

Thiel College Magazine for Alumni & Friends

SPRING/SUMMER
2017

The Bell



Honor the past;
Celebrate the future

SUSAN TRAVERSO, PH.D.,
INAUGURATED AS
THIEL COLLEGE'S
20th PRESIDENT



On the cover

President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.; Antonio Quarterman, Ed.D '08;
and **Mercedez Stubbs '17** share a moment during the Inauguration celebration.

The Bell

SPRING/SUMMER 2017



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Dear Alumni and Friends,

The summer gives us a moment of reflection on the exciting Sesquicentennial year just completed. I want to thank alumni, students and friends of the College who attended campus events this spring including my Inauguration on May 5 (see more starting on Page 25) and Commencement on May 7 (see more on Page 22). Your involvement is part of what creates our unique feeling of family and connection that extends beyond the temporal limits of the time spent on campus.

The College's 143rd Commencement Exercises celebrated the accomplishments of our graduates and recognized the idea of philanthropy, so powerfully evident in the successful completion of the *Thiel 2016 Campaign* last year. In that spirit, Thiel College awarded **Edward J. Grefenstette, J.D. H'17**, president, chief executive officer and chief investment officer of The Dietrich Foundation with an honorary degree for his vision, stewardship and administration of the funds **William S. Dietrich** bequeathed to the College.

Grefenstette is a leader in the philanthropic community of Pittsburgh, and he encouraged this year's graduates to think about how they might deploy

their "time, talent and treasure" to make a positive contribution in their communities.

Just two days before Commencement, the Inaugural festivities filled the campus with great joy and celebration. Kent and I, along with our daughter, Linden, and son, Kent, appreciated every aspect of the day's events and the tremendous choreography, attention to detail and behind-the-scenes work it took to make it all happen.

The campus looked beautiful in the rain and the sunshine. Delegates from 24 colleges and universities joined us along with colleagues, friends and family of my own. They were impressed by our school spirit and sense of heritage. I am deeply thankful to everyone on campus for extending such a warm welcome to the many participants and guests at the Inauguration. Special thanks to Vice President for College Advancement **Roberta Leonard**, Executive Director of Communications and Marketing **Richard Orr** and Administrative Assistant to the President **Linda Nochta**, who coordinated the events of the day.

The year leading up to my Inauguration has been inspiring and productive. We began implementing our new strategic plan, *Thiel 2021: Student Success*; and developed a new first-year experience program for incoming students that will immerse them in campus culture and connect them to people and resources on campus.

Our goal is to ensure that incoming students experience the same level of success we see among our graduating seniors, many with exciting employment opportunities in hand at the time of Commencement and others admitted to highly selective graduate programs at nationally-ranked institutions, including the University of Chicago, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, Vanderbilt University and Rochester Institute of Technology.

The College is also committed to ensuring that students are living and learning in quality campus facilities.

We will soon see the generous contributions of **Fred Haer '65** and his wife, **Jill (Shackett) '66**, and **Carl Hoffman, D.O., D.Sc. '69, H'10** and his wife, **Theresa H'16** come to life. This fall, students will begin walking the hallways, using the equipment, and expanding undergraduate research opportunities in the new Science Connector. This state-of-the-art facility will add 7,850 square feet of academic, laboratory and collaborative space.

Construction on the new track and field complex is also on schedule to be completed this summer. This facility represents the final piece in bringing all of the College's sports teams home to campus while simultaneously creating a recreational space for the greater Greenville community. Along with those large physical improvements, more subtle improvements will also be underway as we are working with a landscape architecture firm to improve the aesthetics and visual communication across campus.

I invite you all back for Homecoming 2017 on Oct. 13-15 to see some of those changes and to join together to dedicate the track and field complex and the Science Connector.

It is a privilege to serve as President of Thiel. I am grateful for the opportunity to share, in this issue of *The Bell*, the joy of the campus experience in celebrating the Inauguration and Commencement this past May. It was a remarkable conclusion to my first year serving as Thiel's 20th president. I look forward to growing my relationship with our alumni and friends and our continued good work together as we support students to find success, meaning, and purpose in their careers and lives.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Traverso". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan Traverso, Ph.D.
20th President of Thiel College

Thiel College

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Letters to the editor

Thiel College welcomes feedback from you regarding *The Bell*. Letters must contain a contact number (not for publication, but to allow for verification of sender). Letters can be mailed to **Thiel College Office of Communications and Marketing, 75 College Avenue, Greenville, PA 16125**; or e-mailed to **pr@thiel.edu**. Due to the volume of correspondence, we are unable to respond to or publish all mail received. Letters accepted for publication may be edited for length and clarity.



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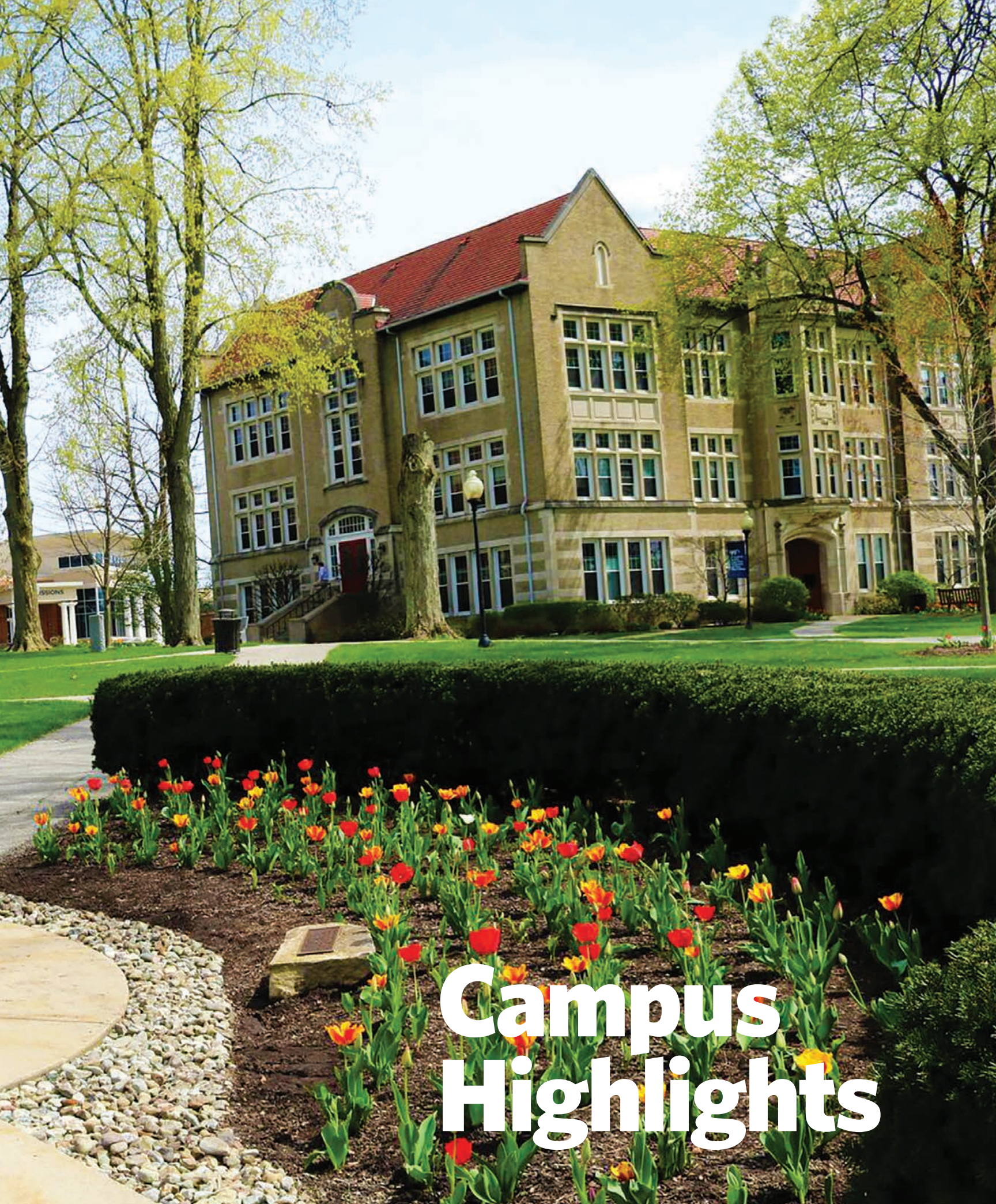
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Campus Highlights

Hausers, staff and faculty honored at Founders' Day celebration

Thiel College **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, awarded **John '71** and **Nancy (Gibson) Hauser '75** the Louis and Barbara Thiel Distinguished Service Award during the Founders' Day celebration on Feb. 2.

"If you ask any of our alumni about their experience at Thiel College, you will hear common themes," Traverso said. "Community, friendships and family are the words used to describe our campus, and they are exemplified in John and Nancy Hauser."



Faculty honorees:

- **Distinguished Professor of the Year**
Matthew R. Morgan, Ph.D., professor of philosophy and director of the Dietrich Honors Institute, of Greenville, Pa.;
- **Distinguished Scholar**
Marie C. Courtemanche, Ph.D., assistant professor of political science and department chair, of Sharpsville, Pa.;
- **Distinguished Teacher**
Curtis L. Thompson, Ph.D., professor of religion and founding director of the Dietrich Honors Institute, of Greenville, Pa.;
- **Distinguished Service**
Patrick C. Hecking, Ph.D., professor of physics and department chair, of Greenville, Pa.; and
- **Distinguished Adjunct**
Rebecca M. Hecking, adjunct professor of biology, math and computer science, of Greenville, Pa.

Staff members recognized with special awards:

- **Marla J. Barr**, director of custodial services, of Greenville, Pa., Barr retired in June;
- **Christine L. Cianci '96**, director of student health services, of Greenville, Pa.;
- **Denise A. Urey '00**, registrar, of Mercer, Pa.;
- **Deborah A. Schreiber**, assistant registrar, of Hadley, Pa.;
- **Janet M. Groves**, data analyst, of New Wilmington, Pa.; and
- **Michael D. Battisti**, media specialist and production engineer, of Greenville, Pa.



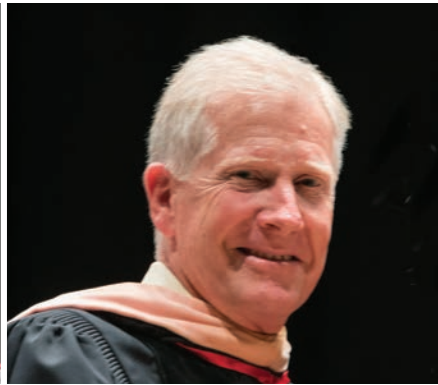
1 John '71 and Nancy (Gibson) Hauser '75 receive the Louis and Barbara Thiel Award from **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, during the Founders' Day celebration. **2** First row (L-R): **Marla J. Barr**, **Janet M. Groves**, **Deborah A. Schreiber**, **Denise A. Urey**, **Christine L. Cianci '96**; Back row: **Marie C. Couremanche, Ph.D.**, **Matthew R. Morgan, Ph.D.**, **Rebecca Hecking**, **Patrick C. Hecking, Ph.D.**, **Michael D. Battisti**. **3** Founders' Day attendees participate in the traditional singing of the Thiel College alma mater near the end of the celebration.

Thiel salutes four retiring professors at Commencement

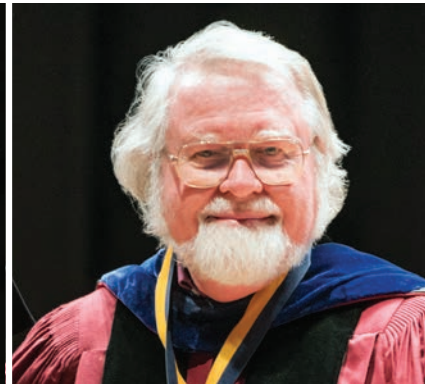
Four faculty members were recognized for their lengthy contributions during the College's 143rd Commencement Exercises. The four represent more than 106 years of experience at Thiel.



