She also was named a 1994 Pulitzer Prize Finalist in National Reporting. She was recognized for work she did covering the 1993 midwestern floods and her profile of a 10-year-old boy who was responsible for his four siblings. She has also been honored as Journalist of the Year by the National Association of Black Journalists.

Wilkerson spent 15 years researching and writing her debut nonfiction book *The Warmth of Other Suns*, which has been widely acclaimed for its powerful narrative of the Great Migration. A native of Washington, D.C., Wilkerson completed more than 1,000 interviews to craft the book's multifaceted presentation of migrant families' experiences.

The Warmth of Other Suns received popular and critical acclaim. It quickly became a *New York Times* Bestseller, and among other recognition, it won the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Heartland Prize for Nonfiction. Her latest book, *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*, has further cemented her status as a preeminent thinker, examining the inner workings of an American hierarchy.

ROBERT HODIERNE '68

Doctor of Humane Letters

Robert Hodierne began his 60-year journalism career by leaving Grinnell after his junior year in 1966 to work as a freelance photographer in Vietnam. He dropped out because he thought the war would blow over before he could graduate, and he didn't want to miss the biggest story of his generation. After a year, he returned to Grinnell, graduated with a degree in political science, joined the Army and ended up back in Vietnam with *Pacific Stars & Stripes*, an unofficial Defense Department newspaper.

In the two years that he spent photographing the Vietnam War, he covered every major combat unit in Vietnam, from the DMZ in the north to the Mekong Delta in the south. He spent time on aircraft carriers and flew in jet fighters. He was wounded once. His photos appeared in newspapers and magazines around the world.

After his two years in Vietnam, he worked as a reporter and editor for newspapers, magazines, wire services, radio and television. Among his awards is the 1981 Pulitzer Prize for Journalism, which he and team members at the *Charlotte Observer* won for a series about brown lung disease, an occupational illness that afflicts textile workers. In 2008, a radio documentary that he narrated and helped write for the BBC won the top radio award from the London Foreign Press Association for its reporting on the My Lai massacre during the Vietnam war.

As an investigative reporter, he discovered and wrote about Billy Graham's secret, \$23-million-dollar slush fund. He also caught a congressman selling underwater land. While serving as the senior managing editor for *Army Times* (a private company), Hodierne made two reporting trips to cover the Iraq war in 2003. He spent the summer of 2010 shooting and directing an award-winning, two-hour PBS documentary about Marines who'd been sent to Afghanistan as part of President Obama's "surge."

For 13 years he was an associate professor of journalism at the University of Richmond, including five years as department chair. He retired from that position in 2021. He now lives in Indianapolis, where he has finished captioning and cataloging 6,500 of his Vietnam photographs.



DR. JOELLEN HOTH '62

Doctor of Science

JoEllen Maly met her future husband, Steven Hoth, while singing in the Grinnell choir. But dating had to wait while she pursued her dream of becoming a physician. At the time, students could start medical studies at the University of Iowa after their junior year.

She was one of 10 women in her 120-member medical school class, and the only woman among 14 senior medical students elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society. Her Grinnell College Bachelor of Science in chemistry and zoology degree was awarded upon her graduation from medical school.

JoEllen next entered a two-year general practice internship in Des Moines. After his graduation, Steven taught in Africa for one year then returned to the United States to enter law school. Their first date was during his senior year of legal studies. Steven then clerked for a federal judge while JoEllen finished her internship. They married in July 1967 and spent their first year of marriage on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

In 1968, the Hoths moved to Burlington, Iowa, and JoEllen opened a clinic soon after. Family practice wasn't yet a medical specialty at that time, so she began her career as a general practitioner. She earned her certification from the American Board of Family Medicine in 1979.

Hoth never stopped working to improve the health and wellness of countless families in the Burlington area. In addition to her practice, she served for 20 years on the health system's board of directors and held a term as medical staff chief. She became the medical director for Great River Hospice when she was 70. In recognition of her service, Hoth received Great River Health's Excellence in Physician Practice Award in 2010. In 2013, she was named the Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois Woman of Distinction.

Hoth, who opened her clinic in January 1969, finally closed it in January 2019, a few weeks before turning age 79. After 50 years of solo practice, her ongoing legacy is her care for thousands of patients and their families in southeast Iowa.

JASMINE GILSTRAP HUNTER

Doctor of Social Studies

Jasmine Gilstrap Hunter is a distinguished educator, innovative leader, and the executive director of Lion's Pride Mentoring, an organization focused on peer mentoring, leadership skills, and career readiness for high school students.

Born in Alabama, Hunter's early experiences fostered a deep appreciation for education and leadership, values that continue to guide her work today. She is passionate about supporting students, particularly those from underserved communities.

