

# COURIER

— WINTER 2021 —



COE COLLEGE®





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David McNally retires as the 15th president of Coe College.





This has been quite a year for Coe, just as it has for all of you. The college has successfully navigated our way through the pandemic, the derecho and the turbulent economy. Members of the campus community — including Coe's loyal alumni — have been engaged in diversity and racial justice issues, have adjusted to a temporary academic calendar with a combination of in-person and online classes and even have managed to balance the budget. As you know, this year also brings a transition in presidential leadership, which means this is my last letter in the Courier.

I won't claim this year has been easy. But you may wonder how Coe managed to remain open, to continue to provide a rigorous academic program, to rebuild the campus following the August derecho and to practice financial responsibility at a time when so many colleges have had to shut down temporarily or make deep cuts in their programs. Part of the answer lies in the position that Coe occupied when these challenges arose, including:

- Enrollment remains strong. The last eight years represent the eight largest enrollments in the college's history.
- Coe's student body and faculty/staff are the most diverse in our history. The college's appeal to new demographic and geographic markets has grown substantially.
- New programs and facilities placed us in a good position as we entered 2020, enabling us to enhance a variety of academic areas as well as key dimensions of student life such as athletics and recreation, career preparation and community engagement.
- Even when we take into account the many financial challenges of COVID-19, Coe's disciplined financial practices have so far spared the college from the deep program and personnel reductions that have taken place elsewhere. Coe has balanced the budget every year — including running surpluses for the last three — and also has reduced spending from the endowment for seven straight years.
- The college had a clear vision and strategic plan that increased our value to prospective and current students, so we were not in a position of reacting only to current events, but rather of charting our course to the future.
- Above all, we are still a residential liberal arts college, with strong enrollments across the full range of academic disciplines. As many high schools and colleges moved online this year, more students realized just how valuable a rigorous, residential, face-to-face academic program is.

Now we turn to Coe's next steps. There will be a period of recovery, but our prospects remain very bright — and here is one example of why I believe this to be the case. In a recent campus budget committee meeting, Interim President David Hayes said we have grappled successfully with these challenges because "Coe exists for our students." That is why alumni will continue to support the college and why students want to come to Coe, and it also is the compass that guides our strategic plan, our academic and student life programs and our financial decisions. We may not know exactly what the future holds — after all, who would have predicted the events of 2020? — but David's words remind us of why Coe has endured these tough times and will prosper in the years to come. Coe exists for our students.

We are in good shape as we enter this leadership transition. I can say only that Janice and I treasure Coe College, we cherish the deep relationships with alumni, students, faculty and staff that have enriched our lives, and we will remain close to you and to Coe. In fact, we may see even more of you now! You are a blessing to us and to the college we love.

  
David McNally  
Chancellor

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Questions and comments regarding the Courier can be sent to [courier@coe.edu](mailto:courier@coe.edu).

The Coe Courier is published for alumni of the college, parents of current students and recent contributors to Coe's Annual Fund. The next issue will be published in the summer by Coe College in a virtual format.

Visit the Courier online at [www.coe.edu/courier](http://www.coe.edu/courier).



# CAMPUS BRIEFS

CURRENT NEWS AND EVENTS IN KOHAWK NATION

## COE COLLEGE BREAKS ENROLLMENT RECORDS FOR EIGHTH YEAR IN A ROW

Over the past eight years, Coe College has welcomed the largest classes in the history of the college. As we began the 2020-2021 year, Coe welcomed the largest domestic first-year class ever. In addition, we welcomed the second largest first-year class ever.

"Despite the challenges of the current public health crisis and the extensive damage sustained as a result of the August 10 derecho that swept through Iowa, we remain focused on our mission of providing access and affordability to students who want to pursue a nationally ranked education," said Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Josh Kite.

"This year we are welcoming a dynamic incoming class. Students hail from 20 states and eight countries with more than 55% coming to Coe from outside the state of Iowa. This class is also one of the most diverse in Coe's history with nearly 27% coming from underrepresented backgrounds. In addition, 40% of incoming class members identify as first-generation college students," Kite added.


The last few years have proven to be a highly competitive market in higher education, and the last six months have been no exception. Coe is bucking the trend by providing academic excellence at an affordable price. The school's superior academics continue to attract

high school graduates ranking at the top of their class. And 99% of all Coe students receive financial aid, more often than not, making it more affordable than a state school.


Coe College ranks as the best school for internships in Iowa and No. 16 nationally out of more than 4,000 colleges and universities, according to The Princeton Review. "Our location and alumni network allow students to have a unique college experience. The internship and research opportunities available to students offer real-world application to what they learn in the classroom," said Vice President for Enrollment **Julie Kleis Staker '93**.

## MEET THE INCOMING CLASS

  
**423**  
NEW STUDENTS

  
**55%**  
of students represent  
20 states

  
**40%**  
identify as  
first-generation  
college students

  
**27%**  
of students are from  
underrepresented  
backgrounds

  
**8**  
countries  
represented





Students were photographed individually and digitized into one image for a creative socially distanced spin on the traditional photo. (Credit: Joe Photo).

## HOMECOMING 2020

Traditional alumni Homecoming festivities couldn't take place, but students still enjoyed Homecoming Week. From a glow-in-the-dark scavenger hunt and Kohawk Rock to virtual bingo and fall fest, Kohawks celebrated one of the best parts of Coe...the community.

This year's Homecoming court included **Christa Yong '21**, **Kacey Baker '21**, **Emani Brinkman '21**, **Mady Fink '21**, **Noah Gronewold '21**, **Martha Jesuit '21**, **Lauren Steege '21**, **Chandler Robles '21**, **Ethan Alsop '21** and **Simon Crocker '21**. Chandler and Emani (pictured) were crowned Coe's Homecoming royalty.





# SPORT SHORTS

A HIGHLIGHT REEL OF KOHAWK ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT

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## 2019-2020

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# BARRON BREMNER

## OUTSTANDING ATHLETES ANNOUNCED

**Jackie Feldt '21** and **Taylor Mehmen '20** are the 2019-20 Barron Bremner Outstanding Athletes at Coe College. Feldt, a current senior on the women's basketball team, is joined by Mehmen, a former member of the wrestling team.

Both Feldt and Mehmen were named all-conference in their respective sports, and are the 26th group of students receiving the awards. Feldt is the sixth winner from the women's basketball program, joining 1996 winner **Shelly Howe '96**, 1998 winner **Emily Schultz Smith '98**, 2001 winner **Laci Palar Lower '01**, 2002 winner **Jamie Dalbey Schadt '02** and 2007 winner **Amber Karkosh Bolen '08**. Mehmen is the ninth winner from the wrestling program, joining 2000 winner **Zak Gordon '01**, 2006 winner **late Mike McCabe '05**, 2007 winner **Jared Creason '07**, 2008 winner **Tyler Burkle '10**, 2010 and 2011 winner **Clayton Rush '11**, 2014 winner **Dimitri Boyer '14** and 2015 winner **Farai Sewera '16**.

Feldt led the Kohawks to the fourth-overall seed in the American Rivers Conference postseason tournament while helping Coe to its first win in the

tournament since the 2015-16 season. In her junior season, Feldt finished second in the league in blocks, fourth in scoring, sixth in rebounds, seventh in free-throw percentage, 11th in assists and 19th in steals per game.

"Jackie had a huge junior year for us, leading our team in several statistical categories while also ranking toward the top of the conference in many as well," said head coach **Kayla Waskow '13**. "Her game has evolved during her time here at Coe, and she put together her best overall year as a junior. In addition to her on-court achievements, she has been a strong leader on our team and one that other players look to."

Feldt recorded two double-doubles on the year while eclipsing the 20-point mark in six American Rivers Conference games. One of her best games of the season came in the playoff victory over Simpson where she posted 14 points, 11 boards, six assists, five blocks and one steal while playing all 40 minutes.

"It has been fun to see her grow over the last three seasons and put herself in a position to compete with the best,"

Waskow said. "I'm thankful I've gotten to coach her and be a part of her journey here at Coe. I look forward to her senior season!"

Mehmen, who was a Bremner Award finalist last year, earned the award after taking first place at the Midwest regional in the 197-pound weight class. During his senior season, Mehmen racked up a record of 23-1, with his lone loss coming to the nation's top wrestler. He earned first-team all-American honors and also was named an academic all-American.

"I am happy and excited for Taylor winning the Barron Bremner Award," said wrestling head coach John Oostendorp. "It places him in some very exclusive company, and he is deserving of that. He has been such a great example to the younger guys in our program of what hard work, focus and toughness can accomplish. He was able to excel in the classroom and on the wrestling mat at the highest level attainable."

Mehmen piled up eight wins by fall, two by tech fall and four major decisions. Despite missing out on the NCAA tournament due to its cancelation,

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**"Taylor was a true pleasure to coach, and his influence while in the program will have lasting effects to those teammates he interacted with." — Coach John Oostendorp**

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Mehmen won two individual titles at the Luther Open and Kohawk Invite while going a perfect 5-0 at the NWCA National Duals.

"Taylor was a true pleasure to coach, and his influence while in the program will have lasting effects to those teammates he interacted with," said Oostendorp.

**Elli Teeple '22** from the volleyball team and **Sydney Schroder '21** from the women's basketball and soccer teams also were Bremner Award finalists for women's athletics. Teeple earned all-conference honors for the second consecutive season while also being named honorable mention all-region. Teeple moved into fifth place in Coe's record books for assists and sixth place for assists per set. She finished with a league-leading 1,331 assists, which also placed her fifth in the country. Schroder, a two-sport starter in soccer and basketball earned all-conference for the third-straight year in soccer. She led the team with eight assists while scoring eight goals, good for second on the team. On the court, she started 25 of 27 games, averaging 4.5 points, 3.8 assists, 3.0 rebounds and 1.7 steals per game.

**Adam McDermott '21** from the basketball team and **Logan Rickard '20** from the

football team were Bremner Award finalists for men's athletics. McDermott was named the defensive MVP of the ARC while helping the Kohawks to the No. 2 seed in the postseason tournament. McDermott averaged 13.4 points, 4.9 rebounds, 2.6 assists and 1.0 steals per game and was key in Coe's run to the conference championship game. Rickard also earned the league's defensive MVP award and a spot on the all-conference first team. Rickard recorded three interceptions and 2.5 sacks during the conference schedule and was named all-region by the AFCA and D3football.com. He finished seventh in the league in interceptions and 13th in tackles for loss.

The Barron Bremner Outstanding Athlete Awards have been made possible by Life Trustee **John Strohm '79** and Mary Pat Link. The Strohms have generously established an endowed fund to annually provide awards to the top three Coe female athletes and the top three Coe male athletes. John's sisters, **Nina Strohm Golden** and **Tara Strohm**, also are 1979 Coe graduates. Their parents, Lloyd and Dorothy Strohm, are supporters of Coe activities. Nina Strohm's husband, **John Golden**, is a 1976 Coe graduate. Two of John and Mary Pat's children have

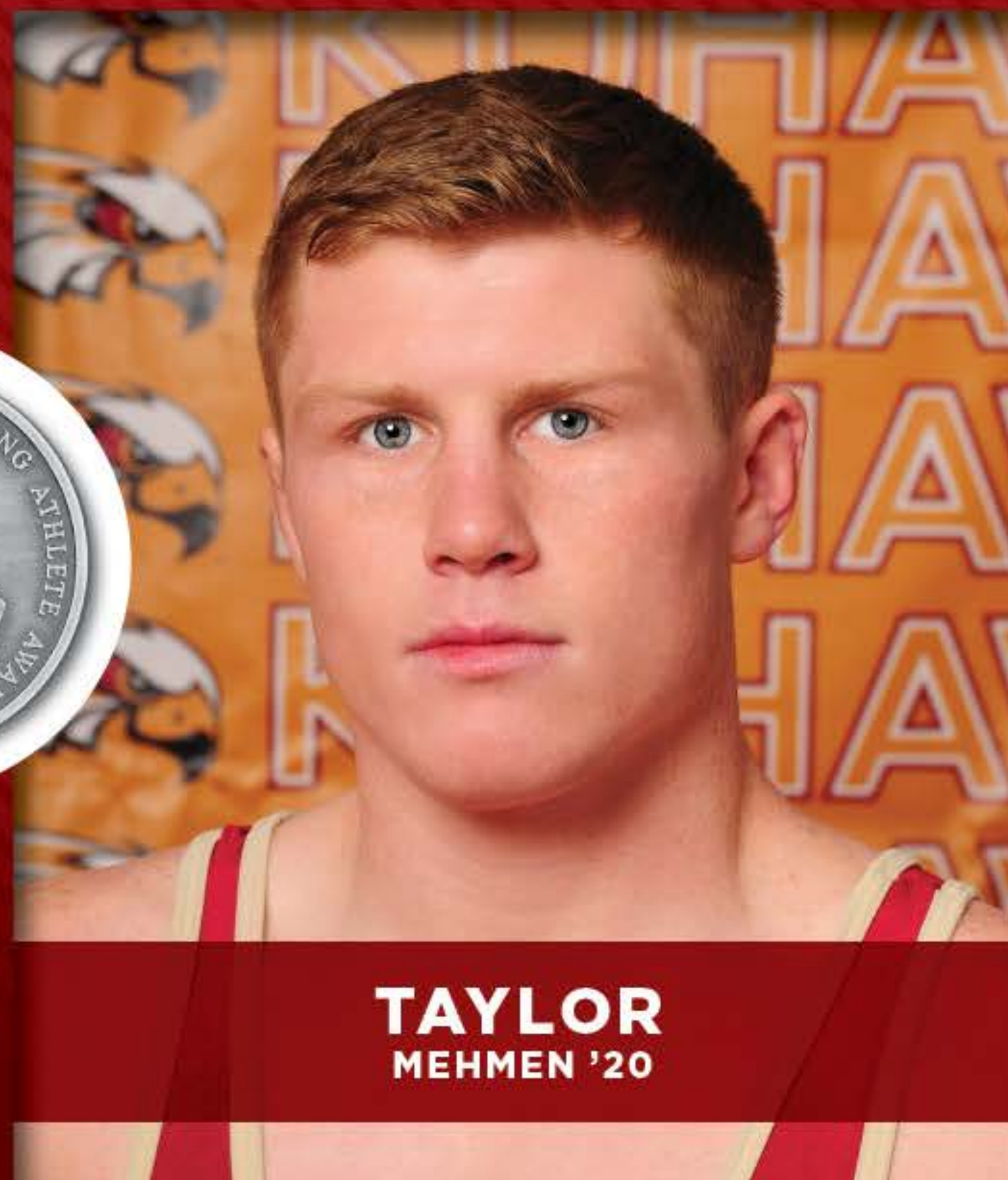
graduated from Coe, Trustee **Kristin Strohm** in 2005 and **Kelly Strohm Galbraith** in 2013.