Kathryn Gray, M.M.



Michael Bray, D.M.A.



Curtis Thompson, Ph.D.



Christopher Moinet, Ph.D.

Michael Bray, D.M.A.; Kathryn Gray, M.M.; Christopher Moinet, Ph.D.; and Curtis Thompson, Ph.D., were granted emeriti status during the ceremony. Thompson, who retired after 33 years at Thiel, was also recognized as the founding and endowed director of The Dietrich Honors Institute.

Bray joined Thiel in 1996 as the director of choral activities and the sixth conductor in the history of the Thiel Choir. In addition to overseeing the work of the choir, the Thiel College Chamber Singers and the Thiel College Handbell Ringers, his classroom responsibilities included private instruction in voice, world music, music history and conducting.

Gray was an adjunct professor at Thiel College, teaching piano and organ since 1988.

In her time at Thiel, she taught more than 1,500 students. She had been the Thiel Choir and Thiel College Chamber Singers rehearsal accompanist since 1992. Gray accompanied the choir on four European tours, one 21-day extended domestic tour to the west coast, and 20 regular

choir tours in the eastern half of the United States. She served as organist and pianist for all College convocations since fall 2001.

Moinet was a Professor of English and was Thiel's American literature specialist. He came to Thiel in 1985 and taught 37 separate courses and led the Exploring Literary New England travel course. He served the College as a member of various committees over the years, but is probably most widely known across campus as the Faculty Marshall, a position he held for nearly 20 years. The Faculty Marshall leads all formal academic processions while carrying the College mace.

Thompson joined Thiel College's Department of Religion in 1983. He has contributed to several College-wide curricular initiatives, including the Global Institute and Earth Week activities and has been a part of various teaching teams. He was named Professor of the Year in 1992, 2002 and 2015 and won the Distinguished Teacher award at this year's Founders' Day celebration.



Franken retires, Frombgen takes over as leader in Academic Affairs

Elizabeth (Liz) Frombgen, Ph.D., is the new Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College. Frombgen follows **Lynn Franken, Ph.D.**, who retired at the end of the academic year.

As Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Political Science at Hastings College, she made significant contributions through accreditation work, the institution's First Year Experience program, and fundraising and grant writing endeavors. During her 16 years at Hastings, she also served as department chair and been active in faculty governance.

Franken joined Thiel in 2010. Among her accomplishments were incorporating presentational literacy as part of the revised core. She was a strong proponent of multi- and cross-disciplinary learning and was also involved in other campus improvements, including the Science Connector, the creation of a science center, and technology and classroom enhancements. Under her leadership, the Hodge Institutes brought faculty and staff together annually to work on curricular and assessment projects and learn from the experts in the field.



Former Atlanta AT&T executive leading College's Office of Communications and Marketing

Former Atlanta AT&T marketing executive **Richard Orr** began as Thiel College's executive director of communications and marketing in January.

Orr has more than 30 years of experience in public relations and marketing. His career has included work in education, non-profit and corporate marketing communications. He was senior marketing communications manager for AT&T Entertainment Group in Atlanta. He has guided national direct marketing programs and local advertising and sponsorship initiatives.



Accomplished professor of music joins performing arts department

Julie Neish, D.M.A., has been appointed to the Department of Performing Arts as director of choral activities and assistant professor of music.

Neish will lead the Thiel Choir, and the Thiel College Handbell Ringers, as well as teach music courses at the College. She replaces **Michael Bray, D.M.A.**, who retired in May after more than 20 years at Thiel.

Also joining the Thiel College faculty this fall will be **Jingnan Xie, Ph.D.**, and **Natalie Homa, Ph.D.** Xie will be a math and computer science instructor, and Homa will be an assistant professor of psychology.



Witosky named first David M. Miller Endowed Chair of Accounting

Professor of Business, Administration and Accounting and Department Chair **Gary Witosky '79** completed his first semester as Thiel College's first David M. Miller Endowed Chair of Accounting. Witosky received the appointment in September during Thiel's Homecoming 2016 celebrations.

Witosky's professional experience includes more than 20 years in public accounting and private industry. In 2002, Witosky joined the College as an adjunct professor in the Department of Business Administration and Accounting. He subsequently served as the College's interim vice president of finance in 2004. In March 2007, he was named the interim senior vice president of the College as part of a two-person team appointed to lead the College while it conducted a search for its 19th president.

Thiel hosts Phi Alpha Theta regional conference

On April 1, Thiel College's chapter of Phi Alpha Theta welcomed the annual Western Pennsylvania Phi Alpha Theta Conference and Undergraduate History Forum. The College hosted students from 12 regional institutions. Thiel College **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, was the keynote speaker and attended the conference.



Sherman studying Parkinson's disease with Florida university research team

Korinna Sherman '18, of Poland, Ohio, will spend the summer at the University of South Florida working with **Theresa Zeziewicz, M.D.**, and a team of researchers doing a clinical study of Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders. Sherman is an undergraduate member of the

biochemistry program. The position is a result of her work on a Greenville Neuromodulation Center Faculty/Student Research Institute project she conducted last summer.



Mandy Slupek participating in selective U.S.-German exchange program

Thiel College graduate **Mandy Slupek '17** is one of 75 Americans selected to work and live in Germany as part of the 2017-2018 Congress-

Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals, a year-long U.S. Department of State-funded program. Since 1984, only about 2,000 Americans have been awarded this opportunity to gain cultural, academic and work experience while living abroad.

In May, Slupek, a 2014 graduate of Indiana (Pa.) High School, earned a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in neuroscience and a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in psychology at Thiel.

For the latest Thiel College updates go to thiel.edu/newsroom



Three Thiel College students participate in prestigious band festival

Amanda Hautmann '17, **Katherine Orczek '18** and **Tyler VanDyke '19** participated in the 70th Annual Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Band Festival in late winter at Grove City College.

Hautmann and Orczek made their second straight appearance at the festival. Hautmann was second chair for flute. Orczek plays the tuba, and VanDyke plays the trumpet. Performers are chosen by a selection committee for participation in the festival.

Spring Students of the Month recognized

February



Daniel Wiegmann

Hometown: McMurray, Pa.

High School: Peters Township High School

Major: Accounting and business administration-finance

Postgraduate plans: Audit associate at Grossman Yanak & Ford

Clubs and Activities: President of the Thiel College Student Government Association; president of the Greenville Area Junior Chamber of Commerce; Lambda Sigma national honor society; the Thiel Tomcat Marching Pride; Ultimate Frisbee Club; Cycling Club; student representative on the *Thiel 2021: Student Success Strategic Planning Committee* for the College; student representative to the Board of Trustees



Tina Kramer

Hometown: Butler, Pa.

High School: Butler Area Senior High School

Major: Psychology and English with a secondary education certification

Postgraduate plans: Pursue graduate studies in psychology and counseling

Clubs and Activities: Sigma Alpha Pi national society of leadership and success; Pi Nu Epsilon national music honor society; Kappa Delta Pi international education honor society; Psi Chi international psychology honor society; Les Lauriers service honorary society; Lambda Sigma national honor society; vice president of Sigma Tau Delta international English honorary society; Alpha Chi president; co-editor-in-chief of *The Thielensian* student newspaper; vice president of the Thiel College Choir; Thiel Student Support Network; Ultimate Frisbee Club; English Club, Thiel Presidential Scholar

March



Alex Horvatits

Hometown: Lancaster, N.Y.

High School: St. Mary's High School

Major: Early childhood and special education

Postgraduate plans: Pursue work as a teacher and coach

Clubs and Activities: Football team captain; tennis team; Chi Alpha Sigma national college athlete honor society; Kappa Delta Pi international education honor society; junior high basketball coach at Greenville Area High School



Hanna Tegel

Hometown: Westlake, Ohio

High School: Westlake High School

Major: Political science and religion with a minor in international relations

Postgraduate plans: Work for a non-profit organization in Denver that assists refugees

Clubs and Activities: Equestrian team; Sigma Kappa sorority; Alpha Chi national honor society; student ambassador for the Office of Admission

Seven seniors were chosen for Student of the Month honors this semester. Students are selected for February, March and April in the spring. All seven students graduated during the 143rd Commencement Exercises on May 7, 2017.

April



Elizabeth Carlson

Hometown: Kane, Pa

High School: Kane High School

Major: Communication studies with a minor in public relations

Postgraduate plans: Marketing Director for Bridger Financial Group

Clubs and Activities: Zeta Tau Alpha women's fraternity; *The Thielensian* student newspaper; Student Government Association; president of Women Inspiring the Next Generation; co-chairman of the Senior Class Gift Committee; Les Lauriers scholarship, leadership and service honorary society; Alpha Chi national honorary society; Lambda Sigma sophomore honor society; Order of Omega Greek leadership society



Julia Fink

Hometown: Andover, Ohio

High School: Pymatuning Valley High School

Major: Mathematics, actuarial studies and business administration with a finance track

Postgraduate Plans: Volunteer for a year with City Year-Columbus

Clubs and Activities: Chi Omega sorority; the Dietrich Honors Institute; Chi Eta Sigma business honor society; Thiel Student Support Network; Lambda Sigma sophomore honor society; Sigma Alpha Pi National Society of Leadership and Success; Les Lauriers scholarship, leadership and service honorary society; Order of Omega Greek leadership society; president of Kappa Mu Epsilon mathematics honor society; supplemental instruction leader for statistics and accounting courses; Girl Scouts; Gold Award recipient



Beverley Kozuch

Hometown: Templeton, Pa.

High School: West Shamokin Junior/Senior High School

Major: Biology with a minor in biochemistry

Postgraduate plans: Medical school

Clubs and Activities: Track and field; cross country; concert band; flute choir; Dietrich Honors Institute; Tri Beta biology honors society; Health Professions Institute; Sigma Alpha Pi National Society of Leadership and Success; Thiel Student Support Network; Greenville Neuromodulation Center Student/Faculty Research Institute; sailing club; resident assistant; biology laboratory assistant; Adopt-A-Highway

The Student of the Month program recognizes seniors who represent all academic departments and programs at Thiel College. Students are nominated by professors, administrators and staff members. Awardees are chosen for the honor by the Office of Academic Affairs.

New programs look to expand College's tradition of inclusivity

Thiel College's new strategic plan *Thiel 2021: Student Success* looks to continue the College's tradition of diversity and inclusion. Programs have been put in place to connect all students—but also with a focus on the College's first-generation students—with the resources that will help them evolve from inexperienced first-year students to active scholars to connected alumni.

One of those new initiatives this fall will be theme housing for the Organization of Black Collegians. The organization will have a townhouse apartment for a theme house, according to Vice President for Student Life **Mike McKinney '02**.

Four to five members will reside in the house. All theme housing organizations are expected to plan and complete a community service and social program, both open to the entire campus community, McKinney said.

"I am thrilled that the members of the OBC are participating in our theme housing program this year," McKinney said. "The theme house will provide the organization with a space to hold small gatherings and meetings, and allow for the residents to spend more time together advancing the goals and mission of the organization."

OBC has organized many campus-wide events including annual Black History Month events like the soul food feast, fashion show, and roundtables and discussion panels.

"OBC already has a reputation as one of our stronger student organizations on campus," McKinney said. "I believe their participation in theme housing will position them for even more success."

A look at five African-American alumni who broke boundaries for Thiel College

Lionel Arnold '43, H'65 remembers that as a young man he felt like Thiel College "always had an edge of progression." He said he does not think he was the first African-American graduate of the College, but Arnold is one the College's oldest African-American alumni.

The "edge of progression" Arnold noticed as a student at the College in the '40s—he started taking classes at Thiel College a little more than seven years before Jackie Robinson would break Major League Baseball's color barrier—has existed throughout its history. In 1910 sociologist, historian, civil rights activist and author W.E.B. DuBois published a survey of American colleges. He reported Thiel College responded to his survey by saying that should any African-American students apply, "they would be welcomed at the campus."