Hunter's own leadership journey began at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, where she pursued a degree in psychology. During her college years, she held key leadership roles, including special events chair for the Black Student Association and communications director for Delta Epsilon Iota. These experiences allowed her to create an environment where she led her peers in supporting and executing events, marking a pivotal moment in her career.

After graduating, Hunter joined Citizen Schools Illinois, working with students facing challenges such as low self-esteem and limited family support. She later became a math instructor at Baker College Prep, where she cultivated a growth mindset in her students, helping them realize their potential.

In 2017, Hunter co-founded the Lion's Pride Peer Mentoring program, which she expanded into a nonprofit organization in 2019. Today, under her leadership, Lion's Pride Mentoring continues to empower students to become mentors themselves, fostering a cycle of growth, resilience, and community-driven success.

One of the Chicago-area students Hunter mentored is Essi Adokou '25, who is graduating from Grinnell this spring. Adokou credits Hunter with showing genuine interest in students and their leadership skills. Adokou says, "To this day, Jasmine emails me to ensure that I am doing well and focusing on my education. I can't thank her enough for all that she has done for me."

Through her work, Hunter continues to shape the next generation of leaders, exemplifying the transformative power of mentorship and education. Her dedication to student success and youth empowerment is a testament to her belief in the ability of every student to make a positive, lasting impact on the world around them.



CANDIDATES FOR BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREES IN COURSE, 2025

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GRADUATE NAMES

Jayn Bailey Chaney '05, *Assistant Vice President of Alumni and Donor Relations*

Tish Solomon, *Administrative Assistant III*

Istar M Abdullahi Sociology, with honors/ Computer Science, with honors Charlotte, North Carolina	Amani Akram Alqaisi Computer Science 3-2 Engineering, Washington University Palestine	Kathleen Mary Bartz Mathematics, with honors Rosemount, Minnesota	Josie Maurine Bleess English, with honors Fairmont, Minnesota
Katie Liliana Acosta Biological Chemistry East Asian Studies Concentration Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	Oscar Macy Angell Biology Spokane, Washington	Maya Mendota Barut Biological Chemistry Madison, Wisconsin	David Samuel Bluder Economics Solon, Iowa
Amelia Yi-Ting Adam Psychology San Diego, California	Alyssa Skye Argent Anthropology, with honors Chicago, Illinois	Ella Armenta Battista Political Science Brussels, Belgium	Ryan Boev Chemistry East Asian Studies Concentration Plainsboro, New Jersey
Essi Benedicte Adokou Sociology/Biological Chemistry Chicago, Illinois	Alessandro Arioti Political Science Potomac, Maryland	Cole Thomas Beattie Economics, with honors Statistics Concentration Brooklyn Park, Minnesota	Isabella Santí Bonham Biological Chemistry Oceanside, California
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Daboh Ro Ahn Economics, with honors Policy Studies Concentration St. Louis, Missouri	Ahmad Atallah Ayyeh Biology, with honors Brookfield, IL	William Dale Bell English, with honors/ Political Science, with honors Chevy Chase, Maryland	Sara Caroline Booher Political Science, with honors Environmental Studies Concentration/Education Studies Concentration Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin
Evan J. Albaugh History Ankeny, Iowa	Ashley Hayoung Baek English, with honors/ French, with honors Vestal, New York	Madeleine Kate Beltramo Spanish/Sociology, with honors Latin American Studies Concentration Niskayuna, New York	Caelan Holmes Bratland Computer Science, with honors/Mathematics Northfield, Minnesota
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Ejai Amor Alicea Sociology/Psychology Harlem, New York	Cyrus Alexander Barati Spanish, with honors/ Chemistry, with honors Bettendorf, Iowa	Destany Best French/Computer Science Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	Elias Rand Brotman Religious Studies, with honors Peace and Conflict Studies Concentration St. Paul, Minnesota
	Owen Elliot Barbato Psychology, with honors/ Political Science, with honors South Pasadena, California	Nina Anne Bigelow Art History, with honors/ History Ridgefield, Connecticut	
	Bartolo Barona Sociology, with honors/ English, with honors Texas		

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Luke Payne Bryson English, with honors Film and Media Studies Concentration Pasadena, California	Bradley Kenneth Carlton Mathematics/Economics, with honors Statistics Concentration Riverbank, California	Milo Kaimana Chambers Physics/Mathematics Kailua Kona, Hawaii	Henry Gallop Coen Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies, with honors Digital Studies Concentration St. Louis, Missouri
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Karch Conrad Knoll Political Science Policy Studies Concentration Waco, Texas	Evan Michael Larson Biological Chemistry, with honors Ankeny, Iowa		