In the spring of each year, all head coaches at Coe nominate candidates for the award. From this slate of candidates, a committee votes to select the outstanding male and female athlete. The designation of outstanding athlete reflects achievement in athletics within the philosophy of NCAA Division III and is a fitting way to recognize the accomplishments of the young people nominated. The award was renamed after Barron Bremner in honor of his many years of outstanding service to the college, its students and the community as a beloved coach and athletic director.

Despite the awards ceremony being canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions, the winners still will be honored with the traditional medallion and dinner with Coe College Interim President **David Hayes '93** and Director of Athletics and Recreation Steve Cook.



**JACKIE**  
FELDT '21



**TAYLOR**  
MEHMEN '20





# THE KOHAWK EXPERIENCE IN THE

## CORONAVIRUS ERA

FEATURING KEERA BALL '23 AND PROFESSOR KATIE RODGERS '03

**In the midst of a public health crisis, Kohawks have found creative solutions to preserve a sense of normalcy for each other.**



Student-athlete and education major **Keera Ball '23** was in Florida last spring when the first softball season of her college career was disrupted by the coronavirus.

"It was crazy. In one day we started and ended our season. We got to play two games before we received the news and everyone was immediately sent home. On our way home the airports were completely empty. When we got home we realized this was real," she says. "I'm happy we were able to go back to campus this fall. It was difficult last spring when we had to suddenly leave so I'm grateful we were able to stay."

This year, players have protocols to follow during practices like wearing a mask, wiping down helmets and

equipment after use and splitting into groups to limit team practices.

"Softball's been pretty normal, but the biggest difference is team bonding. It has been hard, but our coaches have been helpful in keeping us connected and engaged. They have us doing regular Zoom calls for general check-ins and an opportunity to talk and get to know each other, which has been very helpful," Ball says.

She appreciates what her professors are doing to help students feel



involved. As treasurer of the Coe Student Education Association, Ball realizes how challenging it is to keep members engaged virtually.

“Professors are doing a good job of keeping us connected. I definitely feel normal when I’m in class. We have lots of group discussions, which is helpful to meet more classmates,” she adds.



**Katie Rodgers '03** is one of many faculty members who facilitate these group discussions.

She made the switch to teach virtual classes during the fall term.

“It’s something I’ve never done before. The transition to get coursework ready for virtual learning wasn’t easy either. Because of the derecho storm I didn’t have internet for two months, something I think many professors struggled with. But students have been amazing. They’ve been understanding and give us faculty members grace while we try things out,” she says.

The most difficult aspect for Rodgers has been the limited interaction

between students. To combat this, she requires students to submit a weekly video recording on their reflections of the course material and two video responses to classmate uploads. She also split students into peer networks that changed midterm. These groups have discussions and group-based projects every class.

“I’ve been trying to help students build their community online for a meaningful classroom experience. I mostly have first-year students. I’m trying to get my students to know each other, meet new people in class and hear new perspectives. It’s difficult to read body language or talk to students before or after class so it’s been really important to openly ask for feedback. I’ve been transparent with my students, and it has been very helpful,” she adds.

And while online classes have been a different experience, Rodgers’ students taught her building a community is possible no matter the circumstances.

“A week or two into the term when we were still doing introductions, an

international student in one of my classes typed in the chat that they were sorry if they sometimes won’t say things right because English is not their first language. Immediately, three students replied saying how great she was doing and that they were happy to have her in our class. I can’t imagine that happening in an in-person class. I think sometimes it’s easier to write than say something out loud. Our online class helped this student feel brave to express their feelings, and it garnered that immediate reaction,” she says.

This silver lining and the resiliency of students gives Rodgers comfort knowing that although this is a difficult time, conversations and connections are more intentional than ever. Meanwhile, students like Ball can see and appreciate the efforts made in and out of the classroom.

“It’s been so different from last year, but I know the changes and rules keep us safe. Coe is doing everything possible to help us have as normal of an experience on campus as possible. I’m just happy to be back on campus because I love it here,” Ball says.







Walé Adeosun '84,  
Yvette Hill Adeosun '84



# ENCOURAGING *the* DIVERSE FUTURE *of* COE

**A**s a high school graduate in Lagos, Nigeria, Walé Adeosun '84 had never heard of Coe College. And he never would have had it not been for a farmer from Des Moines, Iowa, who found his way to the Nigerian bank where Walé's father worked. The two struck up a conversation that eventually turned to Walé and his future. He had been accepted at the local university to continue his studies, but his father thought he needed a more suitable career path. So when the farmer mentioned he had attended Coe College, Walé's father thought it might be a good alternative for his son. Walé, however, wasn't so sure. "I came from the British system, so our high schools are called colleges. I went to Igbobi College, and the idea of going to Coe College as a university didn't compute," he said. He decided to attend Southern Illinois University (SIU) to study electrical engineering instead.

Meanwhile, in St. Louis, Missouri, Yvette Hill Adeosun '84 had her sights set on attending college, something her parents had not done. "My grandparents actually all attended college, but my parents' generation did not attend college because of some family dynamics, so we skipped a generation," she said. Yvette's high school guidance counselor highly recommended Coe College, and having a great deal of respect for her counselor, Yvette decided to take her advice and enroll at Coe.

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*"We thought it was important that we make it possible for people like us to also meet at Coe going forward and contribute to the success of the school for the role it's played and pass it on to the next generation."*

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After a year at SIU, Walé needed a change and decided to give Coe a try. He left engineering behind in favor of business administration and economics and learned from such notable professors as Bill Spellman, Ramakrishna Vaitheswaran, Mickey Wu and Mike Sandberg. Yvette pursued psychology, discovering a love for research thanks to Professor James Randall and eagerly learning all she could from Professor Wendy Dunn. Walé and Yvette made the most of campus life and met many new friends — but most importantly, they found each other. "We actually started dating our junior year at Coe College, and it wasn't until we graduated that we truly realized that we were really each other's best friends," Yvette said.

Following graduation, Yvette returned home to St. Louis to attend graduate school at Washington University, and Walé moved to Minneapolis for work, with plans to pursue his MBA at the

University of Chicago the next year. But it didn't take long for the two to realize they were meant to be together for the rest of their lives, and they didn't want to wait any longer. Instead of heading for Chicago, Walé joined Yvette in St. Louis, and they were married in 1985.

Thirty-five years later, Coe remains a significant part of Walé and Yvette's lives. The education they received and the relationships they formed with their professors have opened countless doors for them in their professional lives. Walé earned his MBA with a concentration in finance from Washington University and has developed a career in global institutional investment management. He is the founder and chief investment officer of Kuramo Capital Management, an international firm that provides U.S. endowments, foundations and pension plans access to tremendous growth opportunities in sub-Saharan Africa. Among his many achievements, he was one of the first people in Nigeria to attain the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) in 1995 and was appointed to former President Barack Obama's Advisory Council on Doing Business in Africa. Yvette earned her master's degree from the Brown School of Social Work at Washington University, the top program of its kind in the country. Throughout her career, she has worked extensively in higher education at the University of Chicago, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Fordham University and is now an academic consultant and philanthropist in both the U.S. and Nigeria.

The couple is incredibly grateful to Coe for the role it has played in their family, which includes their three sons. They are active supporters of the college, with Walé serving on the Board of Trustees since 2015. But they wanted to show their appreciation for Coe in an even greater way, which led them to make a seven-figure planned gift to the college. "We thought it was important that we make it possible





for people like us to also meet at Coe going forward and to then contribute to the success of the school for the role it's played and pass it on to the next generation," Walé said.

Walé and Yvette are directing their gift to three different purposes that will benefit Coe and its students in numerous ways. One portion of their gift will establish and endow a professorship in the social sciences, while another part will be set aside as unrestricted support for Coe's president to direct toward current priorities and needs of the college. The remainder of their gift will create a sizable scholarship fund that will contribute to the diversity of Coe's student body. The couple wanted to replicate the population they represent, so they will designate the scholarship to students from Walé's high school and other parts of Nigeria and sub-Saharan Africa, as well as students from historically underrepresented groups or areas of the U.S., such as Yvette's hometown of St. Louis.

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*"I feel that it's very important if you have funds to recruit and to creatively look for talented people that may have various disadvantages in society, I think that that's very important to continue to do."*

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One of the things Walé and Yvette enjoyed most about attending Coe was meeting classmates from all over the country and the world. "I think Coe College was ahead of its time. Early on, it was a very global school," Yvette said. "With me kind of being a first-generation

student — after we skipped one of my generations — I found that very eye-opening for me." Being an international student himself, Walé spent a lot of his time with other students from outside the U.S. "I made friends from the Middle East, from Asia, from Latin America, all over — I think we kind of formed a United Nations," he said. He and Yvette have been pleased to see Coe become even more diverse in the years since they graduated. "We believe that having a diverse group of people in college, particularly liberal arts, is very powerful. They have different thoughts, perspectives on life, perspectives on issues. I think people learn and grow from that, and I think we were beneficiaries of that experience," Walé said.

Walé and Yvette see Coe as a leader in diversity, equity and inclusion efforts, and they are proud to help the college make further strides in this area. "I feel that it's very important if you have funds to recruit and to creatively look for talented people that may have various disadvantages in society, I think that that's very important to continue to do," Yvette said.

The couple also encourages other alumni to get involved with Coe's initiatives in whatever ways they are able to do so. "This is just a critical time, particularly in the history of the United States. I think the challenges arising from the COVID-19 virus and implications on the economy and on the lives of people, we all find that instances like this really exacerbate the fractures that are in society," Walé said. "And I think universities and colleges, as institutions of learning, have to address the systemic racism that's in the U.S. So alums that really share the passion of a more inclusive United States — an environment where there is more equity, an environment where diverse views are treasured and appreciated — should definitely join, in terms of giving more to the school that's taking a leading position on these kinds of topics."



Walé Adeosun '84, Yvette Hill Adeosun '84 and their three sons.

Walé Adeosun '84, Yvette Hill Adeosun '84  
Chi Omega formal 1984





# HONOR THE LIFE OF COACH STEVE STAKER

## *The football scoreboard project at Clark Field*

Coach Steve Staker lit up a room with his infectious smile and quick sense of humor. He was kind, generous with his time and took joy in making real and genuine connections with everyone he met.

“What a man. What a life. I’ll never forget being 17 years old and sitting in the Coe College cafeteria enjoying an ice cream cone with Coach Staker and my parents when I first visited Coe. I always draw back to that moment and memory as the one that led me to go to Coe — and changed the trajectory of my life forever. I loved learning from him. I loved playing for him. I loved seeing how much he loved his family and friends and how much they loved him back. I love how much my life has been shaped by him, and I love that I got to call him my friend. That’s a lot of love,” said **Ross Yeast ’10**, Coe College linebacker 2006-10.

The Staker family is pleased to announce they will be making a lead gift toward a state-of-the-art digital scoreboard at Clark Field as a testament to Steve’s legacy at Coe. The new Kohawk scoreboard is a fitting way to honor his legacy and replace the football scoreboard demolished in the derecho. Although insurance payouts will offset some of the costs, the funds only partially will cover the replacement of the existing scoreboard, which after many decades of service was badly in need of updates.

With a generous \$50,000 gift from the Staker family, a state-of-the-art digital scoreboard will still require an additional \$150,000 for the purchase and installation at Clark Field. If 100 of Coach Staker’s former players, friends and coaching peers (the “Staker 100”) each contribute a memorial gift in the amount of \$1,500

(payable over three years), the new scoreboard will be dedicated in Steve’s memory. Our goal completion date for this project will be March 2021.

Known affectionately as “Papa Stake,” Steve had an incredible gift for bringing out the best in everyone. He was a role model, mentor and friend for many student-athletes over his 50 years of teaching and coaching at Coe.

In gratitude for your gift, the college will install and list the Staker 100 on a special plaque at Clark Field Stadium. This plaque will permanently celebrate and mark Steve Staker’s Hall of Fame career, his leadership within the Coe community and the positive impact on the lives of so many friends, families and players.

*To make your Staker 100 gift in memory of Coach Steve Staker,  
go to [www.alumni.coe.edu/stakerscoreboard](http://www.alumni.coe.edu/stakerscoreboard).*





# A Coe education: a family tradition

## Mary Ann Turnbull



Every Kohawk has cherished memories of Coe College. Ringing the Victory Bell to celebrate the start of their adventure, laughing fits with friends on Flunk Day and plates stacked high with pancakes at Late-Night Breakfast are now mental keepsakes of a place that feels like home. For **Mary Ann Turnbull Kucera '58** memories of Coe are interwoven into every aspect of her life.

"Coe is my home. My aunt Roby (**Eliza Hickok Kesler '31**) always said she was born under a bush on campus," Mary Ann laughs.

Four generations of family roots at Coe date to 1905 when Mary Ann's grandfather, Charles Thomas Hickok, became a political science professor. Her parents **Mary Louise Hickok Turnbull '26** and **James L. Turnbull '27** married after meeting at Coe. Mary Ann's grandfather and aunt raised her in the Coe community after her mother passed away when she was an infant.

"Growing up, I went to every commencement and messiah. I always looked forward to doing the messiah for Christmas in the old Sinclair Chapel. It was a wonderful tradition and was just beautiful. I remember my grandfather's office. He would pitch a tent in the town square during the summers to work on recruiting students to Coe. He would talk to the families, and I found it amazing to meet so many people," she says.

The Hickoks are a Coe icon. Mary Ann's grandfather taught at Coe for 40 years and served as chair of the



# Family affair

## Kucera '58

Political Science Department during War World II while the majority of men on campus were overseas. Roby founded Thursday Forum to expand the community's access to quality educational programming and honor Coe faculty's academic excellence. The Hickok family's lifetime service to the college continues to be prevalent for students today with scholarship funds. It was this love and appreciation for Coe that wouldn't allow Mary Ann and her sister **Elizabeth Turnbull** Hixson '66 to imagine being anywhere else for their college education.

"My mom filled out a Coe application for me when she found out she was pregnant. She wrote an admission date of 1954 and a graduation date of 1958," she says.

Mary Ann's family lineage of educators and trailblazing women influenced the community outside of the college as well. Her own education and experience at Coe has fueled a lifelong passion for empowering students and women.

"I always wanted to be a teacher. I can't believe all the opportunities available for women now majoring in chemistry. They can move on to go to graduate school and even work in medicine. Before, the only option was to be a teacher," she says.

But Mary Ann wanted to use her degrees in history and chemistry to follow in her mother's footsteps. She became the first full-time chemistry major student-teacher at Washington High School, while pregnant and graduating magna cum laude. She met her future husband, the late **Howard Kucera '58**, in religion class at Coe in the building with her family's namesake, Hickok Hall. They married on

September 7, 1957. Mary Ann was a Tri Delta just like her mother and aunt, with her own daughter, **Beth Kucera '81**, and granddaughters, **Alex Fangman '14** and **Maddy Fangman** Taylor '15, following suit.