Lionel Arnold, Ph.D. '43, H'65

Likely the College's oldest living African-American alumnus, Arnold was awarded an honorary degree in 1965. He earned a master's degree from Oberlin College and doctorate from Drew University. He had a lengthy career in higher education both as a dean and a professor. He was a professor of philosophy and religion at LeMoyne College and professor of humanities and religious studies Oklahoma State University.



Denise Terry '71

Terry was the first African-American to be initiated into Thiel College's Chi Omega fraternity and unfortunately, the local chapter was subsequently placed on probation for "inadequate alumni recommendations, poorly trained officers and ignorance of the rules." The Beta Delta chapter of Chi Omega at Thiel played a role in the fight for racial equality within Chi Omega. Thiel president **Chauncey Bly, Ph.D.**, supported the local chapter and attempted to intervene on its behalf. It wasn't until 1971 when a conference was held in Chicago in which all student and alumnae Chi Omegas were invited that a resolution was passed opening Chi Omega membership to all women.



Robert Crutchfield, Ph.D. '71

Crutchfield is a professor emeritus at the University of Washington. In 1979, Crutchfield joined the faculty of the Department of Sociology at the University of Washington, where he remained until retiring this past spring. During his tenure, Crutchfield received the University's Distinguished Teaching Award, served as chair of the Sociology Department and as an associate dean of the graduate school, and directed the Institute for Ethnic Studies in the United States.

Marlene (Jackson) Boddy '69

Boddy made national news by being elected Thiel's first African-American homecoming queen. At the time she was elected there were 1,127 students at Thiel and 11 were African-American. The story of her election made national news and was featured in prominent African-American publications *The Pittsburgh Courier* and *JET* magazine.



Lynn Jones '74

Jones set the College's single-season record for batting average, hitting .440 in 1974. In 1987, he was inducted into the College's athletic Hall of Fame. He was originally drafted by the Cincinnati Reds in the 10th round of the 1974 June draft. As a player he won a World Series in 1985 with the Kansas City Royals and again as a member of the 2004 Boston Red Sox coaching staff.



Burton joins elite class as PAC Player of the Year

1.28 MILLION
REASONS FOR
POSTSEASON
HONORS

By Ed Topoleski '02



THIEL ATHLETICS

It's an understatement to say that point guard **Tyreik Burton '18** had a breakout season in 2016-17.

Burton rose to national prominence in December when he drained a double-clutch buzzer-beater from half court against the Geneva Golden Tornadoes. The 3-pointer sent the game to double-overtime where the Tomcats sealed a 79-76 win over the Golden Tornadoes.

The highlight clip of Burton's half-court shot spread like wildfire on social media and was selected for SportsCenter's Top 10 two days later. SportsCenter, ESPN's flagship show, picked up the video and posted it on various nationwide platforms. The video received 1.28 million views on SportsCenter's Instagram account alone.



Burton's highlights exceeded flashy videos. There were hard numbers to support Burton's breakout. The Lewes, Del. native led the Presidents' Athletic Conference in per game scoring (18.0 points per game). He finished third in the league in steals per game (1.7), fourth in free-throw percentage (.821) and fifth in assists per game (3.6).

"Tyreik is one of the best guards that I've coached since I've been at Thiel," said longtime Thiel head coach Tim Loomis. "He's a great kid and easy to coach, and he really knows how to play the game, which is a real luxury."

Burton went on to be named the PAC Player of the Year, a distinction that only three other Thiel men's basketball players have received: **Rich Williamson** (1999), **Erik Hemsing** (2000) and **Blair Rozenblad** (2011).

Following his conference player of the year award, Burton was named to the D3hoops.com All-Great Lakes Region Second Team and the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) Great Lakes All-District Second Team.

Thiel went 15-8 and 11-7 in PAC play during the regular season. The Tomcats earned the third seed in the PAC Championship Tournament and earned a 69-58 win over the Grove City Wolverines in the quarterfinals before falling to the Thomas More Saints in the tournament semifinals.



The ESPN logo in red.

SEE THE VIDEO THAT'S BEEN WATCHED
MORE THAN 1.2 MILLION TIMES:
bit.ly/tcbuzzerbeater

SENIOR GOLFERS CARRY GOLF BAG IN HONOR OF **Sgt. 1st Class Ryan Gloyer '04**

Green Beret died courageously in battle in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel

By Ed Topoleski '02



The men and women of Thiel College's golf team carried a tangible symbol of the memory of **Sgt. 1st Class Ryan Allen Gloyer '04** this season.

Gloyer '04, who died courageously in battle in Kunduz, Afghanistan, Thursday, Nov. 3, 2016, in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel, was remembered by team members who carried a Thiel College golf bag with his name embroidered on it in every golf tournament this spring.

Will Malady '17, Jonathan Loomis '17 and Alyssa Mondl '17 carried the golf bag in memory of Gloyer. The tribute to Gloyer was part of the Fold of Honor Military Tribute Program.

A graduate of Seneca Valley High School, Gloyer graduated from Thiel College with magna cum laude honors and received degrees in psychology and early education in 2004. While at Thiel, Gloyer participated in musicals, theater, and in his senior year, was selected to be a resident assistant.

Gloyer enlisted in the Army Dec. 28, 2004, with orders that would send him to Airborne Jump Qualification School and Special Forces Selection course after graduation from boot camp. From the beginning, his goal was to become part of an elite unit, and he held a steadfast determination to be a Green Beret.

Along his journey to become a Green Beret, Gloyer went to Ranger School and earned his Ranger Tab in April 2006. He also served with the 82nd Airborne and completed two tours of duty in Afghanistan in 2007 and 2009.

During his first 15-month deployment to Afghanistan, Gloyer made valorous achievements in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and he was rewarded with the Bronze Star Medal with "V" (Valor) device and the Meritorious Service Award.

In his second 12-month tour of duty to Afghanistan in 2009, Gloyer received the Army Commendation Medal under Task Force Fury. In April 2010, he was selected for the prestigious Sergeant Audie Murphy Club.

In 2013, he completed the Special Forces Selection Course and was accepted into the Special Forces 18-month Special Forces Training Program. After 18 months of intensive training and Russian language instruction, Gloyer donned his green beret in September 2014. It was the proudest moment of his military career.

Gloyer attended the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School to complete Free Fall training. He was then assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group, 2nd Battalion, located at Fort Carson, Colo.

In May 2015, Gloyer deployed to the Republic of Congo. In June 2016, he deployed to Afghanistan for the third time and was scheduled to return home at the end of November. Ryan was awarded a Purple Heart and a 2nd Bronze Star for his heroism during the battle that took his life.

Although Ryan's life was too short, he lived life to the fullest and he will always be remembered fondly and with honor at Thiel College.



Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Folds of Honor Military Tribute Program in memory of Gloyer may do so by contacting golf coach **Dan McMillen** at dmcmillen@thiel.edu.



New equipment and weights enhance Paul Bush '66 Memorial Fitness Center

By Ed Topoleski '02

The Paul Bush '66 Memorial Fitness Center, one of the most used facilities on campus, was upgraded in late April.

Major upgrades included five Dynamic Titan multi-purpose combo racks with "THIEL" laser cut out of the front old-gold colored panel, five wooden squatting platforms featuring the Tomcat logo and 10 Dynamic adjustable navy blue and old gold benches complete with the Tomcat logo on the headrests.

In addition, more than 3,000 pounds of color-coded bar weights were added along with side rack and free space storage, five Olympic bars and 10 safety collars.

Advantage Sport & Fitness, Inc. installed the new equipment over a two-day period for \$35,278.

Joe Scarpitti '80 fully funded the upgrades. A former member of the Board of Trustees, Scarpitti is a senior vice president at American Funds. He has remained committed to Thiel's students over the years and most recently spoke to students in the Ruth A. Miller Senior Business Seminar of Professor David Miller '61 in April.

"I am happy that we were able to provide these upgrades to the Paul Bush '66 Memorial Fitness Center and very thankful for Mr. Scarpitti's donation," Director of Athletics Amy Schafer said. "These enhancements will not only impact our student-athletes but the entire campus community."

The Paul Bush '66 Memorial Fitness Center is open to students, faculty, staff and current members of the Blue-Gold Club throughout the year.



KAUFMAN NAMED ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Thiel College Director of Sports Information **Ed Topoleski '02** announced the hiring of **Jim Kaufman** as the College's Assistant Director of Sports Information in February.

Kaufman comes to Thiel College with experience at various levels of athletics having previously worked for the Pittsburgh Steelers, the Pittsburgh Riverhounds Professional Soccer Club, and the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.

"Jim has a great reputation as a communications professional and was highly recommended for the job," Topoleski said. "I look forward to welcoming him to the Thiel College family and preparing him for a career in collegiate athletics."

Kaufman served as an athletic department intern and was a member of the men's track & field team at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.

A native of Pittsburgh, Kaufman earned a bachelor's degree in business management and marketing from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown in 2015.



PAC 2016 Fall Academic Honor Roll

Forty-two Thiel College student-athletes were named to the Presidents' Athletic Conference Academic Honor Roll for the Fall 2016 semester.

The PAC Academic Honor Roll recognizes student-athletes on varsity sports teams who have earned a grade-point average of 3.6 or higher on a 4.0 scale during their semester of competition.

A record 529 student-athletes were named to the PAC Academic Honor Roll in the Fall 2016, an 11.1 percent increase in honorees from the Fall 2015 class, which featured 476 student-athletes.

Peyton Allen '19

Early Childhood/Special Education
Volleyball
Mineral Ridge, Ohio/
Mineral Ridge

Trey Andrews '18

Media Communication
Football
Johnstown, Pa./
Greater Johnstown

Lenora Boyer '17

Biology, Psychology
Volleyball
Delaware, Ohio/
Delaware Christian

Lexi Callander '20

Early Childhood/
Special Education
Volleyball
Knox, Pa./Keystone

Angela Campbell '19

Criminal Justice Studies,
Psychology, Sociology
Tennis
Pittsburgh, Pa./Plum

Kaytee Candela '18

Early Childhood/
Special Education
Soccer
Ashtabula, Ohio/Lakeside

John Clark '17

Web Development
Cross Country
Morrisdale, Pa./West Branch

Matt Crawford '20

History, Secondary Education
Football
Greenville, Pa./Greenville

Josh Evjene '19

Mathematics, Secondary
Education
Soccer
Orrstown, Pa./Chambersburg

Shyann Foreman '20

Biology, Psychology
Tennis
Wellsboro, Pa./Wellsboro

Shelby Friedel '19

Psychology
Volleyball
Columbia Station, Ohio/Columbia

Macey Garland '20

Religion
Volleyball
Mineral Ridge, Ohio/Mineral
Ridge

Elizabeth Grasso '19

Criminal Justice Studies, Sociology
Soccer
Meadville, Pa./Meadville

Austin Hall '20

Early Childhood/Special
Education
Football
Mercer, Pa./Mercer

Gary Hiner '18

Criminal Justice Studies
Football
Brookfield, Ohio/Brookfield

Alex Horvatits '17

Early Childhood/Special
Education
Football
Lancaster, N.Y./Saint Mary's

Macy Jordan '19

Early Childhood/Special
Education
Volleyball
York, Pa./York Suburban

Beverly Kozuch '17

Biology
Cross Country
Templeton, Pa./West Shamokin

Steve Kozuch '16

Biology
Football
Templeton, Pa./West Shamokin

Samantha Kurchena '20

Conservation Biology
Soccer
Bridgeville, Pa./South Fayette

MacKayla Kurt '20

Communication Sciences
& Disorders
Volleyball
Cambridge Springs, Pa./
Cambridge Springs