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Haozhi Liu Physics Suzhou, Jiangsu, P. R. China	Levi Ezra Magill Philosophy Highland Park, Illinois	Kyla Teeaira Miller Biological Chemistry/ Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies LaBelle, Florida	Neill Tokuo Natori Sociology, with honors/ Political Science, with honors Honolulu, Hawaii
Yinhang Liu Biology/Sociology, with honors Shanghai, P. R. China	Cooper Douglas Malone Biological Chemistry, with honors Neuroscience Concentration Greeley, Colorado	Bianca Awah Morcho French, with honors/ Biological Chemistry Minneapolis, Minnesota	Krishna Arikath Nayar Mathematics/Computer Science Bellaire, Texas
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Mariela López González Biology/Physics, with honors San Valentín de Gómez, Oaxaca, Mexico	Grace Jacqueline Marsh Sociology, with honors/ Psychology Salt Lake City, Utah	Ginger Ricci Mullen Psychology Science, Medicine and Society Concentration Brooklyn, New York	Cady Hanh Ngo Economics, with honors/ Mathematics Statistics Concentration San Gabriel, California
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	Wayne Kelton Watts Computer Science/ Mathematics Bothell, Washington	Owen Chandler Wilson General Science-Chemistry Apex, North Carolina	

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NINTH SEMESTER CERTIFICATION
(COMPLETED 2024–25):

Haily Madison Collins
Kenjiro Kajita

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LEADING TO IOWA TEACHING CERTIFICATION:

Alyvia G. Bunkowski
Ella R. Labarre
Brian Allan Prussman
Yunzhi (Paloma) Lu
Graham Laurence Sundstrom
Owen Chandler Wilson



HONORS AND AWARDS

*All the recipients are members of the graduating class.
Prizes and awards given in previous years are noted.*

PRESIDENT'S MEDAL
Sara Caroline Booher

ANDREW W. ARCHIBALD PRIZE FOR HIGHEST SCHOLARSHIP
Sara Caroline Booher, Benjamin Andrew Curran, Sara Kristin Garcia, Jonah Gregory Gilmore, Aryaa Ravikiran Gunavante

DEPARTMENT OF ART'S FOURTH-YEAR PORTFOLIO AWARD
Olivia Philomena Frasca

PHI BETA KAPPA, BETA CHAPTER OF IOWA
Elected as Juniors: Sara Caroline Booher, Mira Esther Diamond-Berman, Madeline Kate Fialkov, Sara Kristin Garcia, Yuina Iseki, Timur Kasimov, Maya Rose Llewellyn, Nathan John McCurdy, Carter Andrew Ottele, Margaret Ellen Seehorn, Hazel Zenger, Chong Zhao

Elected as Seniors: Istar M Abdullahi, Cyrus Alexander Barat, Elena Katherine Busick, William A Chhim, Nam Do, Agatha Pennyquick Fusco, Jungbin Im, Sophia Kandalin, Austin Eamonn Dietrich Nicolas, Debanjali Pathak, Elizabeth Renee Roberts, Ishita Sarraf, Zitan Wang, Graham Francis Ward, Ely Woodward

NEAL KLAUSNER PHI BETA KAPPA BOOK AWARDS FOR SOPHOMORES
Sara Caroline Booher, Sara Kristin Garcia, Timur Kasimov, Maya Rose Llewellyn, Carter Andrew Ottele

ACS DIVISION OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY AWARD
Allison Miranda Wightman

ACS AWARD IN ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY
Rachel Lane Kohler

ACS BIOCHEMISTRY AWARD
Eamon Elliott Cole

ACS PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY AWARD
Zitan Wang

ACS POLYMER CHEMISTRY AWARD
Carter Austin Williams

ALUMNI SENIOR AWARDS
Kathleen Mary Bartz, Grace Jacqueline Marsh

H. GEORGE APOSTLE PRIZE IN PHYSICS
Qingshuo Du, Zeineb Mezghanni

RACHEL M. ASRELSKY '89 MEMORIAL PRIZE IN ANTHROPOLOGY
Hamilton D. Peacock (2023)

FREDERICK BAUMANN ESSAY PRIZE
Mikel De Julian Del Rio (2024)

THE CELINA KARP BINIAZ MODEL OF RESILIENCE AWARD
Francisco Pantoja Martinez

BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY ALUMNI PRIZE
Anastasia Rompi, Carter Austin Williams

BURKLE FAMILY PRIZE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Zev E. Zentner

JEANNE BURKLE AWARD IN GENDER, WOMEN'S AND SEXUALITY STUDIES
Hayley Carson, Libby Eggert, Zoe Geneal Hall Jiran

LURA CAMERY 1924 PRIZE IN HISTORY
Mikel De Julian Del Rio (2024)