"I became the president of the Cedar Rapids School Board during the 1980s farm crisis," she says. Mary Ann volunteered in the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library, Brucemore National Trust, Children's Theatre, League of Women Voters and Junior League of Cedar Rapids.

Mary Ann only has missed one Thursday Forum in 1989 when she was recovering from a car accident. Her lifelong support of Coe, attending every opening convocation to welcome new students and supporting scholarship programs, led to the Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award in 2013.

"Alumni support is critical for the well-being of the college. I promote Coe everywhere I go for what it provided my family and myself. Coe's given a wonderful education for so many people. I want these opportunities to be available for future students," she says.

Because of this, Mary Ann continues to support her family legacy through the Hickok International May Term Travel Fund and the Howard Kucera Physics Scholarship, which was established after Howard's passing in October. Mary Ann even donated her husband's master thesis for students interested in graduate school to learn from.

"It's a great way to show we appreciate the education we received at Coe and the opportunities that were presented to us. I'm proud that so many alumni continue to give back to Coe — to volunteer or serve on the Board of Trustees or Alumni Council," she adds.

While events like the May Pole Dance to celebrate the beginning of spring are no longer a part of the Coe experience for Kohawks, one thing continues to stand the test of time.

"The personal connections made at Coe are meaningful and continue throughout the years," Mary Ann says.





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# BRINGING CAMPUS BACK TO LIFE

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When the sky over Cedar Rapids turned dark and cloudy on August 10, it seemed a typical summer thunderstorm was on its way. But the storm that struck just after noon that day was anything but typical. For nearly an hour, the city was pummeled by a derecho that brought heavy rain and winds in excess of 130 mph.

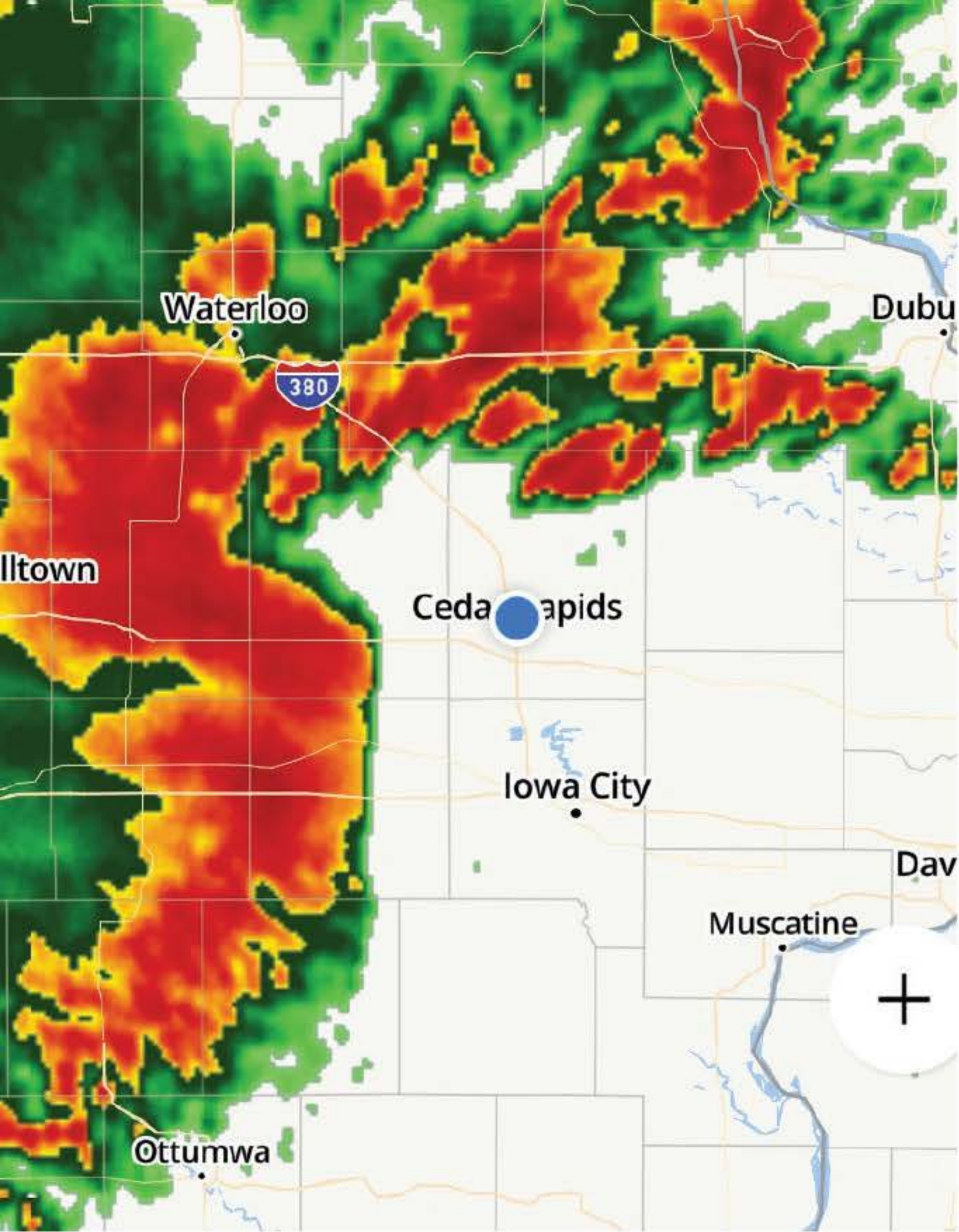
On Coe's campus, students who already had moved in for the fall term were settling into their rooms and adjusting to the new "normal" of campus life during the COVID-19 pandemic. **Jeanette Gonzales '21** was working at her job in the cafeteria when the storm hit. "Watching and listening as the day went from perfectly normal to having tree branches hitting the windows as students were trying to eat caused a lot of panic," she said. "We never expected the thunderstorms to be what they were."

When the winds finally died down, 28 buildings across campus were damaged, over 200 trees were uprooted or destroyed and debris littered the ground. The power was out and cell service was down, adding to the chaos and confusion. In spite of the challenges — made even greater by the many COVID-19 precautions in place — Coe staff never lost sight of their top priority to take care of students. Gonzales was grateful that one of Coe's security officers recently had trained cafeteria

staff how to respond in a natural disaster, and she was proud of the way Coe handled the situation overall. "The days following the derecho, I appreciated how Coe tried their best to communicate with students, staff and parents alike to make sure we were updated. They also did really well handling the gas leak situation on the day of, as well as the delay of classes due to lack of power everywhere," she said.

As cleanup efforts began on campus, it was clear the road to recovery would be neither short nor easy. With property losses and cleanup costs of approximately \$2.25 million, the college faced added financial strain on top of the unexpected costs of the pandemic. But just as Coe took care of its students, the Coe community has taken care of the college. Over 150 volunteers came together just days after the storm to help clean up the debris. In the months since, the Physical Plant team has been hard at work repairing damage and landscaping to restore campus to its former glory. Such an undertaking has required extra financial resources, and many generous donors have answered the call for gifts to the Storm Relief Fund to help rebuild and revitalize the campus grounds. Among them are several of Coe's Greek life alumni groups — including Delta Delta Delta, Sigma Nu and Lambda Chi Alpha — who challenged each other to raise nearly \$20,000.









Support for the landscape restoration efforts came in the form of new trees as well. As soon as **Paul Bachman '73** heard that Coe was in need of help, he made a five-figure lead gift to support the cause and offered Coe several dozen trees at cost from his family business, Bachman's Nursery. **Clark McLeod '68**, president and CEO of the nonprofit Monarch Research Project, also was happy to donate trees to Coe through the organization's Planting Forward program. Tree donations also were provided by Living Lands and Waters, Cargill and the ReLeaf Cedar Rapids program through the city.

In all, 120 trees were delivered to Coe in October, ready to be planted by the Coe Physical Plant crew and over 100 student volunteers. The new trees were a welcome and hopeful sight after so much devastation just a couple months earlier. "After seeing the effort with the cleanup and then the replanting, it's just really nice to see and to see that the future of Coe is still going to be very beautiful here on campus," said Grounds Manager Chad Sunner.

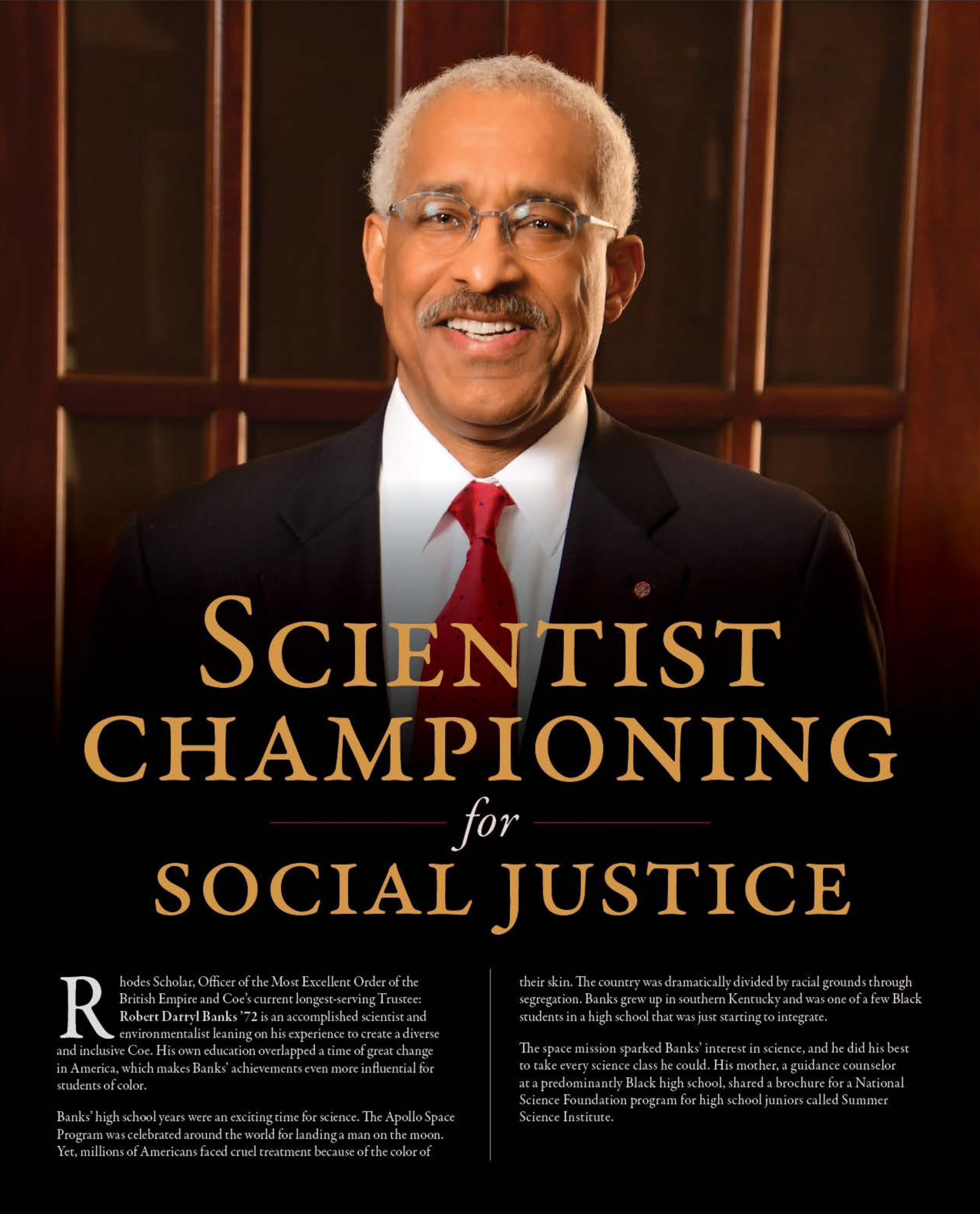
The students who took part in the planting were excited to play a hands-on role in restoring the campus landscape. "There is a good community at Coe. We all saw what campus looked like after the storm, and everyone has just wanted to come together to make campus beautiful," said **Brianna Yanta '24**.

Helping plant the trees also was a way for some students to make their mark on the college. "I really like nature and I really like the Coe campus, and I want to be able to look back 10 years from now and be like, I planted that tree," said **Benjamin Mei '23**.

Apart from enhancing the beauty of campus, the recovery of Coe's landscaping and vegetation serves an important environmental purpose. The majority of the new trees are keystone species native to Iowa that will help replenish the local ecosystem, which suffered incredible losses from the derecho. Coe's campus has the distinction of being an Urban Field Station that provides opportunities to study sustainability and the interaction of the city within the campus environment, and restoring the landscape is critical to continuing those efforts.

The new trees that have taken root are just the beginning. Coe plans to acquire and plant dozens more trees in the coming months and continue transforming our beloved campus. To commemorate the restoration of Coe's landscape and honor the donors who made it possible, an outdoor kiosk with a map of marked landscape areas and newly planted trees will be installed. Crimson and gold tags will be hung on the trees so that all who walk through campus in years to come will see the impact of the Coe community's generosity.



A portrait of Robert Darryl Banks, a man with grey hair, glasses, and a mustache, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and red tie. He is smiling and standing in front of a dark wood-paneled wall.

# SCIENTIST CHAMPIONING *for* SOCIAL JUSTICE

**R**hodes Scholar, Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire and Coe's current longest-serving Trustee: Robert Darryl Banks '72 is an accomplished scientist and environmentalist leaning on his experience to create a diverse and inclusive Coe. His own education overlapped a time of great change in America, which makes Banks' achievements even more influential for students of color.

Banks' high school years were an exciting time for science. The Apollo Space Program was celebrated around the world for landing a man on the moon. Yet, millions of Americans faced cruel treatment because of the color of

their skin. The country was dramatically divided by racial grounds through segregation. Banks grew up in southern Kentucky and was one of a few Black students in a high school that was just starting to integrate.

The space mission sparked Banks' interest in science, and he did his best to take every science class he could. His mother, a guidance counselor at a predominantly Black high school, shared a brochure for a National Science Foundation program for high school juniors called Summer Science Institute.



"I looked at the brochure in amazement. There were colleges and universities across the country hosting really neat programs. I eventually flipped through the brochure and found Coe. I'd never heard of it, but it caught my eye because it offered three courses that got me really excited," he says.

Banks spent the summer between his high school junior and senior years at Coe taking math, physics and chemistry courses. When he returned home and it was time to apply to colleges, he thought about staying in the South. But he couldn't shake off how much he'd enjoyed himself at Coe.

Growing up, his parents and grandparents were a strong force of inspiration for Banks. They instilled a strong sense of identity, confidence and self pride that was important in his decision to choose Coe. It helped Banks understand he should take a deep dive into an opportunity that was historically out of reach for his ancestors.

