Gene M. Henderson – Chair
(1997-2006; 2007-2013)

Gene Henderson, a native of Monona, Iowa, is a retired corporate executive. During his professional career, he served as CEO of Idine Rewards Network in Miami and Dimac Marketing Corporation in St. Louis. In addition, he spent 20 years with Epsilon Data Management in Boston. At Epsilon, he was President of the Fundraising and Membership Services subsidiary and ultimately, COO of the Corporation, which during his tenure was acquired by American Express.

Gene was biology major at Coe, earned an MBA at the University of Chicago, spent 14 months with the 1st Air Cavalry Division in Vietnam and currently serves on several corporate and non-profit boards. He and his wife, Glenda, have one son who lives with his wife and their three young children in Lake Forest, Illinois. The Hendersons have homes in Clayton, Missouri (St. Louis area) and Miami Beach. Gene is an avid golfer and a live music enthusiast.

J. David Carson
(2000-2013)

Dave Carson is originally from Chicago and presently lives in Northville, Michigan (west suburb of Detroit). Dave was a member of the senior global finance executive team at Ford Motor Company when he retired in January 2007; during his 33–year career he was based both in Detroit and in Europe. Since retiring, he has been an advisor to several companies.

Dave graduated from Coe in 1972, majoring in economics and business administration, and earned an MBA from the University of Iowa. Prior to joining Ford, he taught at Coe for two years. He has been a member of the Coe Board of Trustees since 2000.

He and his wife, Mary (Bridenstine) Carson ’73, have an adult son and daughter. Dave loves golf, reading and traveling.

Ken Golder – Second Vice Chair
(2007-2013)

Ken Golder, originally from Winnetka, Illinois, is a “semi-retired” Real Estate Investor and Hotelier. He graduated from Coe in 1982 with an interdisciplinary bachelor’s degree in communication techniques.

Ken has almost 30 years of experience in the hotel industry and has held various positions with Americana, Registry, Holiday Inn Corporation and Promus Hotels (Embassy Suites). He is a Certified Hospitality Marketing Executive (CHME), past Board Member of the St. Paul Convention & Visitors Authority, and former President of the Minnesota Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association.

Since 2000, Ken has acquired and manages a variety of hotel properties including: Holiday Inn – St. Paul Downtown; Hampton Inn West – Wichita, Kansas; and Hampton Inn Cypress, California.

He and his wife, Sue (Roe) Golder ’82, have lived in Apple Valley, Minnesota since 1986. They have a son (20) and two daughters (18, 14). Ken is an avid golfer and enjoys cooking and fishing.
**Shirley J. Hughes**  
*(2008–2014)*

Shirley J. Hughes retired in April 2005 as an Officer and Senior Vice President of Human Resources at Ceridian Corporation (formerly Control Data Corporation), Minneapolis, Minnesota, where her career spanned nearly 30 years, with a break in service. From 1994-1998, she served as Vice President of Human Resources for Mercy Health Services (now Trinity Health), a multi-billion dollar and multi-state health care provider headquartered in Farmington Hills, Michigan. She returned to Ceridian in 1998.

Shirley currently serves as a Director on the boards of: Second Harvest (an affiliate of Feeding America), St. Paul, Minnesota; Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, North Carolina; Graywolf Press, (a highly regarded independent press headquartered in Minneapolis); and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Minnesota Foundation, (which provides grants to programs and initiatives impacting the health of communities in Minnesota). She is also a member of the Minnesota Women’s Economic Roundtable and the Minneapolis-St. Paul Chapter of the Links, Inc.

Prior board service included Blue Cross Blue Shield Minnesota and Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities.

Shirley is a beginning golfer and spends time with great nieces, nephews and several Godchildren located throughout the country. She enjoys reading extensively, is a member of two Book Clubs, and loves to travel.

She is divorced and resides in Minneapolis where she was born and raised. Shirley graduated from Coe in 1967 with a degree in political science, and she thinks the college is a special place because of the small, caring atmosphere.

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**Mary Jeanne Krob**  

Mary Jeanne Krob earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry and general science at Coe in 1973. She went on to receive a master’s degree in genetics at the University of Missouri in 1974, her M.D. at the University of Iowa in 1978, and a master’s degree in instructional design and technology at the University of Iowa in 1995.

As a physician and surgeon, Mary Jeanne served as the Medical Director of the Burn Center at Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh from 1987-1991, and currently works as a Physician Advisor for Highmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield. She also serves as an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Physician Assistants at Duquesne University.

Mary Jeanne serves on several non-profit boards in the Pittsburgh area and on the family business board. She sews both as a vocation and avocation, and enjoys knitting, needlepoint and other needle arts. While she has lived in Pittsburgh for many years, Mary Jeanne says her heart remains in Iowa.

Mary Jeanne thinks Coe is a special place because it sees every student as a unique individual and helps them to see and realize their potential.
Gary Sojka was born and raised in Cedar Rapids and was a member of the first graduating class from Washington High School. He attended Coe as a George W. Bryant Scholar, majoring in biology with strong concentrations in chemistry and English.

Following graduation from Coe, Gary went on to earn his master’s degree and Ph.D. in biochemical genetics from Purdue University. He has also received honorary doctorates from Lycoming, Purdue and Bucknell.

For many years, Gary served as a Research Scientist and member of the biology faculty at Indiana University. He became the Chairman of the Biology Department, then Dean of Arts and Sciences at the University. Gary then left Indiana to assume the Presidency at Bucknell University. Among other offices, he served as the President of the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Universities, co-founded the Patriot Athletic Conference, a member of the NCAA President’s Commission, and as a Commissioner of the Middle States Association (college and university accreditor).