CHEMISTRY ALUMNI PRIZE
Elizabeth Renee Roberts

CURD AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PERFORMANCE
Anh Ngoc Vu (2022)

FIRST YEAR CHEMISTRY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Timur Kasimov

GILBERT DEBARTOLO '69 MEMORIAL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS
Mikel De Julian Del Rio, Jungbin Im, Cady Hanh Ngo

LUTHER ERICKSON SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP AWARD
Camryn E Gonzales

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE TO STUDENTS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS
Essi Benedicte Adokou, Sophie Anne Delaney

PAMELA FERGUSON ENDOWED PRIZE IN MATHEMATICS
Kathleen Mary Bartz (2024), Samantha J. Hall

MERLE FISCHLOWITZ '53 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP
Qiongyue Wang

FULBRIGHT U.S. STUDENT PROGRAM GRANT, current semi-finalists
Theodora Lillian Hadley, Xavier Demetrius James, Nora Frances Kohnhorst, Charlotte Rummel Krone, Lucy Mae Leither, Carter Andrew Ottele, Hannah Jaclyn Sweet, Zachary Michael Walsh, Zoe Turner Zallek



BENJAMIN A. GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP
Margaret Mary Rose Morey (2024)

BARRY M. GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP
Margaret Ellen Seehorn (2024)

ANNE K. HANSON '86 MEMORIAL AWARD
Ohana Sarvotham (2023)

INEZ LOUISE HENELY 1914 JUROR'S MERIT AWARD
Olivia Philomena Frasca, Olivia Layne Hage, Emlyn R.
Yoon-Buck, Madeleine Yu

HILL DISTINGUISHED AWARD IN MUSIC
Toni Qi Duan (2023, 2024, 2025), Nguyen Xuan Huy (2024),
Tobias Rhys Morales Lincoln (2022, 2024, 2025), Cady Hanh
Ngo (2023), Yurie Okumura (2022), Zachary Benedict
Spindler-Krage (2023), Anh Ngoc Vu

CLASS OF 1951 HORN-THEOPHILUS MEMORIAL AWARD
Joyce Daniela Ceballos, Joelle Alexandra Haensly

GUS/ELSIE KALLFASS PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN GERMAN
Theodora Lillian Hadley

YOUNG W. KIHLE '59 POLITICAL SCIENCE PRIZE
Sara Caroline Booher, Zachary Benedict Spindler-Krage

RUSSELL J. LINNEMAN '65 TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP
Nora Frances Kohnhorst (2024), Camryn Reschke (2024),
Tanawin (Sun) Yuvachitti (2024)

BEULAH BENNETT LORING 1887 PRIZE FOR
EXCELLENCE IN ENGLISH
Luke Payne Bryson, Ellianna Ruth Cierpiot, Beatrice Crist,
Saniya Aditya Kelkar, Emma Sage Kumano-Maloney,
Leah Anne Webb

RALPH A. LUEBBEN ANTHROPOLOGY PRIZE
George Robert Matthes, Hamilton D. Peacock

NANCY SCHMULBACH MALY '61 INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD
Princess Martin

MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS
Istar M Abdullahi, Emma Sage Kumano-Maloney, Melanie
Amanna Oden, Gabriela Iveth Pruneda Turcios, Kian
(KiAundra) Jhainae Witherspoon

MCCLENNON CLARK PLAYWRITING AWARDS
Hemlock Stanier - 3rd Prize (2024), Graham Laurence
Sundstrom - 1st Prize

ALEXANDER "SANDY" MOFFETT AWARD
Alyssa Skye Argent, Beatrice Crist

JOHN M. MOHAN RUSSIAN STUDY AWARD
Ohana Sarvotham, Zoe Turner Zallek

KATHRYN MOHRMAN '67 FELLOWSHIP
Tori Thomas, Sarah Evans

THE MARIE NESBITT PROMISE PRIZE
Deborah Oluwakanyinsola Afeni (2024, 2025), Davitta Ashe'
Adzi Embu (2024, 2025), Melanie Amanna Oden

ROBERT N. NOYCE SENIOR STUDENT AWARD
Istar M Abdullahi, Destany Best

MARIA OKEY PRIZE
Mikel De Julian Del Rio (2024), Nora Frances Kohnhorst (2024)

MORRIS PARSLAW AWARD IN FRENCH
Ashley Hayoung Baek, Oliver Wolfe

CHARLES E. PAYNE PRIZE IN HISTORY
Nora Frances Kohnhorst

HELENA PERCAS DE PONSETI SENIOR PRIZE IN SPANISH
Chloe Anne Karasek

DENNIS PERRI ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Cyrus Alexander Barati