"We all are standing on the shoulders of our ancestors that suffered all sorts of trials. We can't drop the baton. We have to carry it forward," he says.

Banks found himself back at Coe the following fall. The next four years provided a strong foundation he carried over to Oxford University and his career.

"My time at Coe opened my mind to a whole range of things I had never thought about before outside of my lane of science. It was one of the most intellectually exciting times of my life. I learned there are other things that were just as important to explore and learn. I had great professors. In fact, I often tell people that as a scientist I learned my craft at Coe. My professors got us out of textbooks and lectures and focused on getting us to interact with each other and to spend an enormous amount of time in the laboratory," he says.

His lifelong work in science, civic affairs and public policy has been directly influenced by his time at Coe. The liberal arts curriculum exposed Banks to different ideas and specialized courses. A reading seminar tailored to science policy triggered Banks to take political science and economics courses with the persuasion of professors.

"My professors nurtured and built my self-confidence. They told me I could succeed and that mistakes were for learning. This was vital for me. Students of color, particularly in the sciences, do not have this kind of attention and encouragement. I can't reiterate how vital it is for young women scientists and young scientists of color to have the support of their professors, which is one of the beauties of the Coe experience," he says.

Banks' college education took place during another pivotal moment in U.S. history. The country was on the cusp of the civil rights movement and anti-war demonstrations. Students challenged traditions and established viewpoints.

"It was an exciting time to be a student watching the world change. There was student activism on campus largely led by minority students. This initiated student faculty committees, which I served on as a student representative. At the time, Coe was not nearly as diverse as it is today so this committee was active in bringing up issues to college governance," he says.

Retired Professor Emeritus of English and African American Studies James H. Randall was the only tenured professor of color at the time. He was a beacon of support, an anchor and safe harbor for Coe's Black students.

Banks praises Coe College President Dave McNally and Provost and Dean of Faculty Paula O'Loughlin's tenure as major contributors to an increase in faculty of color. In the last four years, inclusive hiring practices have increased faculty of color from 2% to 12% with changed tenure guidelines to support the promotion of faculty of color. These efforts have been recognized by the Diverse Organizational Impact and Transformation program. Coe is one of only 12 schools in the nation to receive a DOIT 'B' grade.

"It's very valuable to have someone understand the path you're walking on. It's important for students of color to feel represented and have someone who looks like them. This can encourage students to think 'that can be me' and pursue academia or any other high-level position. It also signals to white students on campus that leadership can be diverse, but it certainly sends a supportive message to students of color," he says.

Banks is proud of the changes he's seen at Coe over the last 40 years he's been associated with the college. As a Board of Trustees member, he's been an advocate for diversity and racial justice.

In October 2019, Banks took his usual stroll around campus before the fall board meeting when he stumbled across a sight he couldn't believe. The spectrum and richness of the diversity of students he saw was something he never experienced at Coe as a student. It was gratifying to see these changes first-hand and the lasting impression these efforts are having on campus.

Coe has seen the most diverse incoming classes in the history of the college for eight years in a row. Continuing this momentum, Banks authored a motion passed by the Board of Trustees that a fellow trustee described as a historic action for the board. The action plan was designed to address bias, discrimination and racial justice at Coe. It was officially launched this summer to address five areas of the college that need improvement.

"It's important to realize it's not a political motion. It's a statement of values, our human values," he says.

One of the motions is to continue to diversify the hiring process of faculty and staff.

"It's our statement of action to knock down stereotypes and further support students. The Board of Trustees governs the overall policy of the college, and this amendment helps solidify our commitment into the fabric of who we are at Coe," Banks adds.

The board-led effort was in collaboration with students, faculty and staff. Other key points include the integration of racism and diversity courses in the general education requirements and mandatory ongoing diversity and implicit bias training for board members, faculty and staff. A task force is also set up to research and help fundraise new diversity, equity and inclusion programs that can be incorporated at Coe.

"If you read Coe's mission statement, you'll see this action plan is a direct reflection of that. We want students to leave Coe with the confidence to participate and be successful in a diverse interconnected world. This is what we want our students to experience in a more diverse, inclusive and equitable Coe," Banks says.

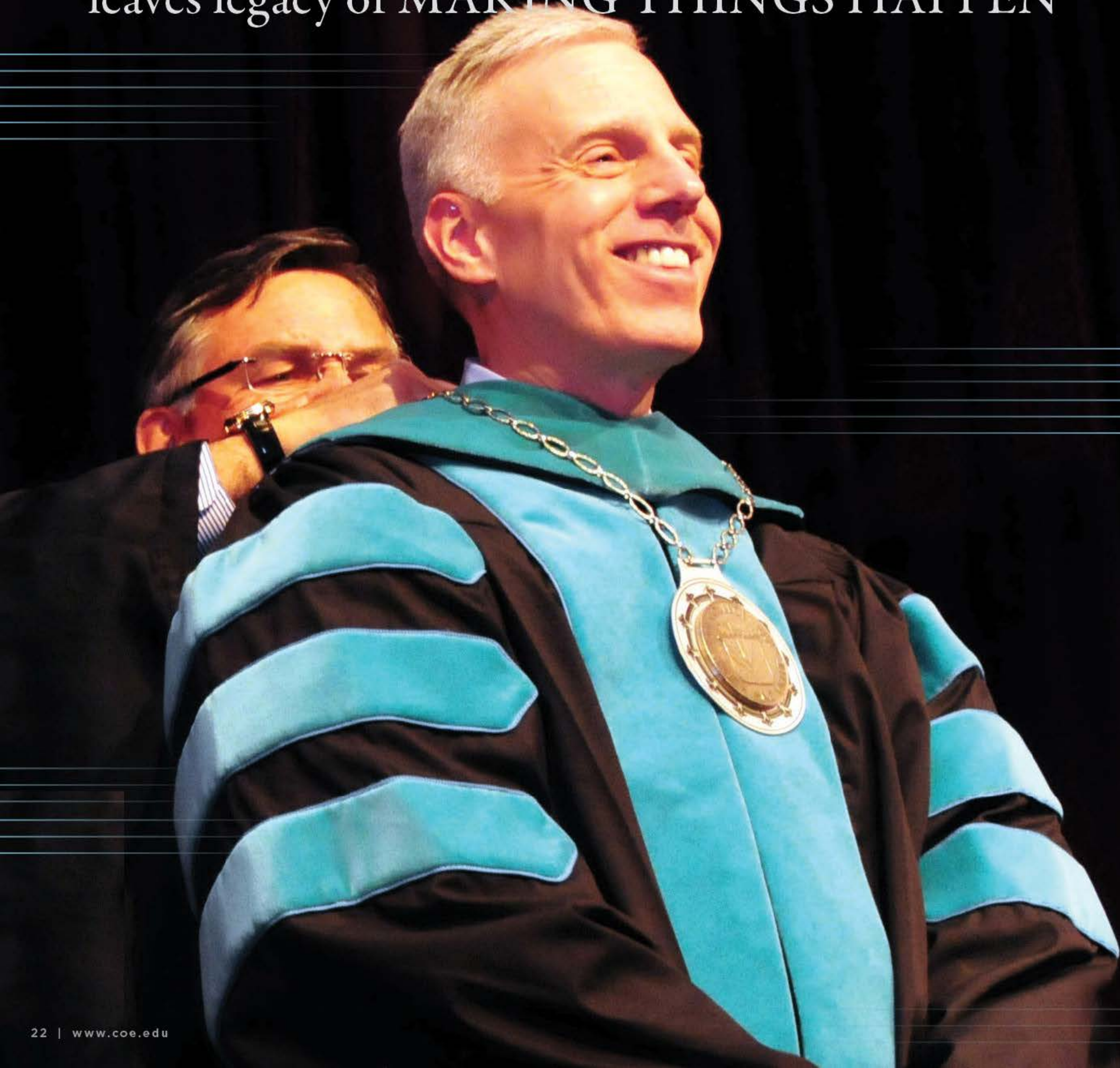
*"It's very valuable to have someone understand the path you're walking on. It's important for students of color to feel represented and have someone who looks like them. This can encourage students to think 'that can be me' and pursue academia or any other high-level position. It also signals to white students on campus that leadership can be diverse, but it certainly sends a supportive message to students of color."*



*PRESIDENT*

# DAVID MCINALLY

leaves legacy of MAKING THINGS HAPPEN





“President McNally has had an incredible impact on my life that will last far beyond my time at Coe. His leadership skills and unwavering morals have taught me how vital it is to apply a human element to every decision without fail and to always believe in something,” said **Kayden Dangremond ’21**.

If someone knows how to lead with heart, it's Coe College President David McNally. He's more than the mastermind behind a buzzing pollinator garden, a thriving intercultural center and eight consecutive years of the largest incoming classes. Dave is an advocate for all students. The first-generation college student and National Merit Scholar became the 15th president of Coe College on July 1, 2013. He may be retiring at the end of the 2020-21 academic year, but he will always be a Kohawk.

“Serving as Coe’s president has been the greatest privilege of my professional life. I’m proud to have served beside such dedicated Kohawks. Coe is a special community with a commitment to students that is second to none. My time as president is ending, but I will always have a deep connection to the college. I value the students, faculty and staff and will carry these relationships close to my heart,” Dave said.

During his tenure, Dave launched efforts to increase Coe’s enrollment, improve student success rates, enhance facilities and elevate the college’s visibility and connections within the region and beyond. Along with introducing the Make Your Move Campaign in fall 2015 — which initiated the largest building projects in Coe’s history — Dave was instrumental in creating the college’s current five-year strategic plan, A Bolder Coe.

Under Dave’s leadership, Coe welcomed the eight largest incoming classes and full-time enrollments in its history. Improved retention rates, reduced endowment spending and enhancements to campus infrastructure also are attributed to Dave’s presidency.

“Dave’s commitment to increasing college access has been instrumental in welcoming new students to Coe. Coe is nationally recognized as a leader in social mobility, and 40% of our most recent incoming class is made up of first-generation college students. Dave’s leadership in these areas has made Coe more accessible,” said Vice President for Enrollment, Marketing & Institutional Effectiveness **Julie Kleis Staker ’93**.

The 2015 strategic plan introduced the Learning Commons, a holistic learning environment providing academic support and guidance to help Kohawks get the most out of their Coe experience. It also paved the way for creation of the C3: Creativity, Careers and Community center. C3 connects current students with alumni, business partners, internships and career opportunities. C3 has been a catalyst for Coe’s inclusion in The Princeton Review’s Top 25 Best Schools for Internships in the nation for the last three years.

“Coe has a culture where networking and personal connections matter. Dave’s commitment to these concepts and preparing students for success upon graduation led to our comprehensive center that is focused on helping students transition to life after Coe. Because of Dave, Kohawks will benefit from this holistic approach and commitment to connections for generations to come,” said Associate Vice President for Advancement **Barb Ernst Tupper ’89**.

Completion of the Make Your Move Campaign enhanced academic space for Kohawks and put Coe on the map with one of the best athletic and wrestling facilities in the region. With Dave at the helm, Coe has seen more than \$40 million in campus renovations. The campus has been transformed into an Urban Field Station through a variety of sustainability initiatives including energy reduction, renewable energy generation, water management, organic landscaping, installation of the green roof on Gage Memorial Union, rain gardens throughout campus and solar panels on Clark Racquet Center.

“Dave provided consistent, visible and tangible support to the sustainability movement at Coe. He saw an opportunity to make impactful change by raising the

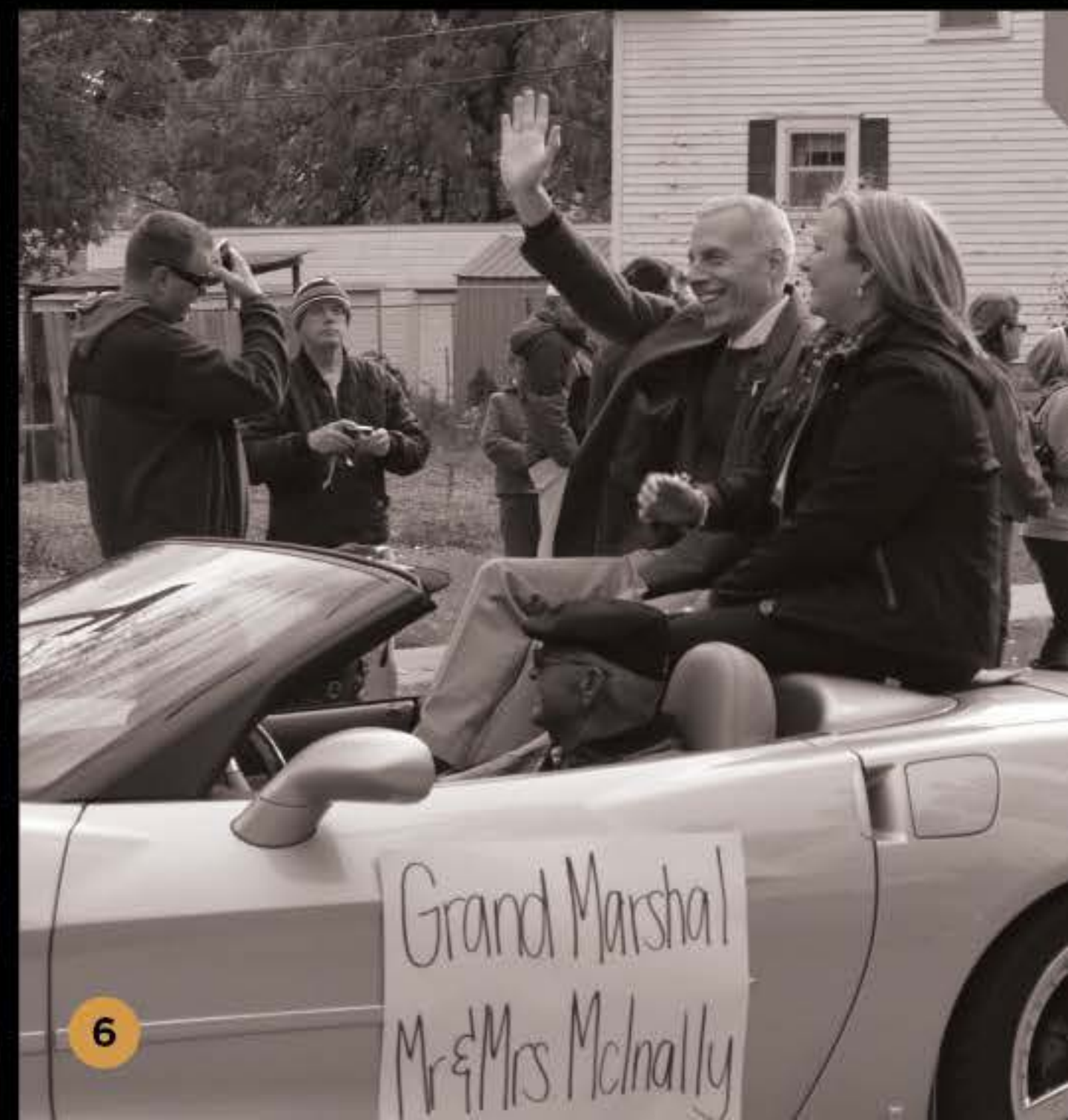
voices of Coe community members who are passionate about adopting environmentally friendly practices on campus. This support is not only a benefit to the college but powerful for our students as well. His tireless advocacy for sustainable practices will ensure future generations have an opportunity to enjoy the same access to natural resources that we enjoy today. He helped empower a generation of young people to continue advocating for the planet well beyond their time at Coe,” said Vice President for Finance and Administration **Larry Lee**.