Gary is the recipient of the “Sheepskin Award” from the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Universities, the Adam Smith Award from Economics Pennsylvania, The Outstanding Citizen Award from the Central Susquehanna Boy Scouts Council, the Distinguished Alumni Award from Coe and he is a member of both the Coe and Bucknell Athletic Halls of Fame. The Bucknell Basketball arena (the Sojka Pavilion) was named in his honor.

Outside of higher education, Gary has long been interested in agriculture and is an endangered livestock breeds conservator and farmer. He has served as the President of the Philadelphia Society for the Promotion of Agriculture and President of the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy. He also serves as a Commissioner for the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board.

Upon graduation from Coe, Gary married Sandy (Smith) Sojka ’63. Gary and Sandy had two children, Dirk and Lisa. Dirk passed away several years ago, and Lisa is an entrepreneur, owner of an art glass gallery and the owner/chef of a restaurant in Rockport, Maine.

Gary and Sandy maintain residences in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, on their farm in Middleburg, Pennsylvania, and in Rockport, Maine. Both work for and support many community, regional and national organizations including hospital boards, college and university boards, mental health boards and agricultural boards. In addition, they work together to operate a livestock breeds operation on their Middleburg farm where they specialize in Tunis Sheep, Cuckoo Dorking and French Faverole Chickens.

When reflecting on Coe, Gary notes, “It has been said many times, but it is the personal touch provided by the faculty and staff that made Coe special for me. It was also a place where people with disparate world views but common moral and ethical backgrounds come together. That resulted in my finding my life partner, Sandy, and that may have been the most important event in my entire life.”
JOHN STROHM

John Strohm is a Founding and Managing Partner of Farrell-Roeh Group, LLC, a family-owned private investment company formed in the late 1990s. Farrell-Roeh has investment interests in a wide array of opportunities, ranging from private equity, mezzanine financing, distressed debt, tax liens and commercial real estate. John is also a Board Member and Co-Founder of Countermind Ventures, LLC, a software company with mobile/wireless product offerings. In addition, John was a co-founder of and served as CFO of Interlink Group, Inc. until a majority interest in the company was sold to Texas Pacific Group in 2000. Interlink Group was reacquired by John and others in 2002 and subsequently sold to EMC Corporation in May 2006.

In addition to his business interests, John is actively involved with several charitable organizations, including the Strohm Link Family Foundation, a private foundation formed by John together with his wife, Mary Pat Link, for charitable and educational purposes. John has also served on the board of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver since May 2008 and its Executive Committee since late 2009. John was a Board and Executive Committee Member of the Food Bank of the Rockies from 1994 through October 2009 and was Chairman of its Capital Campaign Committee that completed a $6 million fundraising campaign in 2008.

John, along with his two sisters, Tara Strohm and Nina Golden, are all 1979 graduates of Coe College. They were recruited to Coe in 1975 by Barron Bremner. At Coe, John was a member of the wrestling and track teams. John graduated from Coe with a degree in Business Administration. He went on to earn an MBA from the University of Iowa in 1981. John is also a CPA licensed in both Iowa and Colorado with inactive status.

Following graduate school, John married Mary Pat Link in 1983 and they eventually relocated to Colorado. They currently reside in Englewood, Colorado. John and Mary Pat have four children. Kristin is a 2005 graduate of Coe and resides in Denver; Matt is a 2011 graduate of St. Louis University and is living and working in Brisbane, Australia; Kelly is a junior at Coe majoring in nursing; and Claire is a sophomore in high school and currently in Guadalajara, Mexico in an exchange program.
**Faculty Representatives**

**David T. Hayes**  
Louie J. and Ella Pochobradsky Associate Professor of Business Administration  
Legal Advisor to the President  
B.A., Coe College  
J.D., The University of Iowa College of Law  
LL.M., The University of Iowa College of Law  

Professor Hayes left a successful career in private practice to teach business law and management courses at Coe. He is actively involved with the College’s Wilderness Field Station and is the prelaw advisor for students considering law school. David also assists on special projects for Coe’s administration.

**Kimberly Lanegran**  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
B.A., Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa  
M.A., Ph.D., University of Florida  

Jean Johnson
Director of Alumni Programs

Jean Johnson began her current position at Coe College in 1989. She is a member of the Advancement team and oversees programming for the Alumni Association. Jean is an ex officio member of the Alumni Council and co-advisor for the Coe Student Alumni Association. Her tenure brings a wealth of knowledge about Coe alumni and the college's history.

Jean attended Luther College for two years, then graduated from the University of Iowa with a bachelor’s of music degree and a K-13 teaching endorsement. She had a successful 12-year career as a music teacher and band director at three area school districts before leaving the profession to work for Coe.

In 2009, Jean was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the Coe College Alumni Association. She was also honored in 2011 by being inducted into the Marion Independent School District Fine Arts Hall of Fame.

Hailley Fargo

Hailley Fargo ’14 is originally from Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin. She is majoring in English with minors in French and writing. On campus, some of her major activities include working with writers as a consultant for the Writing Center, giving tours in Admissions, serving as the Student Body Treasurer, and helping to manage The Coe Review and The Pearl.

Max Stanford

Max Stanford ’14 is a native of Superior, Colorado. He is an elementary education major and a member of the College Scholars Program. Max was elected student senate vice president for 2012-13, is co-president of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee, and works as a tour guide for Admissions. He also serves as a member of Student Affairs Committee and has twice represented Coe at NCAA-sponsored conferences.

When not studying in the library, Max says he is mostly likely on the court in Eby Fieldhouse as a member of the Kohawk men’s basketball team. He has been named to the Academic All-Iowa Conference Team, an honor reserved for the top student-athletes in the Iowa Conference.