DENNIS PERRI SPANISH DEPARTMENT ENGAGEMENT PRIZE
Meghan Joyce Rydel

JOHN PFITSCH PERSON OF INTEGRITY AWARD
Evan Michael Larson

PSYCHOLOGY EXCELLENCE PRIZE
Xavier Demetrius James

JAMES C. RANDALL '94 MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP
Joelle Alexandra Haensly (2024), Sarah Helen Wilts (2023)

RHODES SCHOLARSHIP
Beatrice Crist (2023)

LORI ANN SCHWAB '95 PRIZE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE
Alexandra Elizabeth Carlon, Luke Geza Stefan

SCOTT-NOUN AWARD FOR RACIAL JUSTICE
Aziza Jerome Mabrey-Wakefield, Honorable Mention: Valeriya
Elizabeth Bogaznanye Woodard, Honorable Mention: Juliana
Patrice Gaddis

SENECA PRIZE IN CLASSICS
Ran Wei

LINN SMITH 1920 PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS
Kathleen Mary Bartz, Qianqian Wu



SMITH FAMILY PRIZES FOR OUTSTANDING SENIOR IN BIOLOGY

Toni Qi Duan, Mariela López González

SMITH FAMILY PRIZES FOR OUTSTANDING SENIOR IN CHEMISTRY

Ela Chintagunta, Elizabeth Renee Roberts

THE SPANISH DEPARTMENT SERVICE PROFESSION PRIZE

Angela Arely Muralles Davila

HENRY-YORK STEINER PRIZE IN ART HISTORY

Lal Verda Karaoglu - 2nd Year Prize (2023), Nicole Jacqueline Aucoin Lee - 4th Year Prize (2025)

HENRY-YORK STEINER INTERDISCIPLINARY ART HISTORY PRIZE

Qiongyue Wang

HENRY-YORK STEINER PRIZES FOR FICTION

Henry Gallop Coen - 2nd Prize

JOHANNA MEEHAN PRIZE FOR THEORETICAL WORK IN GENDER, WOMEN'S & SEXUALITY STUDIES

Theodora Lillian Hadley

STEINER MEMORIAL PRIZES FOR MUSIC COMPOSITION

Toni Qi Duan - 1st Prize, Ian Andrew Nicola MacDonald - 2nd Prize

ELSIE STOUFFER 1924 FELLOWSHIP

Margaret Mary Rose Morey

ADAM M. THORNTON '81 MEMORIAL PRIZE

Chloe Anne Karasek

HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Sara Caroline Booher (2024 finalist), Joyce Daniela Ceballos (2024 finalist), Zachary Benedict Spindler-Krage (2024 finalist), Luke Geza Stefan (2024 finalist)

MO UDALL SCHOLARSHIP

Zachary Benedict Spindler-Krage (2023 honorable mention; 2024 scholar)

THE ULMER FUND FOR RUSSIAN, CENTRAL EUROPEAN, AND EURASIAN STUDIES

Jane Hoffman

HENRY M. AND THERESA P. WALKER ENDOWED PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Margaret Ellen Seehorn, Livia Stein Freitas

JOSEPH F. WALL '41 PHI BETA KAPPA SCHOLAR'S AWARD

Nora Frances Kohnhorst (2024)

THOMAS J. WATSON FELLOWSHIP

Sara Kristin Garcia

IDA PILLING WELCH '30 BOOK AWARD IN HISTORY

Evan J Albaugh

SELDEN LINCOLN WHITCOMB 1887 PRIZE IN POETRY

Livia Stein Freitas - 2nd Prize Winner (2024)

SELDEN LINCOLN WHITCOMB 1887 CRITICAL ESSAY

Beatrice Crist - 1st Prize Winner

JOHN H. WORLEY ENDOWED PRIZE IN PHILOSOPHY

Amy Kirsten Rinehard

LOUIS GLENN ZIRKLE MEMORIAL PRIZE IN SCULPTURE

Samantha May Drake-Flam

TAMMY J. ZYWICKI '93 MEMORIAL PRIZE IN PHOTOGRAPHY

Gwyneth Jane Redding

FOURTH YEAR PORTFOLIO AWARD, ART DEPARTMENT

Olivia Philomena Frasca

AWARDS IN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

JOYCE BUCK 1956 AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SENIOR ATHLETE IN AN INDIVIDUAL SPORT

Sophia Susanna Elizabeth Carroll, Lillian Grace Perrin

GEORGE B. CRITCHETT 1925 SERVICE AWARD

Allison Cheri Nabil Rabbani, Carter Austin Williams

HONOR G COACHES AWARD

Jenna Nichole Keller, Jack Anstead Kelly Ruhanen

HONOR G SCHOLASTIC AWARD

Sara Caroline Booher, Nathan John McCurdy

GRACE MCILRATH PARKER 1911 AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SENIOR ATHLETE IN A TEAM SPORT

Giada Bambi, Sara Caroline Booher, Emily Kathryn Brewer

MORGAN TAYLOR 1926 AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SENIOR ATHLETE IN AN INDIVIDUAL SPORT

Kevin P. Fitzgerald

DAVID THEOPHILUS 1951 AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SENIOR ATHLETE IN A TEAM SPORT

Dylan Imamura Maddux, Mac Charles McCain, Hugh Albert Werner



ABOUT THE AWARDS

THE PRESIDENT'S MEDAL

The President's Medal is awarded annually during Commencement to one member of the graduating class who best exemplifies the mission and values of a Grinnell education. The criteria for the President's Medal are:

- Exhibit and contribute distinguished and engaged learning while a Grinnell student.
- Demonstrate leadership in activities that are consistent with the values and interests of the student and that add to the College's distinctive character.
- Actively participate in **on-campus** activities of artistic, athletic, cultural, collaborative, or other merit that improve the quality of campus life.
- Express commitment to the common good through **off-campus** service and/or civic activity.
- Display personal characteristics, including:
 - Adaptability and effectiveness;
 - A sense of fairness and willingness to accept responsibility;
 - Compassion, empathy, and sensitivity toward others; and
 - Sound judgment (thinking before acting, understanding before judging).

The President's Medalist is determined annually by the College president, based on the recommendation of a committee composed of faculty and staff.

About The Medal's Design

The President's Medal was redesigned in 1993 by Sheena Brown Thomas '71, a designer/goldsmith with Elements Ltd. in Des Moines, Iowa. The previous medal was designed by the late Louis Glenn Zirkle, professor of art.

The design is an adaptation of the President's Medallion, which is worn by the president of the College as an emblem of office at all Grinnell academic ceremonies and when the president officially represents the College at academic occasions elsewhere.

The seal uses a modified oval design enclosing four laurel leaves and the College founding date: 1846. Raised letters surrounding the laurel leaves proclaim, *Collegium Iowense Grinnelli* and *Veritas et Humanitas* — Latin for "Truth and Humanity." The honoree's name is engraved on the back.

THE ARCHIBALD PRIZE

The Archibald Prize is given annually to the senior who has achieved the highest grade-point average during four years of study. It is accompanied by a cash prize.

The award was made possible in 1928 with a \$1,000 bequest from the Rev. Andrew Archibald, who died in 1926. The award commemorates 15 years of work by him and his wife for the Congregational Church in Iowa. Archibald was a Grinnell College trustee from 1890 through 1899.



THE IOWA BAND CANE

THE IOWA BAND CANE is the official symbol of Commencement at Grinnell College. Carried by the honorary marshal in the academic procession, the cane has a silver head and a silver scroll attached a few inches below the head. The cane honors the Iowa Band — the 11 Congregational ministers, all 1843 graduates of Andover Theological Seminary, who came to Iowa with a special purpose: “Each to found a church and all a college.” The ministers saw the latter part of their intention fulfilled with the founding of Iowa College (now Grinnell College) in June 1846. The members of the Iowa Band were Ephraim Adams, Harvey Adams, Ebenezer Alden Jr., James Jeremiah Hill, Horace Hutchinson, Daniel Lane, Erastus Ripley, Alden Burrill Robbins, Williams Salter, Benjamin Adams Spaulding, and Edwin Bela Turner.

Benjamin Spaulding originally owned the cane, presented to him as a gift in 1864 by Dr. James Taylor of Ottumwa, Iowa. Spaulding had the idea that the eldest member of the Iowa Band should keep the cane until he died, and it would then pass to the next eldest member, and so on. When the cane was given to Spaulding, six of the original members survived. Their names (Spaulding, Lane, H. Adams, E. Adams, Robbins, and Salter) are inscribed on the cane. When Salter died in 1910, the cane was given to the College and eventually became the Commencement symbol. The cane used today is a re-creation of the original Iowa Band cane.



THE IOWA COLLEGE BELL

THE BELL BEING RUNG IN TODAY'S CEREMONY is the original Iowa College bell. It rang out in the first and second locations of Iowa College in Davenport. According to the late Joseph Wall '41, professor emeritus of history, when Iowa College was relocated to Grinnell, the bell was still hanging in the building that was the second home of Iowa College. Moving the bell would have been too expensive, so it stayed in that building, which was eventually torn down to make way for a high school.

The June 1932 issue of *Grinnell and You* tells the story of Dr. Harry Downer, class of 1882, who had worked for 18 years to procure the original bell for the College. The bell had been discovered in the basement of the school that stood on the second Iowa College site on Harrison Street in Davenport and was then hung in another Davenport school. Downer, a member of the Davenport school board, talked the board into letting him have the bell if he could find a suitable replacement. Downer tried to find a replacement bell, but making such a substitution would have been quite expensive.