Luke Lindeman '19

Early Childhood/
Special Education
Soccer
Lakewood, N.Y./Southwestern
Central

Hayley Macko '19

Business Administration,
Psychology
Volleyball
Canal Fulton, Ohio/Northwest

Trevor Martin '17

Accounting, Business
Administration
Football
Meadville, Pa./Meadville

Sara Matczak '17

Business Administration,
Mathematics
Tennis
Erie, Pa./Fairview

Grant Milne '19

Biology
Football
Portville, N.Y./Portville Central

Brenna Parsley '20

International Business
Volleyball
Canal Winchester, Ohio/
Madison Christian

Dugan Paxton '17

Computer Science
Soccer
Dublin, Ohio/Dublin Coffman

Marissa Ramirez '19

History, Secondary Education
Soccer
Amherst, Ohio/Amherst Steele

Joelle Reitz '18

Neuroscience
Soccer
DuBois, Pa./DuBois

Jennifer Rickens '17

Applied Physics, Mathematics,
Binary Engineering
Soccer
Pittsburgh, Pa./Chartiers Valley

Josh Ross '17

Conservation Biology
Soccer
Sigel, Pa./Brookville

Marquette Samuels '20

Political Science
Tennis
Austintown, Ohio/
Austintown Fitch

Nick Sarratori '17

History, Secondary Education
Football
Eden, N.Y./Eden

Jenny Shelley '16

Early Childhood/Special
Education
Volleyball
Port Allegany, Pa./Port Allegany

Zach Stiglitz '19

Business Administration
Football
Knox, Pa./Keystone

Jake Swan '17

Business Administration
Football
Jamestown, N.Y./Maple Grove

John Thiel '18

Mathematics, Computer Science
Soccer
Pickerington, Ohio/Bishop Hartley

Justin Walter '19

Early Childhood/Special
Education
Cross Country
Hermitage, Pa./Hickory

Summer Wark '17

Psychology
Cross Country
Hadley, Pa./Commodore Perry

Elizabeth Wilkinson '17

Biology
Soccer
Apollo, Pa./Kiski Area

Justin Zinsmeister '18

Early Childhood/
Special Education
Football
Pittsburgh, Pa./Baldwin

Unique program puts Thiel students inside the Beltway

WASHINGTON SEMESTER OPENS DOORS FOR NETWORKING IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL



Thiel College belongs to a small collection of elite colleges and universities around the United States that paves a pathway to internships in the nation's capital. Thiel belongs to the Lutheran Colleges' Washington Consortium, which operates a supervised internship and seminar program in the nation's capital.

The Lutheran College Washington Consortium, also known as the Lutheran College Washington Semester or LCWS, was founded in 1986 by a core group of Lutheran colleges to provide a quality residential Washington, D.C. semester exclusively for their students. Membership in this consortium allows Thiel students to spend time away from campus and take advantage of internship experiences in the governmental, public service or private sectors in the Washington, D.C. area. During their stay, students participate in four days of internship work per week, and take two LCWS classes in the evenings, earning a total of 16 credit hours. The consortium comprises Thiel and 12 other Lutheran institutions.

The program, available in either the fall or the spring, is small and flexible so the interests of a wide variety of



students can be met. Each semester, LCWS welcomes 40 to 50 students. From the time that they apply until the end of their stay, LCWS provides support every step of the way. They work with students to find an internship that aligns with their unique interests and career goals. Students don't need to be a political science major to participate.

"It gave me that first-hand experience that you can't get in the classroom. When you see how the political world is working, how research is working and how everything is being conducted, it is an eye-opener," Washington Semester intern Victoria Hermann '17 said. "This is a program that is there at Thiel and is open to any major across the board."

LCWS students have interned with The White House, various House members, Department of State, International Trade Administration, The Kennedy Center, NBC, Meridian International Center, National Archives, EPA, National Association of Conservation Districts, various Congressional committees, and embassies, as well as think tanks, advocacy groups, and faith-based organizations.

What former Thiel Lutheran College Washington Semester students say about the program.

Jenn Lippert '17

Q. Where did you do your internship?

A. I was an intern for the National Archives and Records Administration in the fall of 2016. I worked within the Boeing Learning Center through the Archives' Education Department.

Q. How did you enjoy the program overall?

A. The program far exceeded my expectations. The LCWS program has been one of the best professional and educational opportunities that I have been able to experience.

Q. How did the program facilitate your professional growth and development?

A. Not only was I able to make close, personal friendships with other students, from across the country and in part the globe, participating in the LCWS program, but I was also able to form meaningful professional relationships both with fellow interns as well as supervisors. These professional contacts have opened another world of networking that I can utilize in my future career endeavors. I now have a larger pool of professional contacts that have offered to aid me in writing letters of recommendation, introducing me to others in the field who may

help me, and offered themselves as references for future employers.

Q. How did you like living in the D.C. area?

A. Coming from a smaller hometown and Thiel being based in a more rural scene, I was slightly apprehensive (to live) in such a large and bustling city. However, living in the D.C. area was another incredible experience of which few get to experience. The endless adventures to more "touristy" spots and monuments, museums, neighborhoods, and uniquely D.C. events were the main highlights of my time in Washington.

Hanna Tegel '17

Q. Where did you do your internship?

A. For the spring semester of 2015, I interned at Meridian International Center.

Q. How did the program facilitate your professional growth and development?

A. The program was an absolutely amazing experience, and it was rewarding in every way possible. I gained valuable experience for my resume and personally I grew more that semester than any other. The knowledge I acquired through my internship while living and learning in DC is something

I could never obtain in a class room.

Q. How did you enjoy the program overall?

A. It taught me to step outside my comfort zone. Whether it was in our night classes or at my internship, I challenged myself to a new standard. Partly because it was demanded of me in that type of environment but I also saw what I needed to do in order to succeed in this program and how to grow professionally.

Q. How did you like living in the D.C. area?

A. I love living in a large city, but being across from DC in the Virginia area was a nice break from the chaos.

Watch a video about the Washington Semester

Chris Hofmeister '17, Eric Schrader '17 and Jamie Ulrich '18 discuss their experiences in Washington D.C. as part of the Lutheran College Washington Semester.

<http://bit.ly/TCLCWS>



1 History major **Erika Schrader '17**, religion major **Jamie Ulrich '18** and political science major **Chris Hofmeister '17** pose for a photo at the Pentagon. **2** **Erika Schrader '17** interned at the National Archives-Boeing Learning Center. **3** **Jamie Ulrich '18** had an internship with the Lutheran Volunteer Corp. **4** **Hanna Tegel '17** met **Susan Eisenhower**, granddaughter of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, during her internship. **5** **Erika Schrader '17** and **Jamie Ulrich '18** pose with a Thiel flag and their National Parks Service sweatshirt they were given for participating in a volunteer cleanup day during their Washington semester.

143rd Commencement celebrates philanthropy while recognizing academic excellence

Thiel College awarded diplomas to 183 graduates with more than 1,500 faculty members, staff, family and friends in attendance at the William A. Passavant Memorial Center on Sunday, May 7 during its 143rd Commencement Exercises. **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.** presided over the ceremony and awarded the graduates with diplomas. Ninety-six members of the Class of 2017 were awarded graduation or departmental honors. President, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of the Dietrich Foundation **Edward J. Grefenstette, J.D. H'17**, gave the Commencement address and was awarded an honorary degree. The Commencement Exercises' theme was philanthropy, and Grefenstette urged the graduates to give to causes and institutions.

"Whenever philanthropy is mentioned these days, people tend to focus exclusively on the treasure part, the money part," Grefenstette said. "That's regrettable, because sharing time

and talent is just as important—often, more important.

"Your life's body of work lies ahead of you."

Retiring faculty members **Michael Bray, D.M.A.; Kathryn Gray, M.M.; Christopher Moinet, Ph.D.;** and **Curtis Thompson, Ph.D.**, were granted emeriti status during the ceremony. The four professors combined for 106 years of Thiel College experience. Thompson, who is retiring after 33 years at Thiel, was also recognized as the founding and endowed director of The Dietrich Honors Institute.

Elizabeth Carlson '17, Nathan Flory '17, Audra Franley '17, Austin Hall '17, Sara Matczak '17, Ashley McMillen '17 and **Tiffany Rohm '17** all shared valedictorian honors with perfect 4.0 grade point averages. **Kelly Thompson '17** was named salutatorian. The eight students graduated summa cum laude and received the Dean's Key for making the Dean's List during all eight semesters.





See photos from Commencement and other Thiel College events at www.flickr.com/thielcollege



1 Graduate celebrates the next step in her education. **2** Retiring Professor of English and Faculty Marshal **Christopher Moinet, Ph.D.**, (center) and Professor of History **James Koshan, Ph.D.**, (right) speak at the reception following Commencement. **3** **EJ King '17**, **Ian Bergbigler '17** and **Chris Jones '17** celebrate in the gym during the student robing. **4** **Morgan Murphy '17**, **Beverley Kozuch '17** and **Alexis Mowris '17** are all smiles during the post-Commencement party. **5** **Dawhon Willis '17** marches up Brother Martin's Walk for the final time with his classmates as part of the traditional Commencement walk. **6** **Jennifer Rickens '17** asked her peers if they had their sunglasses handy during her senior address. **7** **Louie DeCristoforo '17**, **Robert Carpenter '17**, campus pastor **Jayne Thompson** and Bishop of the Southwest Synod **Kurt Kusserow '85** walk out following the Baccalaureate service. **8** A graduate celebrates a quiet moment after the 143rd Commencement Exercises. **9** Chair of the Board of Trustees **Barry Stamm, M.D. '70**, **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, **Edward Grefenstette, J.D. H'17** and **Nathan Flory '17** pose during the honorary degree and citation portion of the Exercises. **10** **Austin C. Hall '17** and **Sara Matczak '17** shake hands with Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College **Lynn Franken, Ph.D.** **11** **Jessica Lovell '17** and her father, **Howard**, smile on the lawn outside the Passavant Center. **12** **Kyler Jefferson '17** and **Chris Jones '17** pose with Jones' brother on their way into the Passavant Center for Commencement. **13** Assistant Dean of the Career Development Center **Martin Black**, **Thad Paunovich '17** and his brother, **Tyler** celebrate at the Commencement. **14** **Mike Bryant '17** shakes hands with Chair of the Board of Trustees **Barry Stamm, M.D. '71**. **15** Students make the symbolic gesture of moving their graduation tassels near the end of Commencement.



Honor the past; Celebrate the future

**SUSAN TRAVERSO,
PH.D., INAUGURATED
AS THIEL COLLEGE'S
20TH PRESIDENT**

MAY 5, 2017

Valparaiso University
President Mark A. Heckler, Ph.D.
Pages 26-27

**President Emeritus Elizabethtown
College Theodore E. Long, Ph.D.**
Pages 28-29

Thiel College President
Susan Traverso, Ph.D.
Pages 30-32

HECKLER: Luke's story of Jesus on road to Emmaus highlights College's place at crossroads

As President of Valparaiso University, **Mark A. Heckler, Ph.D.**, is the leader of one of the country's largest Lutheran institutions of higher learning. His speech was part of the Inauguration worship service. Heckler worked with **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, during her time at Elizabethtown College. His speech used Luke's story of Jesus' encounter with two disciples on the road to Emmaus to illustrate how the shared Lutheran ethos shapes the institutions' work, studies and callings. It is a story rich with metaphors for encounters with "the other," encounters at the intersection of reason and faith, and encounters with the meaning of Christ-centered vocation.

On the next page are selected excerpts of Heckler's speech.



President Traverso and I . . . share the common bond of serving as presidents at two unique and distinctive institutions of higher learning—Valparaiso University and Thiel College—both rooted in the Lutheran tradition and centered on common themes of meaning, purpose, vocation and inclusion . . . these common themes are central to what it means to be a Lutheran institution of higher learning. We share that deep Lutheran heritage and ethos that reminds us of our journey—where we’ve come from, who we are today as institutions and where we’re going tomorrow . . .



. . . Generations before us have struggled in this finite and imperfect world and, through their labors have re-formed both Christianity and this place that we know as Thiel. We remain in awe of what they accomplished during their lifetimes, and we know that there is still much work to be done . . .

. . . Thiel College has celebrated a long history rooted in the Lutheran tradition. Those of you sitting in this room today and those faculty, staff, students, and alumni who came in the generations before you have taken seriously the role of faith, reason, inclusivity, and vocation as you’ve forged an institutional identity that is grounded intentionally in preparing graduates who have deeply discerned their meaning and purpose and who will become inclusive servant-leaders. This is your mission and your identity. It springs from your Lutheran ethos. And under President Traverso’s leadership, I’m confident you will continue on that same path as you journey down a road not yet finished.