In addition to enrolling the most diverse incoming classes over the past seven years, Dave’s focus on diversity and inclusion initiatives resulted in the 2016 dedication of the James H. Randall Intercultural Center, Reflection Room and LGBTQIA+ Resource Center.

“Serving as Coe’s  
president has been the  
*greatest privilege* of  
my professional life.  
*I’m proud* to have  
served beside such  
dedicated Kohawks.”

*PRESIDENT DAVID MCNALLY*









“Dave’s strong leadership has generated significant improvements across all areas, and thankfully, he will be leaving us with great positive momentum,” Coe Board of Trustees Chairman **Ken Golder ’82** said.

Dave earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration and a Master of Arts in English language and literature, both from the University of Akron. He received his Doctor of Education from the University of Pittsburgh in administrative and policy studies. Prior to his time at Coe, Dave served as the assistant dean of students, dean of students, secretary of the college and vice president for finance and planning at Allegheny College, beginning in 1986.

Both he and his wife, Janice, have forged deep bonds with the Coe and Cedar Rapids communities. They enjoy giving of their time and energy to several community organizations and professional associations. They’re both active members at First Presbyterian Church of Cedar Rapids. Dave has served on the board at the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Willis Dady Emergency Shelter, Diversity Focus, Revival Theatre Company, Onward Bank, Iowa College Foundation, Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Iowa Campus Compact. In 2016, he was elected to a two-year term as board chairman of Iowa Campus Compact, a statewide association of college and university presidents who are committed to fulfilling the civic purposes of higher education. He currently serves as a member of the national Campus Compact board of directors.

Janice has served on boards at the Alzheimer’s Association, including as chair; Waypoint; and several other clubs and community associations.

Dave transitioned into his new role as chancellor on January 1, 2021, and will serve in that role until his retirement.

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- 1 Dave and wife Janice at the Coe College 2014 Presidential Ball.
  - 2 Longtime Coe College photographer **George Henry ’49** and Dave pose for a photo.
  - 3 Dave and Janice at the Presidential Search Announcement in October 2012.
  - 4 Dave attends the Make Your Move campaign groundbreaking ceremony.
  - 5 Dave and Professor Marc Falk perform at the 2019 Sophomore Palooza.
  - 6 Dave and Janice as grand marshals at the 2013 Homecoming parade.





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- 7** Will, Susannah, Janice and Dave (left to right).
  - 8** Dave speaking at the 2017 Founder's Medal ceremony for **Marv Levy '50**.
  - 9** Dave meeting with students.
  - 10** Dave became the 15th president of Coe College on July 1, 2013.



“Coe is a special community with a *commitment to students* that is second to none. My time as president is ending, but I will always have a *deep connection to the college.*”

*PRESIDENT DAVID MCINALLY*



As of January 1, former Vice President for Advancement and Professor of Business Administration and Economics **David Hayes '93** became the interim president of Coe College with McNally's guidance as chancellor. Hayes began his professional career as an attorney and returned to Coe in 2001 as director of gift planning and an adjunct professor.

He later served as legal advisor to the president while working as a full-time professor. Hayes is a Charles J. Lynch Outstanding Teacher Award winner.

A national search for Coe's next president will resume as soon as the public health situation allows.





# — Coe students gain — ENTREPRENEURIAL EXPERIENCE THROUGH VIRTUAL KOHAWK STARTUP



judges. They worked hard for this moment over the course of four weeks after splitting into teams to research and create their own startup. Kohawk Startup is a C3: Creativity, Careers, Community series of workshops and mentorships with local business professionals. It typically includes a weekend of hands-on entrepreneurial experience in partnership with NewBoCo. This year's event lasted a full month to accommodate the virtual setting.

"Kohawk Startup is designed to help students get exposed to entrepreneurship. It's about starting something and then finding the resources you need to advance it into reality. Students come away realizing that if the ideal job for them doesn't exist, they can create it themselves. But most importantly, they learn more about themselves as they seek out opportunities to make an impact in this world," said NewBoCo Chief Relationship Officer and Coe Entrepreneur-in-Residence **David Tominsky '98**.

The first-place prize of \$1,000 and an opportunity to participate in the Iowa Startup Accelerator program was awarded to team Renewable Waste, a home-pickup composting service. Pizza Lab, a farm-to-pizza experience, took second place with a prize of \$500, as well as the Audience Choice prize of \$250. The third-place \$250 prize went to Simply Living, an online platform connecting students to social and professional opportunities. In addition to cash prizes, the three winning teams have exclusive access to legal and marketing services to jumpstart their business models.

"It's a very valuable experience for students. Regardless if they win or lose, they come out the other side with new skills. It provides students the opportunity to meet and interact with other professionals for more tangible and impactful conversations on entrepreneurship practices.

The room burst into cheer and applause to mark the end of the third annual Kohawk Startup — in a Zoom room of course. Coe College students let out a sigh of relief and smiled in triumph after presenting their business models to a panel of

C3 created Kohawk Startup to further our effort to make our connections their connections," said Associate Vice President for Advancement **Barb Ernst Tupper '89**.

**Maiya Varner '22**, a member of team Renewable Waste, appreciated being able to meet virtually with mentors and receive feedback. "Most of the time we were just pitching ideas we had and they gave us very valuable ideas and feedback that eventually led us to our final idea," she said. "I also enjoyed being able to work with a partner on an idea that has potential to make a lasting impact beyond the startup, which was something that I was not anticipating. Overall I enjoyed the wisdom and knowledge the mentors and David Tominsky shared with us over the three weeks we were working together."

Tominsky's own connection to Coe is a driving force in lesson planning for student success. The flexibility and resources Coe provided tapped into a passion that led to a career.

"Coe made it possible and helped me understand that I didn't need to narrow my perspective. Today, I'm a chief relationship officer for NewBoCo because I realized the most important skill I have is an interest in helping people make meaningful connections and define their own success," Tominsky added.

C3 relies heavily on alumni and community members to help connect students with jobs and internships, as well as provide them with ample networking opportunities. With the support of the Alumni Office, C3 created 10 career communities on LinkedIn that alumni are encouraged to join. Each community, led by a C3 specialist and a faculty mentor, offers a space for students and alumni to engage, connect and network with others. For more information on how to get involved and show how alumni connections can become student connections, contact C3 Director of Careers Nanci Young at [nyoung@coe.edu](mailto:nyoung@coe.edu).



*2019-2020*

# ANNUAL REPORT

## RESILIENCE OF COMMUNITY

The 2019-2020 fiscal year was nothing short of historic. Despite numerous challenges, we have not faltered in our mission to consistently move Coe forward. We remain committed to support the students and success of Coe College through a residential learning environment. Our alumni, parents and friends always come through in a crisis, rising to this challenge. Without you, we wouldn't be where we are today. There has been no time in recent memory when your commitment to Coe has been so critical to our future. We are entirely grateful to the Coe community for their unwavering support and dedication to our students.





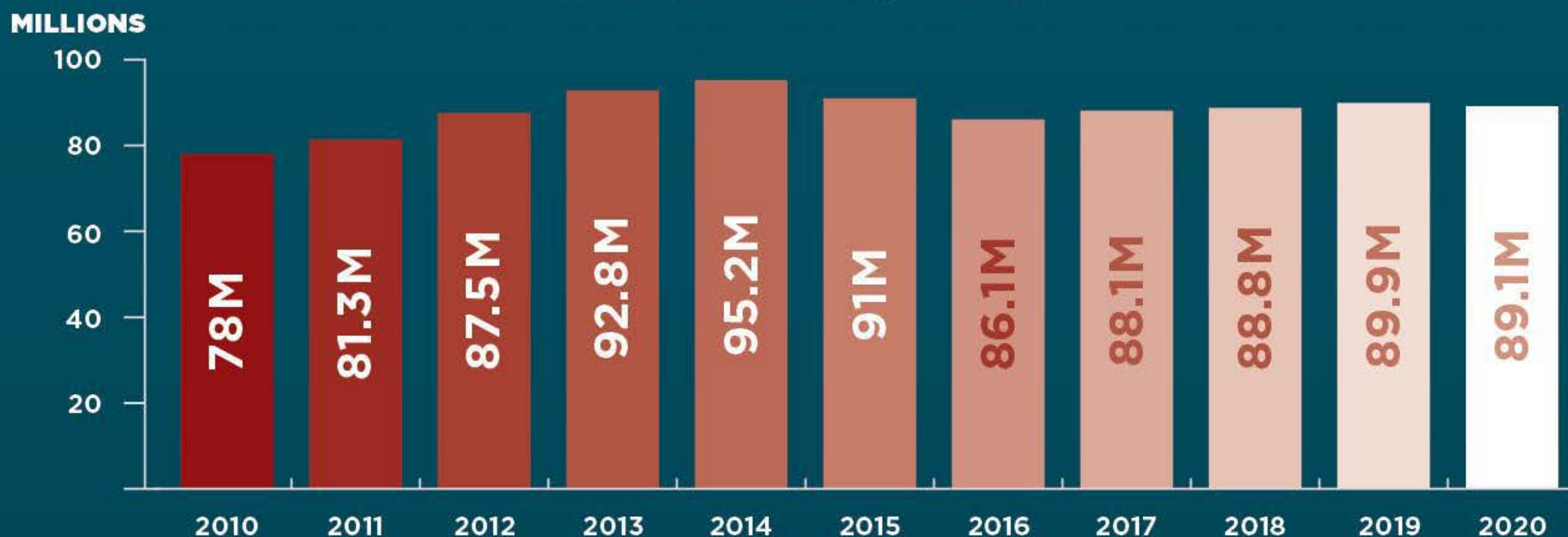
This year's 2019-2020 Coe College Annual Report details a resilient college that continues to work tirelessly to provide a first-rate and rigorous liberal arts education to our students, no matter the circumstances or hardships we face. Despite the significant disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Coe continued to make substantial strides in all key areas, improving its financial sustainability and again lowering its endowment spending. Record enrollment, strong retention and extremely strong fundraising results allowed the college to finish the year with an operating budget surplus, even after providing our students with a prorated refund of spring room and board costs. We remained focused on the overall student experience, meeting the challenge of transitioning online for the spring and preparing for a return to in-person modality and a residential campus this fall under the Safe Campus Initiative. All of us have faced enormous difficulties, uncertainty and pain, but as you consider Coe's outcomes from last year, I ask that you continue to invest in our enterprise. Be proud of our alma mater — thanks to your support and interest, Coe is thriving and taking care of our students, touching their hearts and minds and preparing them for lives of service and meaning, no matter what comes our way. Always a Kohawk!