To add to Downer's struggle, a new school board had been elected, and it felt it didn't have to keep the promise made to him. The principal of the school where the bell hung heard of Downer's quest and declared, "If that old bell was worth so much to Grinnell it was worth even more to Davenport, and it would be taken down only over [my] dead body."

Downer, however, was undaunted. "He rallied his clans, and fortified with fine old Davenport 'gemütlichkeit,' made a raid on the schoolhouse in the dead of a dark and stormy night, and rescued the bell, so long held in captivity."

On June 4, 1932, Downer presented the bell to the College at an alumni chapel. Dr. Julia Hill, class of 1909, granddaughter of the Rev. James J. Hill, who was one of the Iowa Band, the group of missionaries that founded Iowa College, accepted the bell on behalf of the College.

The article also reported, "The bell is an exceptionally fine bronze bell of about 450 pounds weight. It is a minor third lower in pitch than the bell in the Chicago Hall tower, and it has a wonderfully sweet tone which will chime perfectly with the other. It is not an ordinary bell, and even without its historical association it would be a welcome addition to the campus. It is hoped that it may soon be hung in the tower, to be used in a peal along with the other bell on distinguished occasions."



GRINNELL COLLEGE: A BRIEF HISTORY

By Professor of History Alan Jones '50 (1927–2007)

Updated by Rosenfield Professor of Political Science H. Wayne Moyer

SHORTLY AFTER THE TERRITORY OF IOWA WAS ORGANIZED IN 1838,

idealistic young missionaries from Andover and Yale Seminaries came west to found churches and a college. In 1846, the year Iowa became a state, some of them formed the Board of Trustees of Iowa College (later Grinnell College). Two years later a one-room school opened in Davenport to preparatory classes. College classes began in 1850, and in 1854 William and John Windsor received B.A. degrees, having completed 50 required courses, 28 in Greek, Latin, and mathematics.

The College's antislavery and antisaloon sentiments aggravated the Davenport city council, which twice cut streets through College grounds, forcing the College further west with little more than its ideals to J.B. Grinnell's new prairie colony. Classes began here in 1861, but most of the young men went off to the Civil War. Women in a "ladies course" — which gave diplomas but not degrees — carried on during the war years and graduated in 1865 when the College's first president, George Magoun, was inaugurated.

Magoun was an imperious Calvinist, which was necessary for the College's survival during years of poverty, fire, and the great cyclone of 1882. Jesse Macy, class of 1870, later a professor, thought Magoun "liberal" because he allowed the teaching of evolution. More "liberal" was Magoun's successor, George Gates, inaugurated in 1887. Gates replaced Magoun's "rule of law" with "the law of liberty" and the "ideal of service." A modern college emerged in the 1890s with football teams, glee clubs, and a curriculum in which science began to displace Greek and Latin. More noteworthy, if not notorious, was Gates' Social Gospel, reinforced by the radical lectures of George Herron, a professor of Applied Christianity who did not believe in private property or marriage. The faculty defended him on grounds of academic freedom, but Herron left in 1900, followed by Gates. When Herron ran off with Carrie Rand, Gates' lady principal, worried Congregationalists and capitalists considered their fears confirmed. Trustees sought a "safe" president in Dan Bradley, who did not last.

John Hanson Thomas Main became president in 1906. He secularized Gates' Social Gospel with forward-looking ideals attuned to pre-World War I Progressivism. Main created the modern residential system and brought a provincial western college to national prominence. He said, "If the end of life is service, as we believe, it is the duty of the College to do more than hold up an ideal of service," a view echoed by Harry Hopkins 1912. Hopkins and a few Grinnell alumni served in Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. Other graduates of these years served in the "Grinnell-in-China" program.

After the disillusioning experience of World War I, ideas of success replaced ideals of service. Main spent his last years trying to pay off prewar debts. He died in 1931 as the Great Depression struck, and his successor, John Nollen, had to contend with continuing deficits, low enrollments, faculty cuts, and a 20 percent slash in salaries. His successor, Samuel Stevens, began with ambitious plans in 1940, but another world war, followed by the Cold War and Korean conflicts, diminished his energies and capacities. The now-nostalgic era between 1946 and 1950 gave way to years of budget difficulties and student unrest. By 1954 Stevens had lost the support of faculty, students, and trustees.

Howard Bowen's presidency between 1955 and 1964 moved the College forward again — raising standards, restoring old ideals, attracting able faculty, and rebuilding the campus. In his inaugural address on "The Free Mind," he said, "One of the special tasks of small liberal arts colleges like Grinnell [is] to help keep this freedom alive." Students accepted that task and more in the dissent and protest of the 1960s — endured with grace by Bowen's successor, Glenn Leggett, president from 1965 to 1975. Curricular and residential "reforms" made the College a "free and open" place. But with the presidency of A. Richard Turner after 1975, the 1970s ended in drifting discontent.