. . . Each day in months and years ahead, your work here at Thiel will re-form this place and the diverse people who come to you and move through you on their way. Through educational and co-curricular opportunities you will cultivate and nurture virtues like integrity, compassion, wisdom and humility. You will ennoble qualities like leadership, service, and sense of meaning and purpose. You will foster character and empower individuals to reach their full potential . . .

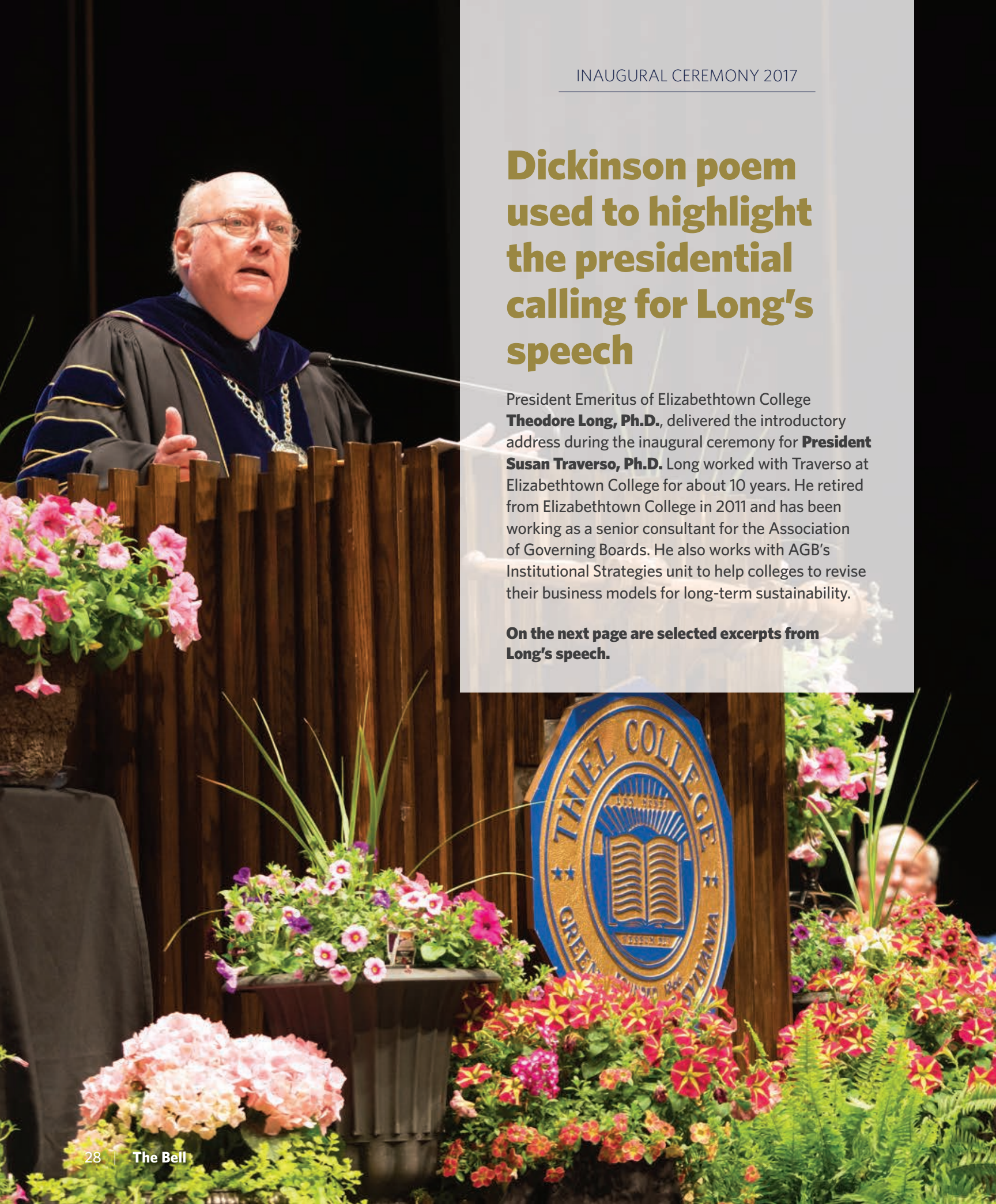
To read the full speech of Valparaiso University **President Mark Heckler, Ph.D.**, go to www.thiel.edu/inauguration



Dickinson poem used to highlight the presidential calling for Long's speech

President Emeritus of Elizabethtown College **Theodore Long, Ph.D.**, delivered the introductory address during the inaugural ceremony for **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.** Long worked with Traverso at Elizabethtown College for about 10 years. He retired from Elizabethtown College in 2011 and has been working as a senior consultant for the Association of Governing Boards. He also works with AGB's Institutional Strategies unit to help colleges to revise their business models for long-term sustainability.

On the next page are selected excerpts from Long's speech.



When I first read (Emily Dickinson's poem 'To Dwell in Possibility') early in my tenure at Elizabethtown, it crystallized the calling of the presidency for me—to 'dwell in possibility' and to 'gather paradise' for our college community. Today, as Susan assumes her own presidency here at Thiel, I can testify that she has already embraced this vocation and will exemplify its highest ideals in her work with you . . .

. . . The idea of 'possibility' has two dimensions—one idealistic, the other practical. Its idealistic side involves reaching for something transcendent, beyond the ordinary, for what is 'not yet' but 'could be.' Our work as presidents is thus always to be in motion, to stimulate meaningful institutional change and development. The practical side of possibility, of course, refers to what can actually be accomplished, for no ideal is worth much if it cannot be put into operation. This is the work of 'gathering paradise,' finding ways to bring ideals to life in the college community . . .

. . . No great president simply applies abstract ideals to whatever community she happens to serve; rather, the presidential calling is to immerse oneself in the culture of your institution, to find its deep meaning and its own distinctive possibilities . . .

. . . We presidents are stewards of some of civilization's most remarkable and important institutions. Ironically, they usually operate reasonably well without us on a daily basis, driven largely by the faculty's teaching, the students' learning, and the loyalty of the alumni, not our operational interventions. Ours instead is the gift of possibility, that we might animate our communities with dreams of paradise and its realization. It is we who open up the future and help our colleges bring it into being by dwelling there, and that is our singular vocation. Now Thiel welcomes Susan Traverso to that historic calling as its 20th president, to realize its greatest possibilities for the years ahead . . .



. . . It is also important to see differently, to find an enchanting possibility where others may see none. This is certainly about vision, but not in the conventional sense of 'having a vision.' To fully dwell in possibility is rather to nurture a new way of seeing, to discern what is not immediately apparent.

To read the full speech of Elizabethtown College **President Emeritus Theodore Long, Ph.D.**, go to www.thiel.edu/inauguration





**Traverso's inaugural address
celebrates Thiel's history and future
while asking the community to
'Roll up Experiences and Think'**

*Susan Traverso, Ph.D., Thiel College's 20th President
May 5, 2017*

On the next two pages are selected excerpts of President Traverso's speech from her inaugural ceremony.

From its beginning, Thiel strove to prepare students for productive engagement in the modernizing economy. But, from its origin (and still today), Thiel also insisted that its educational mission was deeper and more personal than preparation for the workplace alone. Whether in the classroom or in campus organizations, Thiel provided a venue for students to explore their deepest questions about their beliefs, identities and purpose. Rev. **William A. Passavant** said Thiel graduates **“are wanted ... [in the courtroom], in the ministry, in the healing art, in the editorial chair, in the school room, in every department of business, commerce, trade, in agriculture and the mechanical arts, everywhere . . . ”** But the great value of Thiel graduates, according to Passavant, was their ability to combine professional skills with a sense of who they were and what they believed. Thiel graduates could bring a sense of meaning and purpose to their work, not because someone told them what to do and believe, but because they had grappled with questions of identity, faith and values as students at Thiel . . .

. . . In his famous 1897 essay, “The Will to Believe,” William James said, “Roll up experiences and think.” What a message to our students and ourselves: **“Roll up experiences and think.”** Our meaning and purpose are not going to be delivered to us, we must find them in the world around us. For James, **“rolling up experiences”** didn’t mean just rolling through life in a casual way. For him, life was to be “systematically” experienced in an intentional and continuous manner . . .

. . . (Today) we must design our majors not to convey an ever-growing body of knowledge but to engage students in the practice of finding knowledge. In the true tradition of the liberal arts, our goal is to teach students how to think, not what to think. As students develop their sense of freedom and agency, they will gain a deeper understanding of their beliefs and values and a sense of purpose in their lives . . .

. . . Just as in 1866, Thiel, today, operates in a complex, diverse, and rapidly changing world. Our nation is still struggling to be fully inclusive. Our democracy is not perfect, and our economic system while rich with opportunity is laden with inequities. New careers and fields of study unfold at a faster and faster pace, making it difficult for educational programs to remain relevant and up-to-date. Yet still, at Thiel, we succeed in launching students into outstanding careers, selective graduate programs and respected service opportunities. We have confidence that they will be successful in their career paths. But our greatest hope, for our graduates, is that they will find meaning in their careers and purpose in their lives . . .



To read the full speech of Thiel College
President Susan Traverso Ph.D.,
go to www.thiel.edu/inauguration



Facing page: The Traverso family of **Kent, Susan, Linden** and **Kent** on the morning of May 5, when **Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, was inaugurated as Thiel’s 20th president. **Above:** Chair of the Board of Trustees **Barry Stamm, M.D. '70**, Thiel College **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, and the 18th President of Thiel College **Robert Olson, Ph.D. '60, H'09** prior to the Inaugural celebration.

... What joy it is to have one's avocation and vocation become one. "United," as Robert Frost's poem reads, "as two eyes make one sight." It is a privilege to be able to express in one's professional life one's deepest beliefs, to be able to feel that one's work combines "love and need" seamlessly. In Thiel's rich liberal arts environment, students begin their journey towards careers and lives of meaning and purpose. Getting them started on the journey can be challenging since they often want to ask us what we think they should do with their lives. While that may be tempting, our message to students must be "Roll up experiences and think!" By examining their lives critically, students will become the active learners that Passavant wanted at Thiel 150 years ago and that we seek to nurture at Thiel today ...

... I am confident about Thiel's future. For 150 years, Thiel has provided a rich learning environment for students. The success of its graduates tells us that the College's mission is powerful and effective. Our students express gratitude for their experience at Thiel; they have developed close relationships with faculty and other mentors on campus; and they have been active agents in their education, seeking opportunities to expand their experience through study abroad, faculty-student research and internships. With so many of our students first in their family to attend college, Thiel is distinctive in its commitment to access and opportunity for students motivated to graduate from a quality liberal arts institution ...

... The most successful colleges and universities know themselves and know their students. Thiel has a solid sense of itself, its mission, its history and its traditions. We must tell that story with confidence and enthusiasm. We must spread the good news, as it were, reaching out to high schools, partnering with business and community organizations, and interacting with foundations and others interested in supporting the College ...

... Across its history, Thiel College has faced and overcome challenges. In the years ahead, Thiel will face new challenges, some quite significant as higher education is further transformed by technology and new ways of organizing information. The increasing cost of operating a small college and the difficulty that many families have in affording higher education has cast doubt on the sustainability of our business model. Worse still, the liberal arts, misunderstood by many as a political movement rather than an educational philosophy, is under attack just when we most need to develop citizens who can think critically and independently ...

... Dynamic institutions understand that knowledge and practice are constantly unfolding. They do not fear the uncertainty of change but embrace it, learning to be agile and open to new opportunities. Thiel's 150-year history is a story of vision and practice. Each time one of us tells Thiel's story, we renew the College's vitality and powerful liberal arts mission.



To watch a video of the Thiel College community greeting **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, go to <http://bit.ly/tctraversogreeting>





Delegates from 24 colleges, universities and institutions attended the May 5 Inaugural celebration:

1787

Franklin & Marshall College
E. Fletcher McClellan, Ph.D.