David T. Hayes  
Interim President

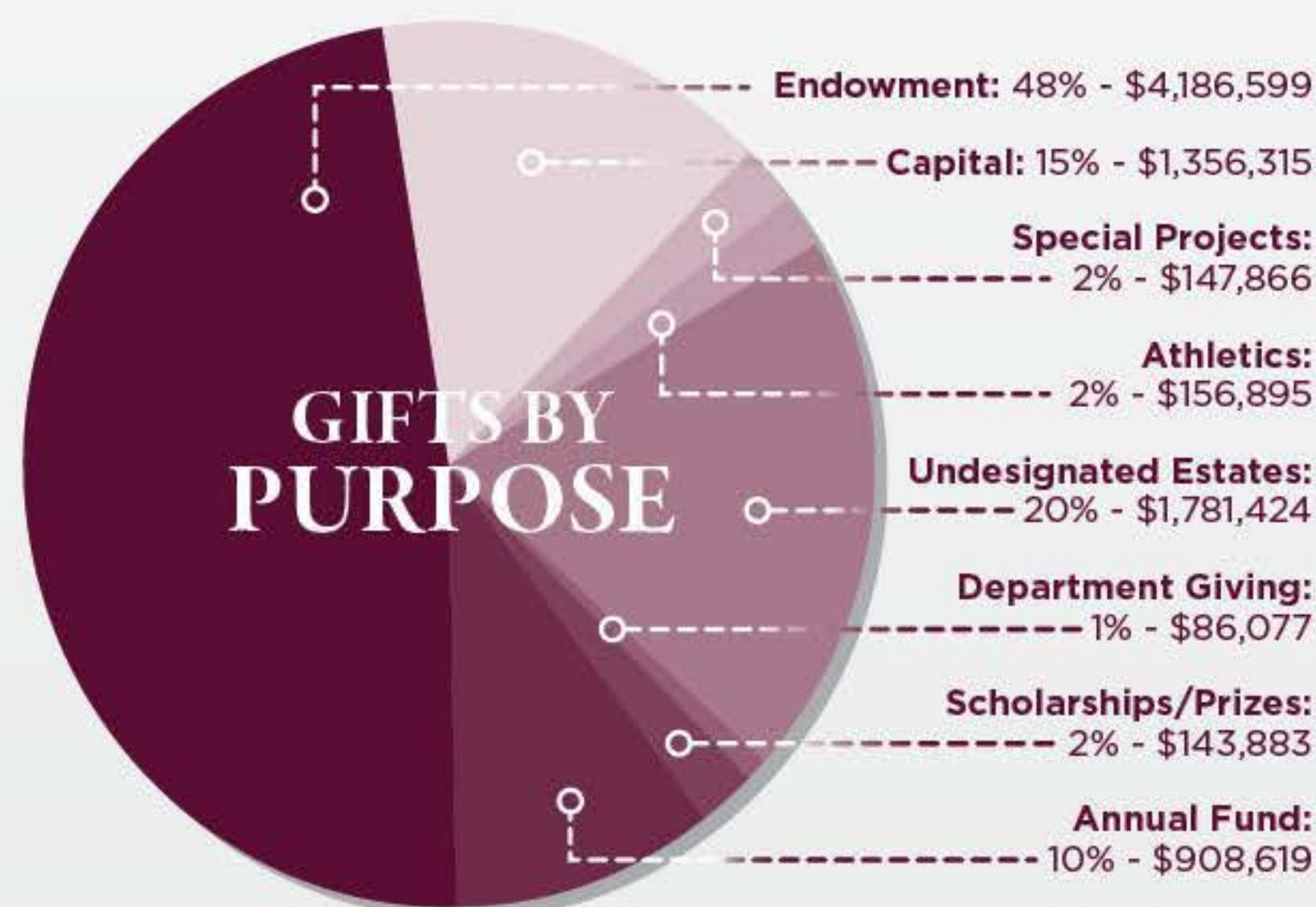
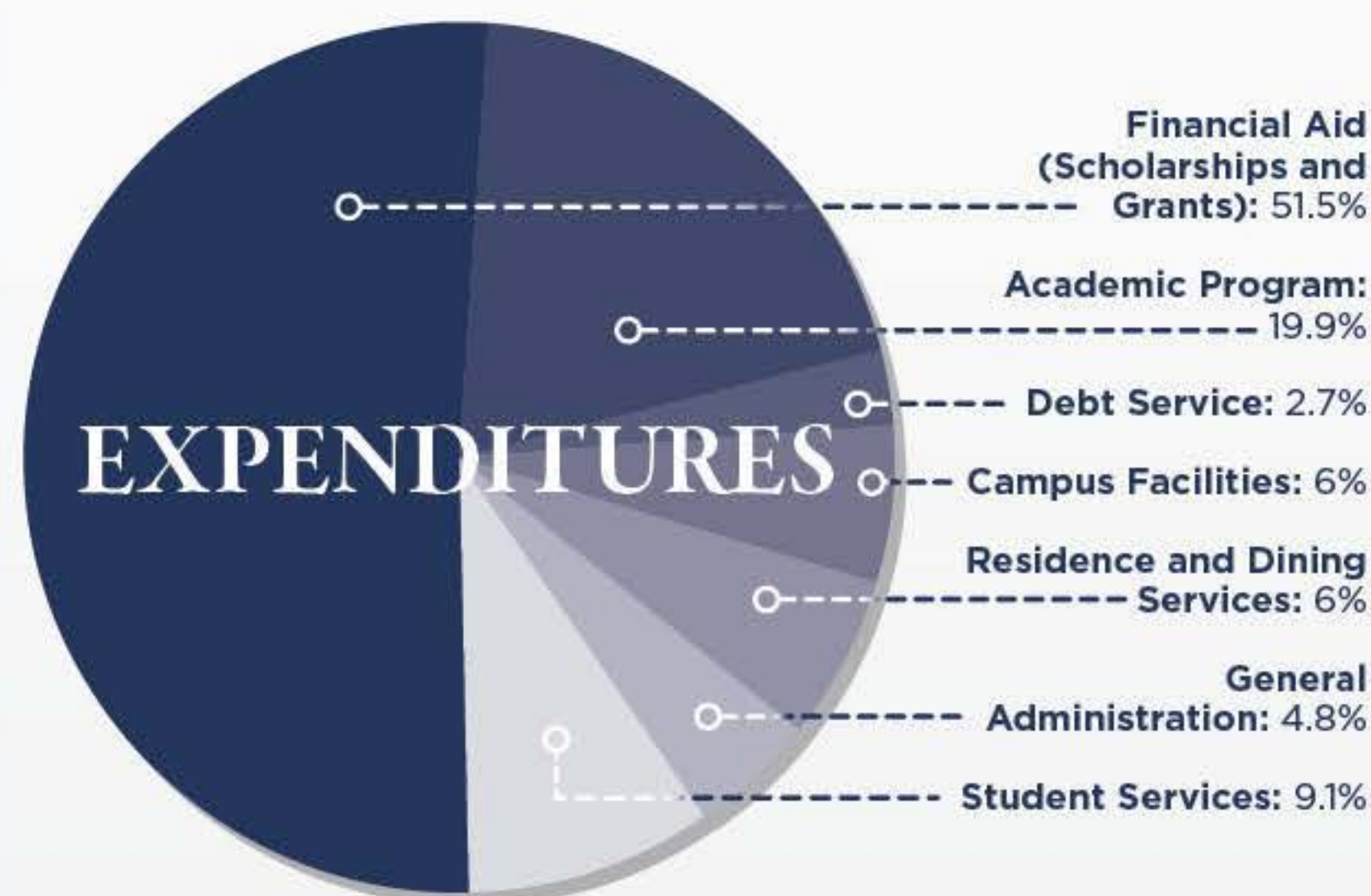
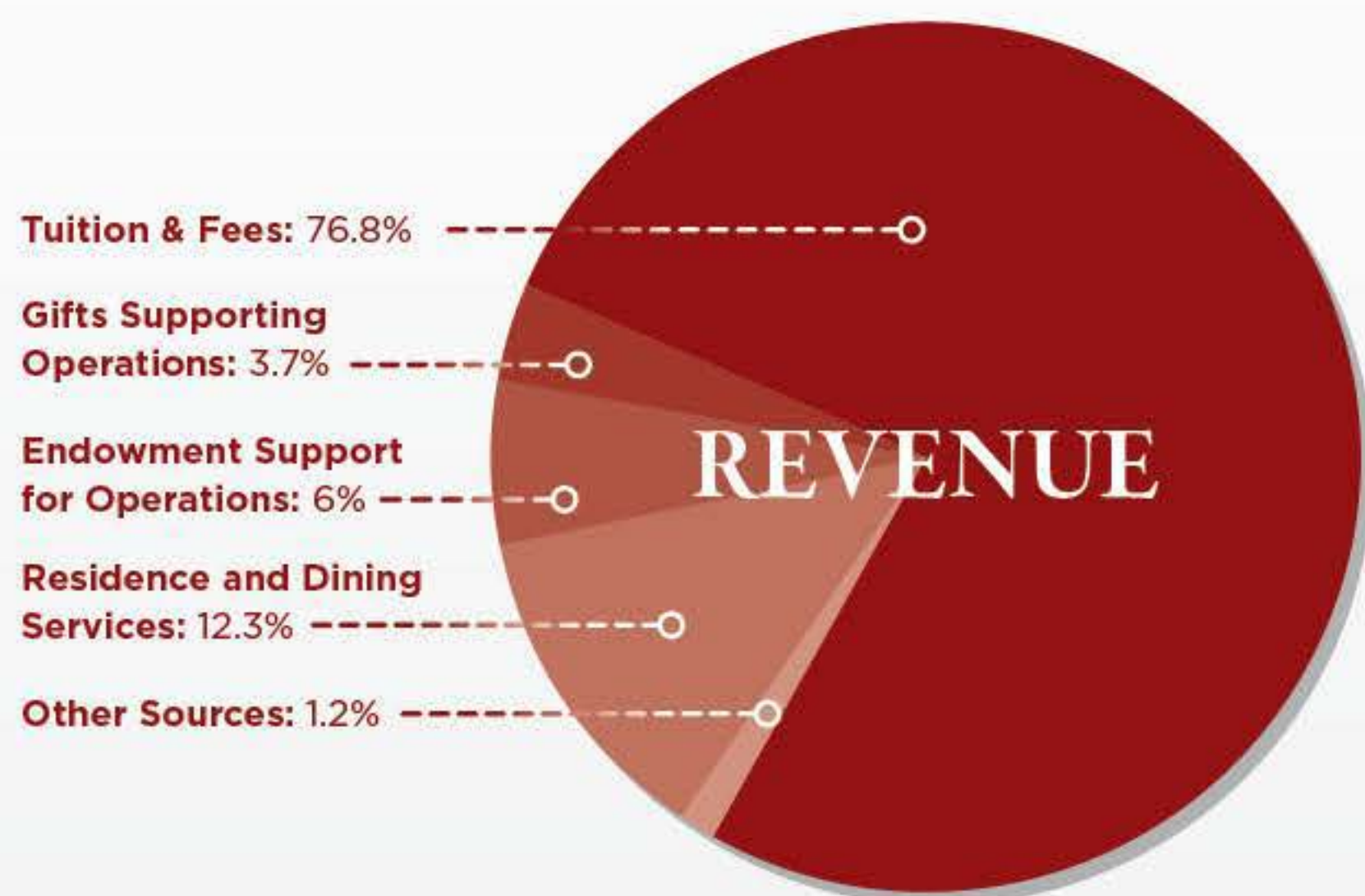
## ENDOWMENT — TOTAL ASSETS MARKET VALUE

Fiscal Years Ending June 30





# 2019-2020 by the numbers...



\*numbers are unaudited



## BECAUSE OF YOU...

"The scholarships that I have received from Coe allowed me to focus solely on my education. The out-of-pocket costs were definitely a major concern for me to attend college; however, thanks to you, the financial burden has been alleviated, and I am able to receive a Coe education!"

*JAZMINE HALL '22*





"I am so grateful for the generous scholarship I received to attend Coe. Your support has opened so many opportunities for my future. All of Coe's precautions for handling the pandemic have made it possible to allow me to attend classes in person this fall, as well as participate in clinicals for my nursing major. This is so important to prepare me for my future career in nursing or if I choose to enlist and become a combat medic. Thank you!"

*EDWIN CASILLAS '22*

# The power of your generosity

Your gifts for fiscal year 2019-2020 ensured that Coe continued to be a community of talented and dedicated faculty, staff and coaches working tirelessly to deliver to our Kohawks a life-changing, first-rate liberal arts education. Every step Coe has taken over the last several months has been student-centered, and we will continue to judge our success this year by the triumphs and growth of our students.

## DAY OF GIVING

Coe's annual Day of Giving was postponed from April to June amid concerns of the pandemic. Though the day was different than years past, Kohawks rallied in heroic ways to take care of our students.

**DONORS: 552 | RAISED: \$503,656.87**

The majority of gifts were designated to Coe's annual fund, which supports the college's area of greatest need. Your generosity helped offset many unforeseen costs associated with the pandemic to allow Coe to take care of the student community.



## SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS DURING CRISIS

Trustee **Kristin Strohm '05** & Josh Penry and **Kelly Strohm Galbraith '13** & **Reid Galbraith '13** offered a generous gift to support students during the pandemic, leading alumni, parents and friends to do the same.

From emergency technology to financial aid, your gifts helped our students during the critical early stages of the COVID-19 crisis. Your generosity allowed us to provide additional support to nearly 50 students experiencing hardships this past spring.



**\$47,166**  
for campus pandemic relief  
and student emergency fund



## HONORING OUR FRONT-LINE KOHAWKS

During the Day of Gratitude in April, Coe highlighted alumni on social media who have been taking care of their communities by working on the front line during the pandemic. Thousands of Kohawks liked our posts and shared words of appreciation and gratitude to these workers for keeping us safe.

## YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

Gifts to the annual fund helped offset the cost of Coe's Safe Campus Initiative. Because of your support, we were able to ensure the safety of our students, faculty and staff while on campus. Below is a sample of items purchased to prepare for students' return to campus for use in common spaces, classrooms, residence and dining halls and offices.



**6,795**  
*face coverings*



**24,000**  
*ounces of hand sanitizer*



**311,000**  
*sanitizing wipes*



**50,000**  
*quarts of disinfectant*



**129** *plexi shields for offices, dining halls, classrooms*



## GIVING WITH HEART AND MIND

As generous donors to the Make Your Move campaign, **Fred Rose '11** and **Melissa Eilert Rose '07** found it an easy project to support due to their strong loyalty and love for Coe athletics. When it came to supporting the upcoming Center for Health and Society (CHS), their decision was all about what made the best business sense.

"We gave with our hearts to Eby but chose to support the CHS by using our heads. This initiative is very forward thinking and will allow Coe to leverage the Cedar Rapids area and MedQuarter in very meaningful ways. As recent events have shown, our health care system and all that supports it is essential to a viable economy and society. CHS will help increase the value of a Coe education and will help alumni in the health sciences impact the communities of the future."

Recognizing the unique potential for the CHS to provide a transformative experience for Coe and the Cedar Rapids community, the Hall-Perrine Foundation gifted Coe a \$700,000 challenge grant. Securing the grant through matching gifts will complete the funding needed to launch the initiative. To date, Coe has secured over \$300,000 in qualifying commitments.

**To help Coe complete the Hall-Perrine challenge and launch this exciting project, contact the Advancement Office at 319.399.8555.**



# When Kohawks give to the college, it is your way of saying your Coe experience was *meaningful*.

And a higher participation rate makes Coe more appealing to prospective students and grant-awarding foundations. The more alumni who support the college, the more valuable a Coe degree becomes. In this way, every gift makes a difference.

Class Year	Alumni*	Donors	Participation Rate	Class Year	Alumni*	Donors	Participation Rate	Class Year	Alumni*	Donors	Participation Rate
1942-46	32	6	18.75%	1971	137	35	25.55%	1996	266	36	13.53%
1947	19	7	36.84%	1972	131	31	23.66%	1997	224	26	11.61%
1948	14	5	35.71%	1973	161	43	26.71%	1998	227	20	8.81%
1949	22	4	18.18%	1974	237	74	31.22%	1999	236	28	11.86%
1950	24	11	45.83%	1975	177	31	17.51%	2000	213	21	9.86%
1951	34	12	35.29%	1976	197	44	22.34%	2001	237	24	10.13%
1952	30	7	23.33%	1977	183	39	21.31%	2002	207	22	10.63%
1953	27	9	33.33%	1978	202	26	12.87%	2003	293	17	5.80%
1954	31	6	19.35%	1979	171	38	22.22%	2004	232	17	7.33%
1955	40	11	27.50%	1980	160	20	12.50%	2005	236	25	10.59%
1956	48	24	50%	1981	201	34	16.92%	2006	247	30	12.15%
1957	66	28	42.42%	1982	219	37	16.89%	2007	269	21	7.81%
1958	49	11	22.45%	1983	217	31	14.29%	2008	271	27	9.96%
1959	56	22	39.29%	1984	227	28	12.33%	2009	249	19	7.63%
1960	82	29	35.37%	1985	229	26	11.35%	2010	246	20	8.13%
1961	78	24	30.77%	1986	217	26	11.98%	2011	265	24	9.06%
1962	89	31	34.83%	1987	222	23	10.36%	2012	262	27	10.31%
1963	82	23	28.05%	1988	212	30	14.15%	2013	273	36	13.19%
1964	83	25	30.12%	1989	171	31	18.13%	2014	253	17	6.72%
1965	120	52	43.33%	1990	209	25	11.96%	2015	275	14	5.09%
1966	113	39	34.51%	1991	215	35	16.28%	2016	268	19	7.09%
1967	119	35	29.41%	1992	206	13	6.31%	2017	293	16	5.46%
1968	142	49	34.51%	1993	197	35	17.77%	2018	259	20	7.72%
1969	146	28	19.18%	1994	264	33	12.50%	2019	267	10	3.75%
1970	137	41	29.93%	1995	213	24	11.27%	2020	262	41	15.65%

\*The number of living, solicitable alumni in a given class year.