Great endowment growth and a new prosperity came to the College during the 1980s through the gifts and risk-taking investments of such loyal trustees as Joe Rosenfield 1925 and Bob Noyce '49 and the generosity of such alumni as John '39 and Lucile Hanson Harris '40. The 1979–91 presidency of George Drake '56 saw the renovation of buildings, the restoration of trust, and, as he said in his 1980 inaugural address, a vision of the "future in the past." He meant that the College's pioneering history — its missionary foundations, its antislavery sentiments, its Social Gospel and Progressive ideals of service, and its traditions of scholarship, academic freedom, and liberal dissent — gave promise of a purposeful future. His successor, Pamela Ferguson, 1991–97, echoed these views in remarks at the 1995 rededication of Goodnow Hall, opening the College's sesquicentennial year: "I represent the many individuals who have shaped Grinnell and the strong convictions which have formed a core of values that sustain and nurture this College." She aimed to advance these values in a new era of diversity at the College, and she launched a development campaign to finance new facilities for the arts and sciences, including the Bucksbaum Center for the Arts and its Faulconer Gallery, now the Grinnell College Museum of Art.

Russell K. Osgood, 1998–2010, presided over the development and implementation of a master plan that included a significant increase in enrollment, faculty size, and expanded programs, including establishment of the Office of Social Commitment; a major rebuilding and expansion of the physical plant, including new and renovated residence halls, administrative structures, the Joe Rosenfield '25 Center, the Robert Noyce '49 Science Center, and the Charles Bear '39 Recreation and Athletic Center; and new initiatives in the relationship between the College and the Grinnell community.

Raynard S. Kington, 2010–20, promoted innovation and entrepreneurship and graduates' ability to transform the world through the Grinnell College Innovator for Social Justice Prize and the development of the Center for Careers, Life, and Service. He strengthened ties with the city of Grinnell and led a revitalization process that will permanently alter the landscape and the student experience, where campus and downtown come together. He emphasized academic excellence in the arts, humanities, sciences, and social studies, supporting campus renewal to provide students with the best of 21st-century educational opportunities. With the selection of Anne F. Harris as Grinnell's 14th president in 2020 during the coronavirus pandemic, Grinnell embarked with confidence and joy on the last quarter of its second century of service to its students, to its community, and — through its graduates — to the nation and the world.

ACADEMIC DRESS

THE CUSTOM OF WEARING A DISTINCTIVE DRESS for academic ceremonies dates to the Middle Ages. Academic dress worn at commencements and during other college and university ceremonial occasions lends dignity and color and reveals academic achievements through the style of gowns, hoods, and varying colors.

Based on the costumes worn at universities in the 14th and 15th centuries — especially at Oxford and Cambridge in England — today's academic dress is essentially the same as that standardized in the United States by the Intercollegiate Code adopted in 1895. It includes the familiar square mortarboard cap with a tassel that may be black, gold, or an appropriate color, such as pink for a degree in music.

The code also incorporates three different styles of black gowns and colored hoods for bachelor's, master's, and doctor's degrees. The bachelor's gown has a long pointed sleeve; the master's a long, closed sleeve with a slit for the arm at the elbow; and the doctor's a full, bell-shaped sleeve with three velvet bands matching the velvet facing of the gown opening. The velvet on the doctor's gown often is in a color appropriate to the wearer's field of study. The gown itself may be in color, such as blue for Yale, or banded in color, such as orange for Princeton.

Of the three hood styles, the doctor's is the most elaborate. The bachelor's hood is rarely used. All three hoods are made of material to match the gowns and are lined in the official color of the institution that conferred the degree, with a chevron used for a second color if needed.

The colored velvet binding indicates the academic degree area: white for liberal arts, yellow for science, purple for law, red for theology, green for medicine, and blue for philosophy. If used, the Grinnell hood would be black lined with scarlet and with white velvet binding. Grinnell's doctor's hood — used for honorary degrees — is black, lined with velvet binding in the appropriate color, such as purple for the LL.B.

Caps and gowns representing degrees from foreign universities may be quite different from those just described. The most obvious difference may be in the cap, which is often a soft, round hat of the style worn by medieval scholars.

REGALIA FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS

The graduating students being honored today wear a traditional bachelors' candidate cap and robe, and a special stole with a scarlet field to represent Grinnell College's colors. In addition, many graduating seniors will wear pins or patches — bestowed by academic departments, offices, teams, and other organizations they have been involved with — to visually represent and celebrate their individuality and unique accomplishments at Grinnell.