1815

Allegheny College
James H. Mullen Jr., Ed.D.

1831

Denison University
BethAnn Zambella, M.S., M.Ed.

1835

The College at Brockport, SUNY
Anne MacPherson, Ph.D.
James Spiller, Ph.D.

1841

Queens University
Alice J. Baumgart, Ph.D.

1845

Wittenberg University
Curtis Y. Frank, M.A.

1846

Saint Vincent College
Jill Newcomer, M.B.A.

1849

Waynesburg University
Justin Zackal, M.S.

1852

Westminster College
Kathy B. Richardson, Ph.D.

1855

Elmira College
Robert T. McDowall Jr., Esq.

1856

University of Maryland, College Park
Karin Roseblatt, Ph.D.

1858

Susquehanna University
Linda McMillin, Ph.D.

1861

North Central College
Bruce Janacek, Ph.D.

1876

Albright College
Paul M. Cramer, B.A.

1876

Grove City College
The Honorable Paul J. McNulty

1876

Juniata College
Thomas R. Kepple, Ed.D.

1878

Duquesne University
Fr. James McCloskey, C.S.Sp., Ph.D.

1899

Elizabethtown College
Carl J. Strikwerda, Ph.D.

1908

University of Mary Washington
Judith A. Crissman, Ph.D. '64

1915

Marywood University
Barbara Bistransin, M.S.

1918

Seton Hill University
Susan O'Neill, B.S.

1926

Mercyhurst University
Melvin Roy Strausbaugh, Ph.D. H'14

1932

Boise State University
Stephen Lazowski, M.E.T.

1952

Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania
Don L. Francis, Ph.D.

1957

Hilbert College
David Rhodes, M.B.A. '82

Catherine V. Mott

Board Term: 2008-2017

Current Hometown: Mercer, Pa.

Family: Husband, John F. Logan '65

Current Occupation: CEO and Founder of Blue Tree Venture Fund and BlueTree Allied Angels



Catherine Mott is the founder of BlueTree Capital Group, BlueTree Allied Angels, and the BlueTree Venture Fund located in a suburb of Pittsburgh. BlueTree Allied Angels is one of 450+ professionally managed private (angel) investor networks in the United States and Canada. As of December 2015, Blue Tree Allied Angels [had] invested \$38+ million in 48 start-up companies. The venture fund has \$10 million under management. Mott is the past Chairman of the Angel Capital Education Foundation (aka, Angel Resource Institute), an organization that researches angel capital, tracks angel capital, and provides education to bring professionalism and ethics to the industry.

Mott has been quoted or featured in many professional industry publications as one of the few women who represent the industry of angel capital/venture capital – Red Herring, The Scientist, The New York Times, Erie Times-News, The Wall Street Journal, The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, and the Pittsburgh Business Times.

Mott holds an M.B.A. in Finance, a B.S. in Education and a master’s degree in education. She lives in Mercer, Pa. with her husband, **John Logan '65**.

Why is being a part of the Board of Trustees important to you? I grew up in Greenville and I greatly value Thiel’s contribution to the local community and the local economy.

Why should alumni consider giving back to their alma mater? Thiel provides the foundation for many to have a successful career and most importantly, a successful life. Thiel’s focus on the “whole student” is unique and I am more than pleased to support it; and I hope others value it in the same manner by donating to its continued success.

Describe your areas of interest related to Thiel College through your service on the Board of Trustees. Governance, Student Life, and Finance

How have your perceptions of Thiel College evolved from when you were a Greenville resident to now as a Trustee? I am thrilled to see Thiel grow financially and provide new facilities and continue to hire good people who support the mission of Thiel. I am especially thrilled to see a female take the helm of the ship!

From your vantage point as a trustee, what advice would you be willing to offer Thiel College students pursuing their degree? Make the most of everything in front of you because it will find a place to help you later in life. Never miss a beat!

Now that Thiel College has wrapped up its 150th anniversary, what do you think the future for the College looks like? Thiel will be a leader in small liberal arts education and continue to be a cornerstone of the Greenville community.

What are your “words to live by?” The choices we make today drive the results we have tomorrow.

What is the “one thing” you like best about Thiel College today? The staff and faculty are absolutely the best—they are student-focused.

What is something you try to do every time you return to campus? Talk to students.

What is your proudest moment? Marrying a good man who is such a good person!

What do you do in your spare time? Exercise and read.

MEET THE BOARDS



Dr. Barry D. Stamm '70
Board of Trustees,
Chair



John M. Barr '70
Board of Trustees,
Vice Chair



Barry Oman '74
Board of Trustees,
Treasurer



G. Leah Dever '74
Board of Trustees,
Secretary

Board of Trustees Officers

Dr. Barry D. Stamm '70, Chair
John M. Barr '70, Vice Chair
Barry Oman '74, Treasurer
G. Leah Dever '74, Secretary
Dr. Susan Traverso, Ex-Officio

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Dale W. Deist
Brian K. Derrick '82
Rev. Brian A. Evans '03
John R. Frangakis
Frederick C. Haer '66
Dr. Cara Hoehn-Lapic '92
Dr. Carl A. Hoffman, Jr. '69 H'10
John Hudson
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Barbara H. Nakles
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Dr. Roy Strausbaugh H'14
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Dr. Howard J. Weyers '56, H'11

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Marianne Calenda '79
Dr. Alan P. Childs
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Dominic Dionisio '72
Patrick Findle '79
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Cris Loutzenhiser
Joseph Nairn '79
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Leo M. Phillips '84
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Joseph Scarpitti '80
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John E. Thigpen '86
Nicholas Travagianti '11
Jeffrey Wallace
The Hon. Roy W. Wilt '59, H'85

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Antonio Quarterman '08, President
Liz Prada '04, Vice President
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Nikki (Colpo) Galbo '06
Nancy (Walker) Cox '02
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David Hummel '83
Michael Miller '92
Jessica (Somerville) Phillips '08
Ryan Prescott '12
Laura (Hardesty) Reino '07
Allen Schreiber '99
David S. Schreiber '00
Jeffrey Seiple '85
Marion (Norris) Shoemaker '63
Richard Smallwood '15
Damen L. Taylor '95
Dana VanKirk '05
Cindy (Campbell) Wagner '79

Directors-at-Large

Ricardo Daley '96
Angela (Lago) Hughes '97
James M. McRoberts '58
Dawn Salter '95
Dr. Christopher Shinkman '62
Paul Stibich '05
John Wotus '74

Summer/Fall 2017 Alumni Events

JULY

Thursday, July 27

Alumni Happy Hour

6-8 p.m.

Atria's at PNC Park – Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUGUST

Tuesday, Aug. 29

Pittsburgh Alumni Paint Nite®

6 p.m. Taco Tuesday Social Hour

7 p.m. Painting begins!

Buckhead Saloon – Pittsburgh, Pa.

Hosted by artist and alumna,

Connie Dusak '95

Alumni receive a special discounted rate of \$30 per ticket which includes all paint supplies, drink tickets, and tacos—because who doesn't love a "taco Tuesday"!

OCTOBER

Thursday, Oct. 12

National Thiel Spirit Day

Show off your TC pride by wearing blue and gold! Whether you're on campus or hundreds of miles away, show your school spirit on social media by using the hashtag #TCProud.

Oct. 13-15

Homecoming Weekend

Thiel College – Greenville, Pa.

Friday, Oct. 13

Con Spirito Chamber Music Series

The award-winning Milton String Quartet will perform at the David Johnson Memorial Chapel.

Calling all educators

Teachers, administrators or school support staff, you can help spread the word about Thiel College.

Contact **Morgan Steiner '16** at msteiner@thiel.edu for more information about scheduling a campus visit for students from your school or getting a "College in a Box" package. The box contains print collateral, applications and a Thiel pennant.



Members of the Board of Trustees **Rick Huether '74**, **Dale Deist**, **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, and Greenville businessman **Harvey Childs H'15** show the framed portrait that will hang in the new Cobblestone Suites & Hotel during the grand opening celebration on July 11.

Update your alumni profile

Whether it's a new email or home address, complete our online form to let us know how to stay in touch.

Visit www.thiel.edu/alumni/keep-in-touch to update your alumni file. For more information, contact **Director of Alumni Relations Kelly Sanzari '13** at **724-589-2014** or alumni@thiel.edu.

1960s

Gary Fincke '67's seventh short story collection "The Killer's Dog," winner of the Elixir Press National Fiction Prize, was published in March 2017. "The Out-of-Sorts: New and Selected Stories" will be published by West Virginia University Press in October. He will retire in winter 2017 from his position as the Charles Degenstein Professor of English and Creative Writing at Susquehanna University.

Two alumni couples have celebrated 50 years of marriage this year: **John '68** and **Jean (Beldin) Haddock '65** on June 10 and **Martin '66** and **Sarah "Sally" (Fox) Roth '65** on May 27. Congratulations!

1970s

Jane (Davis) Minton '74 retired as a school counselor. She and her husband reside in Sarasota, Fla.

Robert Murphy '75 was awarded the John D. Keane Award of Merit at the Society for Protective Coatings Annual Conference. The award acknowledges outstanding leadership and significant contribution to the development of the protective coatings industry and to SSPC. Murphy, of Ventura, Calif., is employed with The Sherwin-Williams Company as a project manager for water infrastructure.

Donna (Sopher) Kline '79 retired and resides in Fort Wayne, Ind. with her husband.

Firdaus Kharas '78 was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws at Carleton University. As a social entrepreneur, Kharas was recognized

for his innovative contributions to the advancement of public health and children's rights in a global context.



William Dunn IV '79 is the author of "Sandy's Gift: Walking with the Light." Written about his wife, Sandy, he shares the story of love and courage as he struggled against a deeply flawed healthcare system in the midst of heartbreak and poignant tragedy. It is also a chilling wake-up call for everyone, especially those whose lives have been impacted by the presence and aftermath of mental illness. Retired, he now resides in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. and is a proud grandfather. (<http://www.williamdunnauthor.com/>)

1980s



Mark Conrad '83 is employed at Venango College as the coordinator of career services. He was selected as the 2016 Employee of the Year at Clarion University's annual Social

Equity awards banquet. Conrad was also chosen by his peers as a Melvin Jones Fellow, an award named after the founder of Lions Club International Foundation. It is the highest honor given to members for service to their respective club and community. His nephew, **Nathan White '20**, is a member of the Tomcat baseball team.

J. Mark DeNicola

'80 is the chief financial officer and executive director of sales and marketing at Thermocopy in Knoxville, Tenn. He and his wife, Connie, have a daughter, Elise. DeNicola was awarded CFO of the Year - USA 2017 by Corporate Vision Magazine



Phillip Brath '89 joined the Sustainable Planning & Design Group as a senior managing engineer in the firm's Camp Hill office. A resident of Cumberland County, Pa., Brath previously was a senior engineer/project manager with another Mid-Atlantic firm where he was involved with wastewater treatment and land development as well as stormwater and erosion control for numerous projects. He is a licensed professional engineer in Pennsylvania.

Kevin Greer '86 and his wife, Connie, live in Glasgow, Ky. where Greer works for Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake as senior human resources generalist.

1990s



Michael Capozzoli '94 is the owner of a film and TV production company, Capture Production Studios, both in the United States and the United Kingdom. He and his wife, **Lisa (Kane) '01**, live in Canonsburg, Pa. with their three children: William, Rocco and Michael.

Christine (Gregory) Powers '92 is a senior field technician for Solar Testing Labs. She has a son, Andrew, and resides in Parma, Ohio.

Damen Taylor '95 is now employed at Three Rivers Adoption Council in Pittsburgh as a finance/accounting manager. Taylor also serves on The Thiel College Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Lesley Michelson '93 is employed with North East Ohio Network as work incentive practitioner and provider compliance specialist. She has two children, Frederick and Margaret Zeigler.

Thomas Shaffer '99 is the director of human resources at Exal Corporation. He and his wife, Micheleen, live in Youngstown, Ohio and have three children: Mackenzie, Braeden and Ellison.