We want to express sincere gratitude to all those who volunteer to assist Coe in countless ways, including classroom speaking and representation, networking with students, serving on a reunion committee, providing experiential learning opportunities to our students and so much more.

## Coe College Alumni Association

The Coe College Alumni Association's activities are coordinated in the Alumni Office in McCabe Hall. Purposes of the association include promoting the welfare and influence of Coe College and establishing a mutually beneficial relationship between the college and its alumni; fostering a spirit of fellowship and loyalty among its members; encouraging support of the college; and providing members with news of current activities at the college through publications.

### 2019-2020 Alumni Council Officers and Members at Large

Charles Davis '86 <b>President</b>	Lauren DuBay Gilbertson '13 <b>Secretary</b>	Don Dempsey '65	Wendy Andrews Nielsen '01
Beth Cook '98 <b>Past President</b>	Eric Armstrong III '74	Katie McGuire Graham '86	Ben Sagers '18
Katie Lillibridge Dostal '99 <b>Vice President</b>	Karim Budhwani '93	Jase Jensen '06	Jessica Schau Nelson '06
	Matt Clark '95	John Llewelyn '85	Pat Steele '75
	Tre Cotton '16	Amber Mason '03	Jodi Bauer Stepanek '00

## The President's Advisory Council (PAC)

Members of the PAC provide strategic advice and guidance to the president on specific initiatives and priorities of the college, with a particular emphasis on strategic initiatives, community outreach and engagement and philanthropic campaigns undertaken by Coe.

Becky Anderson '71	Jane Michaels Dufoe '92	Stephanie Kroger '88	Amy Sands '98
Steve Bohr '92	Sam Hammes '10	Linda McCormack Mattes '93	Ash Shah '89
Todd Buchardt '82	Terry Hiebert '76	Kevin Robinson '81	Kevin Welu '86

## Coe College Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is the governing body for Coe College. While the president of the college, who is hired and evaluated by the board, is ultimately responsible for managing the college on a daily basis, the trustees set broad policy and offer direction for Coe. In addition, the trustees are particularly active in philanthropic support for the college.

Listed here are the members of the Board of Trustees who serve and help direct Coe's future. We thank these dedicated individuals for their service.

### 2019-2020 Board of Trustees

Wale Adeosun '84	Doug Eden '77	Shirley Hughes '67	Paul Meyer '74	Craig Struve '70
Alan Anderson '78	Sam Freitag '78	Mary Jorgenson '80	Sumit Nijhawan '93	Lori Sturdevant '74
R. Darryl Banks '72	Christine Galloway '73	Steven Kline '76	Sigrid Reynolds '94	Carson Veach '74
Peter Birkey '91	David Gehring '89	Mary Jeanne Krob '73	Brett Rule '86	Ed Walsh '70
Kevin Buckner '93	Ken Golder '82	Kristin Lenz '96	Tim Sagers '97	
J. David Carson '72	Dennis Greenspon '68	Dave Lusson '87	William Schalk '65	
Steven L. Caves	Gene Henderson '68	Julie McLean '78	Larry L. Shryock '65	
Robert Chiusano	Kent Herink '76	Curt Menefee '87	Kristin Strohm '05	

### Life Trustees

Terry J. Abernathy '70	Doug Hyde '74	Chuck Peters	Gary Schlarbaum '65	John D. Strohm '79
Jack B. Evans '70	William P. Johnson '53	James R. Phifer	Bruce Spivey '56	
John Giroto	Vince Martin	John M. Sagers	Jerre L. Stead '65	

### Honorary Trustee

Mary Neff

### Ex-officio

Charles Davis '86, Alumni Council President  
David McNally, Coe College President

### 2020-2021 Incoming Members

Sarah Hemming-Meyer '05  
Henry Taylor '75



# CLASS NOTES

NOT FOUR YEARS...FOR LIFE. STAYING CONNECTED TO THE COE FAMILY.

## 1960s

'66 **Joy Arima** Duerr of St. Charles, Illinois, was featured in the YouTube video "The Joy of Monarchs" produced by The Conservation Foundation. She raises over 160 monarch butterflies in the backyard of her home, which she shares with her husband, **Jon Duerr '65**.

'68 **Karen Johnson** Pangborn of Green Bay, Wisconsin, is retired and spends time volunteering at church and in her community. She remains a staunch Green Bay Packers fan. Her husband, **Bruce Pangborn '65**, passed away in 2018. He had retired from ministry in 2016 after spending the last 10 years of his career doing intentional interim ministry in the Central Eastern Synod of Wisconsin.

## 1970s

'75 **Bill Conger** of Cook, Minnesota, retired from his job as a process engineer at ME Elecmetal. He enjoys being a private pilot, boating and fishing and is devoted to his seven grandchildren. He and his wife, **Bailey Soderberg Conger '76**, are currently teaching three of them at home due to COVID-19, and it's the most important job he's ever had.

'76 **Judy Baldwin** of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was awarded the designation of Certified Professional in Management from the American Management Association in August.

**Virginia Chase Sutton** of Tempe, Arizona, has had poems published in Glass Poetry Journal: Poets Resist, Parks & Points, QU Literary Magazine, Mom Egg Review, The Laurel Review and forthcoming in Drunk Monkeys Poetry Journal. One of her poems appears in the anthology "Honey and Sulphur." She has a prose piece forthcoming in The Journal of Expressive Writing. Sutton is a poetry editor for The Revolution (Relaunch) and Rinky Dink Press.

**Jill Whitsitt** DeLisle of McFarland, Wisconsin, became a grandparent when her grandson, Kai, was born in May 2020.

'77 **Gary Long** of Davenport, Iowa, has retired from a 43-year career working in schools as a teacher, coach and activities and athletic director. He worked for 19 years at Waterloo Columbus Catholic High School, three years for the South Tama County Community School District and 21 years for the Davenport Community School District,

all in Iowa. Long's final assignment with the Davenport district was teaching seventh- and eighth-grade language arts and literature at Walcott Intermediate School.

## 1980s

'81 **Vannessia Vangen** Klinsky of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is a business consultant with HealthEdge Software Inc., an integrated financial, administrative and clinical software platform for health plans. She will be working with the CareManager product.

'83 **Tony Hunter** of Boca Raton, Florida, became CEO of The McClatchy Company in September.

'85 **John Eckstein** of Paducah, Kentucky, became executive chairman of Marquette Transportation. He previously served as CEO of the company.

## 1990s

'91 **Anne Laugen** of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is a membership growth specialist with the Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance.

'92 **Allison Mack** of Wheaton, Illinois, is a senior compliance specialist with Discover Financial Services.

'95 **Col. Matt Clark** of Gaithersburg, Maryland, was a panelist for the webinar "COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution: Understanding how the supply chain works and its challenges." Clark is the program manager for Operation Warp Speed for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

'96 **Shelly Stone** Zimmerman of Denton, Texas, is a registered nurse in outpatient surgery at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Denton.

'98 **Ryan Bomgarden** of Winnebago, Illinois, was promoted to senior research and development manager for Mass Spectrometry Reagent Group at Thermo Fisher Scientific.

## 2000s

'05 **Jon Sims** of Iowa City, Iowa, painted a mural for the Iowa City Downtown District last summer. Located at the back corner of Elray's Live and Dive music venue, the mural features a Dunkleosteus, a large sea creature that lived in the shallow seas that covered Iowa during the Middle Devonian Period.



'07 **Tanner Curl** of Minneapolis, Minnesota, was promoted to executive director of MinnPost, a statewide nonprofit, nonpartisan digital news organization in Minnesota. He previously served as

the organization's development director since 2017.

'08 **Naseem Shahrivar** of Blue Earth, Minnesota, painted a mural on a building alongside U.S. Highway 169 through Winnebago, Minnesota. She has previously painted other murals and has paintings on display at locations in Iowa and Minnesota.

**Valerie Zaric-Gibson** of Madison, Wisconsin, is the host of "Future-Proof Career" podcast, where she and her guests discuss critical soft skills and ways in which industries are adapting to changing work environments. The podcast is available on Spotify, iTunes and Google Podcasts.

## 2010s

'11 **Holly Bouma-Johnston** of Chicago, Illinois, earned her master's degree in written communication from National Louis University in May.

'12 **Alex Barbeau** of Minneapolis, Minnesota, was promoted to analytics and data engineering manager at Avanade in June.

'14 **Kyle Boardman** of Marion, Iowa, was promoted to accounting manager at Honkamp Krueger & Company PC.

'15 **Chelsey McMahon** of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is a registered nurse at Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids.

'16 **Mariah Reeves** of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is the academic innovation coordinator at Wahlert Catholic High School.

'17 **Paige Zahner** of Marion, Iowa, is the new assistant softball coach at Cedar Rapids Prairie High School. She also teaches second grade at Prairie Hill Elementary School.

'19 **Collin Flynn** of Racine, Wisconsin, is the co-founder of College Movers LLC, which opened a new location in Wilmington, North Carolina.

**Nolan Timp** of Dubuque, Iowa, is an associate account executive for the transportation department at Kunkel & Associates.



2020s

'20 **Katie Downs** of Des Moines, Iowa, is attending Drake Law School.

**Kristin Walters** of Des Moines, Iowa, is a marketing communications specialist at LenderClose.



**Liza Ovrom '75** and **Suzanne Dimmel '75** teamed up to play in a golf tournament in Des Moines, Iowa, in July.

ALUMNI COUNCIL *Update*

Hello fellow alumni,

It is my honor to be the new president of the Alumni Council, and I am looking forward to representing Coe's alumni body. It is hard to believe we are going through such a challenging time in our lives, our nation and our college. As alumni, it is reassuring to know our college continues to take unparalleled measures to protect our students, faculty and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. These are definitely trying

times right now, but I feel hopeful and optimistic that Coe College will be resilient, strong and better than ever.

I want to thank **Charles Davis '86** for serving as the Alumni Council president for the last two years. He has done such an amazing job of enhancing our culture of diversity, equity and inclusion, and the Alumni Council will continue this work into the future.

I want to thank all the Alumni Council

members that rolled off in the fall after their years of commitment to Coe — **Beth Cook '98, Jase Jensen '06, Jodi Bauer Stepanek '00, Karlm Budhwani '93, Don Dempsey '65, Katie McGuire Graham '86 and Wendy Andrews Nielsen '01.** We are a better council because of each one of you.

I encourage all alumni to become engaged with the college. Getting involved has been such a blessing in my life. We would love to hear what you are doing so we can share with other alumni. Coe has amazing students doing incredible things, and your support is instrumental.

Remember, this is your Alumni Council, and we are always interested in hearing from you. Please reach out any time and provide your thoughts, ideas or suggestions. I look forward to serving you as your Coe Alumni Council president. Once a Kohawk, always a Kohawk!



**Katie Lillibridge Dostal '99**  
Alumni Council President





# Coe alumna reflects on special memory of Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Upon hearing the news last September that Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg had passed away, **Linda Bishop Frazier '74** was devastated. Like many Americans, she had great admiration for Ginsburg and her commitment to securing equal rights for all. Ginsburg's death also reminded Frazier of the special opportunity she had to meet the inspiring woman when she visited Coe in 1974.

Ginsburg was invited to campus by the Coe chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. At the time, she was a law professor at Columbia University and the coordinator of the American Civil Liberties Union's Women's Rights Project. During her visit, she gave the lecture "Equal Rights and Responsibilities for Men and Women as Constitutional Principle" and participated in a women's panel discussion.

Frazier, a member of Phi Beta Kappa, was asked by sociology professor Mary Alice Ericson if she would be a student representative on the panel. She took part in the discussion "What Women Want and How They Get It" with Ginsburg and several women leaders from the Cedar Rapids area and beyond. Although Frazier doesn't remember all the details from the event, she will never forget the impression Ginsburg left on her. "I remember her just being very tiny and very soft-spoken and brilliant. I remember enough to know she was very impressive. It was like, wow, you know, this woman is amazing," Frazier said.

Frazier graduated from Coe soon after and spent four years working for the U.S. Public Health Service before transitioning to a career as an educator. She taught special education and eighth-grade American history at Prairie City-Monroe Middle School in Prairie City, Iowa, for over 30 years. Her experience with Ginsburg faded from her mind over time, so when Ginsburg was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1993, Frazier didn't immediately realize the new justice was the same woman she had met 19 years before. But as soon as she saw Ginsburg on the news, she made the connection. "I thought, 'Oh my God, I think that's that woman that came to Coe,'" she said.

In recent years, Frazier spent some time learning more about the tiny, impressive woman she had met her senior year at Coe. "I read more about Ruth and the role she had played over the years in securing rights for not just women, but for everyone. And again, I think that part of her genius was that she realized that if you truly want to expand rights to one group of people such as women, you have to be someone fighting for rights for everyone," she said.

Frazier retired from teaching in 2013 and currently volunteers her time as the Facebook administrator for the Friends of Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge, an 8,600-acre tallgrass prairie and oak savanna near Prairie City.

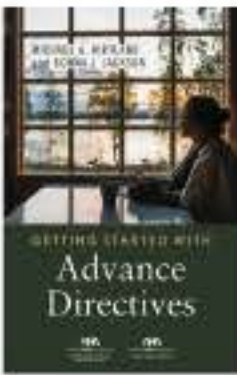
*"I remember her just being very tiny and very soft-spoken and brilliant. I remember enough to know she was very impressive. It was like, wow, you know, this woman is amazing," Frazier said.*

**- Linda Bishop Frazier '74**





1970s

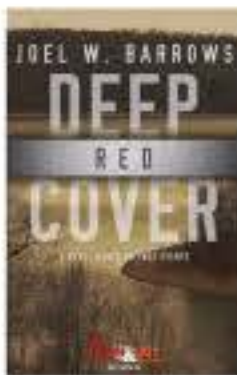


'74 **Michael Kirtland** of Woodland Park, Colorado, co-authored the book "Getting Started with Advance Directives." The book is a 50-state survey of advance directive laws published by the American Bar Association.



'78 **Alan Anderson** of Shoreview, Minnesota, co-edited the book "The Investor-State Dispute Settlement System: Reform, Replace or Status Quo." The book presents various viewpoints on a range of topics related to the investor-state dispute settlement system and includes a forward by the secretary general of the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce.

1980s

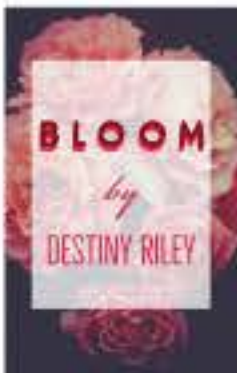
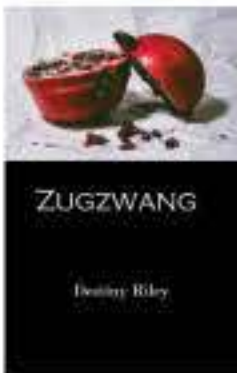


'83 **Joel Barrows** of Bettendorf, Iowa, published the novel "Deep Red Cover." Based on true events, the book is the third in Barrow's "Deep Cover" series featuring ATF Special Agent David Ward. It is available through Down & Out Books, Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

2000s



'09 **Destiny Riley** of Houston, Texas, has self-published three books of poetry. Her first publication, "30," originally was released on her 30th birthday and features 30 poems about love, life and loss. It was featured in the arts section of Indiegogo during the crowdfunding website's



fundraising campaign. She wrote her second book, "Zugzwang," during a difficult time in her life. It is split into halves, one representing darkness and the other representing light and hope. Her most recent digital book, "Bloom," was inspired by her experience in quarantine during the pandemic, with poems about hope, love and sensuality. All three books are available at [gumroad.com/ambrosiareedink](https://gumroad.com/ambrosiareedink).

Celebrating

THE CLASSES OF 2020 AND 2021



The past year is one for the books. Kohawks exhibited courage and perseverance while navigating the hurdles of a pandemic along with their studies. We look forward to honoring and celebrating the experiences of the graduates of the classes of 2020 and 2021 this May.



# TIPPIES HONORED

## WITH AWARD FOR PHILANTHROPY

### FROM COUNCIL OF INDEPENDENT COLLEGES



Henry and Pat Tippie with Coe Chancellor Dave McNally and his wife, Janice, in front of the ASTRP plaque in Coe's Athletics and Recreation Complex in 2018.

Henry and Patricia "Pat" Tippie may not be Coe alumni, but they have long supported the college as if it were their own. In fact, Coe is one of many institutions that have benefitted from the couple's lifelong commitment to higher education. In recognition of their immense generosity, the Tippies recently received the 2021 Award for Philanthropy from the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC).

Each year, CIC presents the Award for Philanthropy to organizations and individuals who embody the philanthropic spirit and exhibit a love of humankind through purposeful giving in support of independent

higher education. The award was presented to the Tippies at CIC's virtual President's Institute in early January. The couple was co-nominated for the honor by Coe Chancellor Dave McNally and Allegheny College President Hilary L. Link.

The Tippies' connection to Coe began with Henry, who first was introduced to the college in 1944 when he enlisted in the Army Specialized Training Reserve Program (ASTRP) at age 17. He received his initial military training and introductory college coursework on Coe's campus, bunking with about 200 other cadets in the basement of Eby Fieldhouse. Henry found his experience in the ASTRP to be extremely beneficial, believing it gave him and other participants the opportunity to achieve greater things in life than they might have otherwise. His gratitude for the program has persisted throughout his life and led him to organize a reunion of his fellow cadets in 2010. A plaque in the Athletics and Recreation Complex commemorates these cadets and their service to our country.

Being a part of ASTRP also gave Henry a fondness for Coe and a desire to give back to the school. In 2002, he and Pat established the President's Special Assistance Fund to provide financial support for students in need. In 2012, they made a \$1 million gift to create the Henry B. Tippie Professorship in Business and Economics.

In addition to Coe, the Tippies are among the most loyal supporters of Allegheny College, Pat's alma mater. They have established professorships and student scholarships at Allegheny and provided funding for various campus projects, including the Tippie Alumni Center. The couple also has made significant contributions to Henry's high school in Belle Plaine, Iowa; Kirkwood Community College and the College of Business at the University of Iowa, which bears Henry's name.

Although the Tippies do not seek recognition for their philanthropic work, their generosity is worthy of celebration, and Coe is delighted to have taken part in nominating them for this prestigious award.

## WEDDING BELLS

CONGRATULATIONS, KOHAWKS

### 1990s

'93 **Jaqueline Smola** and Jason Crowley of Bethany, Missouri, on June 14.

### 2010s

**1** '14 **Gina Ostrander** and Mike McConahay of Marion, Iowa, on July 18.





## 2000s

'07 **Luke Johnson** Lovegood of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and his husband, Matthew, adopted a son, Ramsey David, in August.

**1** '08 **Matt Schuling** and **Kristen Roppolo** Schuling '10 of Council Bluffs, Iowa, a daughter, Mary Jane, on October 19.

**2** **Ann Virden** Balvanz and her husband, Justin, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, a daughter, Kate Ann, on October 16.

'09 **Amanda Meyer** Paris of Lamont, Iowa, and her husband, Tyler, a daughter, Maria Leann, on August 17.

## 2010s

'10 **Tyler Goodall** and **Megan Fiala** Goodall of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, a son, Jack Alan, on October 27.



## Share your news!

Information compiled in "Class Notes" comes from a variety of sources, including direct correspondence from alumni, clipping services and news releases. The college received these class notes by October 15. **The deadline for the Summer 2021 issue is March 15.** Announcements older than one year at the time they are submitted will not be published.

Please follow these basic guidelines when submitting information:

**NEWS**

At least the following basic information should be provided with any submission: name and class year, spouse name and class year if Coe alum, city and state of residence and your news. Please spell out acronyms. Milestones (anniversaries, birthdays, etc.) will be noted only in five-year increments (25th, 30th, etc.).

**MARRIAGES & ANNIVERSARIES**

Include both spouses' full names (including birth/maiden names, where applicable) and complete date. Please notify us after your wedding; we cannot publish based on an engagement announcement.

**BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS**

Include child's first name, legal names of parents (mother's birth/maiden name will be published if Coe alum) and complete date.

**DEATHS**

Include full name, complete date and city/state of residence at time of death. Please include a newspaper obituary, if possible.

**PHOTOS**

Digital photos must be at least 300 dpi when sized to 3.75 inches wide. Please save the file as a TIFF or JPEG file. We must have the photographer's permission to print a copyrighted photo. Please indicate if you would like prints returned.

Submit information via email to [courier@coe.edu](mailto:courier@coe.edu) or mail to 1220 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402. Information may also be submitted online at [www.alumni.coe.edu](http://www.alumni.coe.edu).





Indicates decedent was a member of the Coe College Heritage Club. For information, contact Director of Planned Giving Debbie Green at 319.399.8592 or [dgreen@coe.edu](mailto:dgreen@coe.edu).

Full obituaries for all decedents can be found at [www.coe.edu/why-coe/discover-coe/publications/courier](http://www.coe.edu/why-coe/discover-coe/publications/courier).

## 1930s



**1933 Frances "Fran" McLaughlin** Stauffacher, 109, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on November 12. Fran was Coe's oldest known alum. Prior to attending Coe, she was part of the second graduating class from Mount Mercy Junior College (now Mount Mercy University) in 1931. At Coe, she was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority. She was an American Red Cross recreation worker during World War II, and she later worked on the Eldora, Iowa, Twin-Weekly newspapers that were published by her late husband, **George R. Stauffacher '32**. After retirement, she and George moved to Florida before moving back to Iowa and joining the Meth-Wick community in Cedar Rapids. Fran is survived by a niece; six nephews; and nine great-nieces and -nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, George.

**1939 Joe Ainsworth**, 104, of Pensacola, Florida, on July 8.

## 1940s



**1941 Theodore Kubicek**, 100, husband of the late **Margaret Zimmerman Kubicek '41**, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on July 14.

**1944 Elizabeth "Betsy" Snively** Deardoff, 98, of Moline, Illinois, on August 31.

**1948 Donald Chadima**, 94, of National City, California, on September 17.

**James Schacker**, 93, of Naples, Florida, on July 6.



**1949 Charles Hopkins**, 94, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on October 11. Shortly after graduating from high school in 1944, Charles enlisted in the U.S. Navy, where he served honorably until his discharge in 1946. Upon his return to Iowa, he enrolled as a student at Coe and continued his successful high school track career, claiming the half-mile conference title two years in a row and earning induction into the Coe College Athletic Hall of Fame in 1994. He had a 40-year career in the property and casualty insurance industry, which took him and his family to Illinois, Florida and Minnesota before returning to Iowa. Charles is survived by a son, Steve Hopkins; a daughter, Judy Huebsch; a sister, Glenis Nunn; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and a devoted companion, Eileen Naber. He was predeceased by his wife, **Joy Kennedy Hopkins '51**.

## 1950s

**1950 Elmer "Frank" Dulong**, 95, of Hampton, Virginia, on September 22.

**Richard Klima**, 97, of St. Petersburg, Florida, on October 9.



**Martha "Ann" Wood** Nelson, 92, of Wenatchee, Washington, on August 7.

**1953 Christopher Johnston**, 91, of Saline, Michigan, on May 31.

**Robert "Bob" Wright**, 89, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, on February 4, 2020.

**1954 Luanne Dunn** Glosser, 88, of Charlottesville, Virginia, on October 5.

**Steve Story**, 87, of Hawkeye, Iowa, on July 14.

**Marie "Ann" Tea** Mullen, 88, of Downers Grove, Illinois, on August 17.

**1956 Caryl Heyer** Zachary, 86, of Lyndhurst, Virginia, on September 20.

**Stanley La Sota**, 86, of Cary, Illinois, on August 10.



**Tom Wilkinson**, 86, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on August 8.

**1957 Robert "Bob" Sadilek**, 85, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on September 30.

## 1960s

**1960 Beverly Morse** Perry, 81, of Santa Rosa, California, on April 7.

**1961 Luanne Waldock** Lawler, 82, of Kissimmee, Florida, on August 2.

**1963 Beverly Holden** Skinner, 79, of Moss Beach, California, on August 19.

**1966 Marilyn Baumgartner** Andersen, 90, of Center Point, Iowa, on September 5.



**Sherry Folsom-Meek**, 76, of Hugo, Minnesota, on August 29. Many of Sherry's Kappa Delta sorority sisters and Coe friends contributed to the college's landscape restoration efforts to honor Sherry's memory and the impact she had as an educator and friend.

**Antonette "Toni" Kirchner** Pickering, 76, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on August 22.



**1968 Peter Taggart**, 74, of Des Moines, Iowa, on August 18.

**Gail Warren** Bruckner, 73, of Geneva, New York, on August 18.

**1969 Thaddeus Snarzyk**, 86, of Marshalltown, Iowa, on August 24.

## 1970s

**1970 Richard Albert**, 72, of Camden, Arkansas, on July 10.

**1972 Thomas Burchers**, 70, of Tripoli, Iowa, on September 4.

**1975 Elizabeth Ragona** Gillon, 92, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on August 12.

**1976 Beverly Braundmeier** Hartke, 79, of The Villages, Florida, on August 9.

**1977 Glen McCord**, 65, of San Francisco, California, on July 14.

**1978 Patricia Barta** Waskow, 87, of Marion, Iowa, on August 16.





**1958 Howard Kucera**, 83, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on October 6. At Coe, Howard was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi and was an ROTC distinguished graduate with a regular commission in the U.S. Air Force. While serving at the Air Force Intelligence Center in Arlington Hall Station, Virginia, he earned a master's degree in physics from George Washington University. He was elected to Sigma Pi Sigma, an honor society in physics. After the completion of his service, Howard taught physics and math at the University of Dubuque. He began working for Collins Radio Company in 1963 as a radio propagation engineer in the research department working on the Echo I and II satellite programs.

He also contributed on the DLA program, was a program manager for the AFSC, Navy Growth Radio and JTIDS and served as president of Collins Management Club. He retired as the director of contracts, pricing and government fiscal affairs. He was an active Coe alumnus, and the Howard Kucera Physics Scholarship has been established at Coe in his memory. Howard is survived by his wife of 63 years, **Mary Ann Turnbull Kucera '58**; a son, Charles Kucera; a daughter, **Beth Kucera '81**; a sister, Cindi Anderson; two grandchildren, **Alexandra Fangman '14** and **Maddy Fangman Taylor '15**; two stepgrandchildren; and one stepgreat-grandchild.

### 1980s

**1985 Laura Broulik Kowal**, 57, of Galena, Illinois, on August 9.

**1986 Deanna Kerr**, 58, of Lisbon, Iowa, on August 29.

**Steven Schmidt**, 60, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on August 31.

**1987 Steve Graham**, 65, of Marco Island, Florida, on July 6.

**Scott Tully**, 55, of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, on October 5.

### 1990s

**1994 Laura Poresky**, 48, of Des Moines, Iowa, on September 15.

**1995 Tina Shoffner**, 52, of Hollister, California, on August 21.

**1996 Lorene Holten-Wenger**, 49, of Marion, Iowa, on May 16.

### 2000s

**2006 Jan Konings Barcz**, 66, of Central City, Iowa, on October 2.

### 2010s

**2014 Christopher Janss**, 28, of Belle Plaine, Iowa, on July 30.

### Faculty

Former assistant professor of speech and forensics **John Foxen**, 93, of Williamsport, Maryland, on November 14, 2019.

Former mathematics instructor **Helen Friend Smith**, 98, of Morley, Iowa, on August 12.

## FACULTY & STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Associate Professor of History **Brie Swenson Arnold** authored a review of "Bound in Wedlock: Slave and Free Black Marriage in the Nineteenth Century" by Tera W. Hunter for the spring 2021 edition of the journal *Western Historical Quarterly*. She also is serving as guest editor of the journal *Middle West Review's* spring 2021 special issue on "African American Migration to Smaller Midwestern Cities, 1860-1920." In September, she presented the virtual public lecture "Constitution Day" with Joan & Abbott Lipsky Professor of Political Science **Bruce Nesmith** and Assistant Professor of Department of Business Administration and Economics **Josh Christensen** as part of the "Coe from your Couch" series.

Associate Dean of Students & Director of Student Engagement **Ron Binder** was re-elected to another two-year term as national president of the Gamma Sigma Alpha Honor Society.

Alma A. Turecheck Professor of Music **Bill Carson** was invited to present virtually at the convention of the European Music Educators Association in January. This was the third time in four years that he was a featured presenter for this organization.

James Y. Canfield Professor of Psychology **Wendy Dunn** and Assistant to the President **Kim Pribyl** were the recipients of Coe's Eliza Hickok Kesler Outstanding Service Award for the 2019-2020 academic year. The award is given to employees, alumni or trustees who champion excellence in their longtime service to Coe. It is traditionally presented at Commencement, but due to the postponement of the 2020 ceremony, Dunn and Pribyl received the award in November.

Assistant Professor of Philosophy **Anthony Kelley** published the paper "The Welfare-Nihilist Arguments Against Judgment Subjectivism" in the *Journal of Ethics & Social Philosophy*. In October, he presented his paper "What Should the Desire Theorist Say About Ill-Being?" at the 74th Annual Meeting of the Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference, and the same paper will be the subject of a symposium at the Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association this February.

Pearl M. Taylor Associate Professor of Music **Steve Shanley** had four musical compositions selected for publication by C.L. Barnhouse Company and two compositions selected for publication by Magnolia Music Publications in their 2020-2021 catalogs. Four of these compositions were named Editor's Choice by J.W. Pepper, one of the world's largest sellers of sheet music.





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