2000s

Joseph Dunn '01 and his wife, **Melissa (Mausling) '00**, live in Powell, Ohio with their children, Connor and Maggie. Joseph is employed at SAS Institute Inc. as a state and local government account executive.



Justin Kuban '05 was awarded the Carl J. Schafer Memorial Award for CTE Teacher Candidate by the NOCTI Board of Trustees at the Association for Career and Technical Education conference in Las Vegas in December 2016. NOCTI is the nation's largest provider of industry partner certifications and industry-based credentials for career and technical education programs. Kuban is an HVAC-R Instructor at Steel Center for Career and Technical Education in Jefferson Hills, Pa. The award recognizes an outstanding CTE teacher and a CTE teacher candidate continuing their educational journey.

Ricardo Franklin Sr. '02 works at Citizen Leadership Academy East in Cleveland, Ohio as the founding principal. He and his wife, Maronika, have three children, Rico, and twins Ricardo Jr. and Riley.



Laura (Yaple) Eury '03 received the Pittsburgh Federal Executive Board Women of the Year Award for the Professional-Supervisory category. Eury received the award for her role as the assistant director for management services of the Federal Investigative Services. She managed a staff of 180 at FIS and was also responsible for the technical administration and oversight of eight major investigative contracts worth almost \$3 billion. She and her husband, Brian, have two daughters, Madalynn and Delaney.



Elizabeth (Davis) Burk '08 is employed with MCBHC as an early intervention service coordinator. She and her husband, Charlie, have two daughters, Jaina and Madison. The family resides in Mercer, Pa.

Angela (Bowe) Maranuk '08 is employed at Brookmont Rehabilitation Center. She maintains PRN status at Whitestone Care Center in addition to PRN PTA with doctors choice for care at home.



Richard McNeal '06 started a new position as research associate at Parker Executive Search in March 2017. He resides in Atlanta, Ga.

Laura (Hardesty) Reino '07 is now employed as National Director of Program Development for The National Society of Leadership and Success. She earned her M.B.A. from Chatham University with a concentration in leadership and entrepreneurship. Reino also serves on The Thiel College Alumni Association Board of Directors. She and her husband, Antonio, live in New Castle, Pa. and have a daughter, Giada.

Antonio Quarterman '08 graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Doctorate of Education with a focus on higher education management. Quarterman works as the director of the McCarl Center for Nontraditional Student Success and the College of General Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. He is also president of The Thiel College Alumni Association Board of Directors.

2010s

Jeena Markovitch '16 is employed as assistant rental manager with Penske Truck Leasing in Monroeville, Pa.

Brian Warning '11 works as a financial representative for Northwestern Mutual. He resides in Mentor, Ohio.

Keisha Shaw '13 is a human resource professional for the City of Philadelphia.

Becky Crawford '14 is an operations analyst for Vets First Choice. Crawford resides in Houston, Texas.

Tyler Comp '14 lives in Irwin, Pa. and is employed with the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg as a police officer.

John Whitman '13 is currently playing professional volleyball in London, England for the London Lynx VC. Whitman was awarded a scholarship to attend graduate school and play volleyball for the University of East London. He will graduate with a master's degree in international business management. ►



Kristi (Guritza) Patterson '16 is employed as a tax associate with Sisterson & Co., LLP. She resides in Pittsburgh with her husband, **Jacob Patterson '15**.

Evan Ditty '12 is the assistant director of fraternity and sorority life at Penn State University-University Park.

Sarah Weikart, J.D. '12 is employed at the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office as Assistant District Attorney. Weikart resides in Pittsburgh.

Kristin Wansor '13 graduated with a Master of Arts in clinical mental health counseling from Slippery Rock University in May 2016. She is an outpatient mental health and drug and alcohol therapist at Community Counseling Center in Hermitage, Pa.

Kaleigh Tautkus '16 is employed at Hampton Inn & Suites as a front desk agent. She resides in Charleroi, Pa.

The Thiel Fund file

A short profile of people who donate to The Thiel Fund, the College's largest source of unrestricted funds.



SIGNE (OLSON) MITCHELL

Graduation Year: 1965

Home: Butler, Pa.

Work Experience: I retired as a teacher in the Butler Area School District a number of years ago. I am in my 52nd year as organist at my church in Butler, Pa. As a music major, the excellent professors and many wonderful music experiences helped to change my life forever. In later years, I returned to school, earning a master's degree in music at Duquesne University with emphasis on sacred music and organ.

Involvement at Thiel: The choir and Sigma Kappa. Former alumni board member. In the fall, a group of Sigma Kappa sisters got together during Homecoming and it was so great to catch up with one another again.

Reason for Giving Back: I do believe gifts to The Thiel Fund will help to reassure and create solid futures for students who come to the campus for many years to come. Thiel College continues to carefully educate and provide guidance for many. Our gifts will help the College to continue its good work. May it be a part of your thoughts, too.

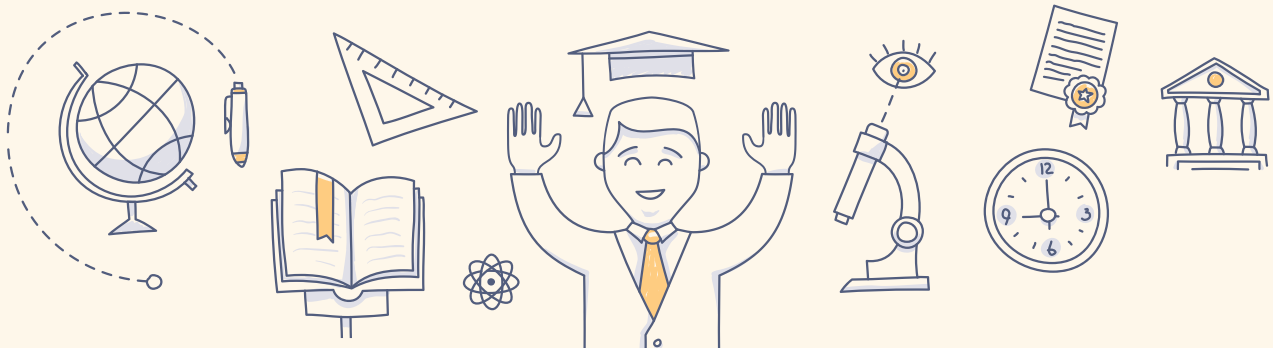
Volunteer for the PAWS program to connect future college students with Thiel

The Partnering Alumni With Students program is designed to give alumni a way to connect prospective students with Thiel College.

Volunteers will be sent a "College in a Box" package. The box contains print collateral, applications and a Thiel pennant. Participating alumni can attend school college fairs and other

events. Alumni will be rewarded with a \$25 gift card for each student who applies and commits to Thiel through the program.

For more information, contact **Morgan Steiner '16** at msteiner@thiel.edu.



MARRIAGES



Elizabeth (Martin) Mulligan '11 married Cory Mulligan on October 9, 2016. The couple resides in Pittsburgh where Elizabeth is employed as an office manager/paralegal.



Tyesha (Peck) '09 to Mike Lewis '11 on Oct. 15, 2016. The couple resides in Westlake, Ohio.

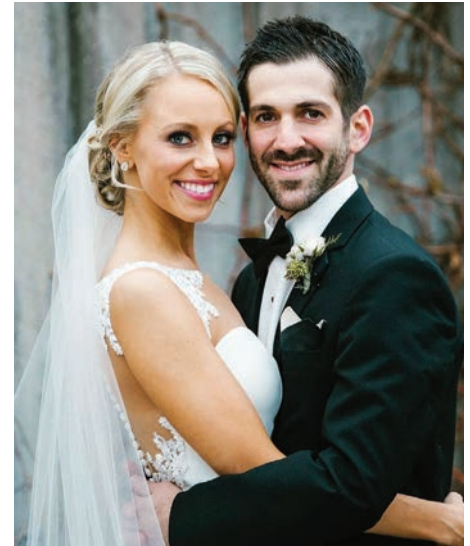


Erica (Riola) '12 to Wyatt Clements '14 on July 23, 2016. The couple resides in Baton Rouge, La., where Erica is a kindergarten teacher.

Dara (Sefton) '12 to Ryan Hagofsky on April 22.

Louise (Gornik) '94 to Todd Forney in October 2016 in Ocean View, Del. The couple resides in Camp Hill, Pa. where Louise is employed as a systems administrator/infrastructure specialist for Gannett Fleming.

Kristin (Diegan) '15 to Nicholas Schiavoni '14 on December 27, 2016 in Hermitage, Pa. There were many Thiel alumni in attendance including members of the wedding party: **Candi Arnold '17, Summer Wark '17, Kelly Sanzari '13, Bill Bendgen '13, and Eric Steininger '13.** The couple resides in Fayetteville, N.C. where Kristin is an elementary school teacher and Nick is in the U.S. Army.



Danielle (Kaizer) '09 to Billy Bonura on Dec. 3, 2016 at Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church in Pittsburgh. A reception at the Edgewood Country Club in Churchill followed. Many Thiel alumni were in attendance, including: **Maggie (Giel) Bovaird '09, Sara (Farley) Spadafora '09, Nickie (Campman) Sible '10, Ashley (Crothers) MacQuilliam '09, Jenna (Gowin) Farley '08, Amanda (Rodgers) Marzolf '08, Meredith (Nagle) Toth and Steve Toth '12, and Shannon (Rotunda) Johnson '09 and Evan Johnson '07.** Fun fact: the newlyweds met at Thiel in the admissions office!

The Thiel Fund file

A short profile of people who donate to The Thiel Fund, the College's largest source of unrestricted funds.



ANGELA (BLACKBURN) '11 AND ALEX JOHNSON '12

Home: Berea, Ohio

Work Experience: Angela previously worked in marketing at Castle Claims Service and as onboarding specialist at CBIZ in Cleveland; Alex has been an actuarial consultant for CBIZ Retirement Plan Services in Cleveland for five years.

Involvement at Thiel: Angela participated in Alpha Xi Delta, *The Thielensian*, Dance Team, Phone-a-thon, Thiel Activities Board, and Alex was active with Delta Sigma Phi, concert and marching bands, Phone-a-thon and the Thiel Activities Board.

Reason for Giving Back: Angela: I loved my time at Thiel. Honestly, I don't know many alumni who would say differently. It's as simple as that. I want future Thiel students to love their time at Thiel as well. Thiel gave me a lot—opportunities, experiences, network, friends, family—how many people can say that honestly about their alma mater? Alex: On the surface, Thiel gave me the vocational and technical skills to work in a field I enjoy and support my family. But more importantly, Thiel provided me with the opportunity to meet lifelong mentors, friends, and even my wife. My experience at Thiel taught me how to be a passionate learner, a leader, and a friend. It makes me happy to see that my and others' contributions will allow future Tomcats to have those opportunities.

Thiel Choir tour leads to several reunions



From L-R: Professor Emeritus of Political Science **Merril Downer, Ph.D.**; **Mary Ellen (Voss) '71** and **Ed Taylor**; Director of Alumni Relations **Kelly Sanzari '13**; **Kristin (Diegan) Schiavoni '15**; **Carl '62** and **Barbara Olson**; and Director of Langenheim Memorial Library **Allen Morrill** gathered at the Durham, N.C. tour event on March 9.



From L-R: **David Fauth '77**, Director of Alumni Relations **Kelly Sanzari '13**, **Andrew '72** and **Jan (Klakamp) Cwalina '72**, **Howard Hillman '59**, and **James '57** and **Charlotte (McCullough) Bennett '57** met up at the Aiken, S.C. tour stop on March 8.

Sigma Kappa Alumnae



From L-R: **Kay (Wood) Hrivnak '65**, **Carol (Stewart) Mitchell '65**, Director of Alumni Relations **Kelly Sanzari '13**, **Signe (Olson) Mitchell '65**, **Jill (Shackett) Haer '66** and **Billie (Dragan) Hollenbaugh '66** met for a Sigma Kappa reunion at The Iron Bridge in Mercer, Pa. on May 16.

BIRTHS



To **Lindsay Metz '06** a baby girl, Jalayna Marie Jones, on Oct. 4, 2016. Metz is the business office manager at Heartland Hospice in Erie, Pa.



To **Maura (Medvitz) Dye '03** and husband, Bryan, a son, Luke Thomas, on Dec. 1, 2015. Dye is a financial analyst for TrueCommerce. The family resides in Evans City, Pa.

To **Angela (Shade) Holden '09** and her husband, Jarrod, a son: Jude Theodore on March 29, 2016. Holden is employed with Northwood Realty Services as a recruiting coordinator in Mars, Pa.



Beth (Nornyak) Brawley '07 and her husband, John Brawley III, welcomed their second child, John IV, in September 2016. Pictured is big sister, JoJo, holding her baby brother. Brawley is an auditor for the Tennessee Army National Guard.



To **Amy Sarno '05** and **Dustin Pierce '03**, a son, Maxim Anthony Sarno-Pierce, born on Sept. 28, 2016.

To **Alex Johnson '12** and **Angela (Blackburn) Johnson '11**, a son, Ethan James, on Nov. 17, 2016. The family of three resides in Berea, Ohio.



To **Kayla (Ohlin) '13** and **Josh Emanuelson '13** a daughter, June Rose born on May 9, 2017.

Thiel Legacy

Each year following Commencement, Thiel College's newest alumni meet with family members who also graduated from Thiel in front of Greenville Hall for the annual Legacy photos.



Jennifer Lippert '17
and her mother,
**Cathy (Anawalt)
Lippert '90**



Shaina Marini '17, her father, Director of Special and Planned Gifts **Mario Marini '91**, and her sister, **Nicolette Marini '14**



Alyssa (Murphy) Babcock '17
and her brother, **Ryan Murphy '14**



Alannah Keisling '17 and her
brother, **Trent Keisling '15**



Katelyn Brunsgaard '17 and her
sister, **Laurel (Brunsgaard) Sutterfield '07**

GATHERINGS/THIEL ON TOUR



Becky Crawford '14 and **Morgan Chase '17** reconnected in Maine. Chase is a resident of Maine and Crawford was visiting from Houston for work.



Carmen Russo '07, **Jeff Linn '02**, **Jammie (Tomasone) Clark '04**, and **Brett Stedman '04** (missing from photo) were recognized by the regional Chambers of Commerce for Mercer County's "40 Under Forty".



A group from the 1977 Alpha Chi Rho pledge class reunited! Pictured include: **Doug Campbell '81**, **John Perriello '82**, **Greg Williams '80**, **Grant Heasley '80**, **Mark Benedetto '80**, **Rodney Moore '82**, "Pudgery" **Pat Curran '81**. Others in attendance but not pictured: **Richard Stelts '82** and **Kyle Roberts '80**.



Several graduates from the class of 1962 traveled to Antarctica together. Pictured here are **J. Gordon Naughten**, **William Shaw** and **Jim McHugh H'02**. Of course, they had to show off their Delta Sig pride too! Alumni can take the Thiel College community with them on their travels by taking a picture with their favorite Thiel gear in front of a landmark. Photos posted to social media should use **#Thielontour**. Check out <https://www.thiel.edu/thielontour> to see where alumni and friends have been.



HEROIC ACTS

Leonard Levering '73 passed away in March 2017, and though his family was unaware that while they were losing their loved one, already a hero in their eyes, Leonard was about to become a hero to not one, but two Maryland residents on the kidney transplant waiting list. Organ donation itself is very rare, and Levering's donor designation status was something he was proud of. And while the likelihood of donation is extremely low, in his case two lives were saved with viable kidney transplants—a 60-year-old man and a 71-year-old woman, both from Maryland, received a second chance at life. He is survived by his wife, **Cynthia '72**, and is pictured with daughter Sara on her wedding day.



Thiel community mourns passing of longtime Professor of English

GREENVILLE, Pa.—Professor of English **Mark DelMaramo, Ph.D.**, passed away early Friday, Feb. 3 after a fight with cancer. DelMaramo, 57, a native of Erie, Pa., had been a member of the Thiel College faculty since 1989.

"Dr. DelMaramo had a lasting impact on his students and the greater community," Thiel College **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, said. "The inspirational story of his experience with cancer and ensuing pilgrimage are testaments to his great faith, enduring hope and love of good stories."

DelMaramo was diagnosed with lung cancer in March 2013. He went through treatments and was declared cancer free in November 2013. Just under a year later to celebrate the miracle of beating cancer and to thank the people praying for him, DelMaramo took a month to walk the 500-mile Camino de Santiago, the pilgrimage to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia, Spain.

He returned to Thiel College to teach after his pilgrimage and shared his journey at a presentation to the Greenville and Thiel College communities.

IN MEMORIAM

Jason M. Abramowicz '98
Louise Aiken
Shirley Aikens
Trisha L. Albaugh
Norman M. Andrews
Clinton E. Appleby
Alice (Baumgart) Artzberger '47
Jacob Robert Auerbach
William Beighey '55
Alfred Bowler
Lewis C. Bromer '83
Ward Brooke
John R. Brown Jr. '50
John E. Bunney
Althea Burns
Anthony Busco
Louis Butler
Allan J. Cigler '65
Elizabeth Clepper
Anthony Costanza
Holly H. (Hassel) Cremonese '86
Ernest M. Crist '59
Lance Clinton Davis
Thomas W. Decker '68
Mark J. DelMaramo
Peggy L. Delp
Wilma M. (Skelton) Dennis '58
Joan M. (Moyer) Doerr '88
Linda A. (Skogsberg) Duffus '60

Matthew Maxwell Dye
Mary Eberhart
Kathryn M. (Long) Fagan '43
David P. Gleason H'16
Carol Good
Kathy L. Hagenbuch '72
Lucille Hartman
Evelyn Herrick
Daniel Herrington '68
Darlene M. Huegel '67
Jack A. Jensen '69
Hildegarde Jenson
Glenn Keisel '60
Antiqua A. King
Dorothy A. (Hitson) Kroen '53
Christopher Lanich
James W. Leary
Kristin Leonard
Leonard M. Levering '73
Kathy J. Liszka '80
Billie B. Loomis
Benjamin Loveridge '43
Charles S. MacKenzie
Andrew Macko
Jeffry D Madura '80
Pauline Mazzoni
George F. McGinnis '54
Mary McGonigal
Margaret D. Meleky

Brian Minick '98
Kelly S. Nan '81
Jean Ogawa
Janis (Holt) Parrott '53
Charles E. Peffer '60
Donald I. Ramsey '79
Charles Reagle
Thomas H. Regan '60
Albert Reitinger '79
Donna Royal
Eugene T. Sampieri '63
Thomas D. Sayers '62
Daniel M. Ser '75
Nancy Shaffer
Anthony Shebeck
Luke Slye
Jane Sorrwar
Evelyn Spargo
Linda S. Speir '94
Donald J. Stull
Andrew J. Szwast '71
LaRoux A. Toomey
Joseph Truchan
Ann Uber
Gail A. (Gahagen) Van Stone '70
J. Bruce Wackenhut
Lynn (Leonard) Wesolek
Charles H. Willis
Mason Wolford

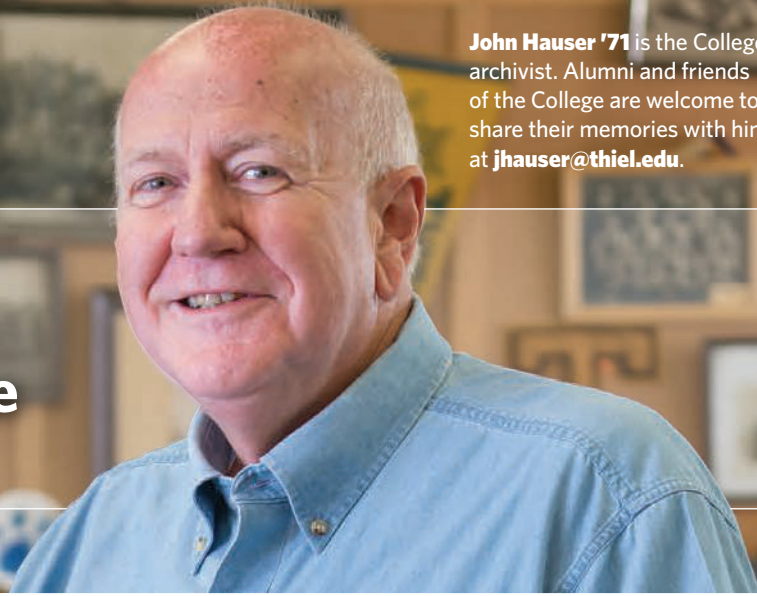
Clarifications & Corrections

Professor **Nathan W. Harter**'s first name was incorrect in the Fall 2016 edition of The Bell in the story "Thiel Students made Supreme Sacrifice in 'Great War.'"

In addition, Harter was related to **Francis Larue Harter**, who is named on the sundial that serves as a monument to the soldiers who perished during World War I. The story incorrectly said the two were not related. Francis Larue Harter is the son of **Edwin F. Harter**, Professor Nathan W. Harter's oldest brother.

John Hauser '71 is the College archivist. Alumni and friends of the College are welcome to share their memories with him at jhauser@thiel.edu.

Inauguration and Commencement mark milestones for the College and its students



It seems fitting that the Inauguration of **President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, and the Commencement Exercises for the Class of 2017 were held on the same weekend. Both herald the end of an era, as well as a setting-out in new directions, which brings the hope and excitement that only these kind of events engender.

For our graduating seniors, this 143rd Commencement is the end of their time as students at Thiel College. The excitement that comes with the end of college is tempered by the realization that some of the best times in our life are now a memory. The four (or, in some cases, three or five) years spent here have been a period of tremendous personal and academic growth.

Many enter as teenagers just out of high school, the challenges and opportunities for these students started on their move-in day, when they met a total stranger and learned how to adjust to a very different way of life. Most of us remember that first day of dorm life almost as clearly as that first day of classes—and most of us are grateful we chose Thiel College as the place where we could grow up in an atmosphere that encouraged exploration and growth but also provided guidance and nurturing from

excellent faculty and staff. For many, the friendships that were formed here are also some of the strongest bonds we have established outside of our families.

“IN THE TRUE TRADITION OF THE LIBERAL ARTS, OUR GOAL IS TO TEACH STUDENTS HOW TO THINK, NOT WHAT TO THINK. ACCOMPLISHING THIS, WE ENSURE TO OUR STUDENTS RICH LIVES LIBERATED FROM THE CONSTRAINTS OF DOGMATIC BELIEFS AND UNEXAMINED DOCTRINE.” - President Susan Traverso, Ph.D.

Fortunately, the liberal arts foundation that was laid during our tenure at Thiel is one that serves us well throughout our lives, teaching how to think as we prepared for—and continue to lead—lives of service to our families, our communities and our professions. For our newest alumni, this commencing of a new chapter in their lives is one to be greeted with excitement for all the possibilities that lie ahead.

And so it is with the inauguration of our 20th President. Building upon the foundation established by her predecessors over the past 150 years, President Traverso brings a vision of what Thiel will be like as it continues to meet the challenges of this 21st century.

Just as the graduating seniors go

out to make their mark on the world they face, President Traverso is here to lead Thiel College as it faces new opportunities to make its mark on future leaders. As she said at her

Inauguration, “Dynamic institutions understand that knowledge and practice are constantly unfolding. They do not fear the uncertainty of change but embrace it, learning to be nimble and open to new opportunities to thrive. Thiel’s 150-year history is a story of growth and change. Each time one of us tells Thiel’s story, we renew its vitality and powerful liberal arts mission. Thank you for letting me tell Thiel’s story again today and for inviting me to join the Thiel community. Together, let us begin Thiel’s next 150 years of educational excellence.”

With the inauguration of a new president, let each of us be part of Thiel’s “Commencement” with the same excitement and hope for the future that our youngest alumni have.

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