Each spring, Central College recognizes faculty for their leadership in teaching, professional development, and service.

The teaching we do is not in isolation from our professional development or our service to community, nor is it done in isolation from one another, so we gather as a community to acknowledge the scholarship and creativity of the faculty at Central College. Many colleagues also gathered at the inaugural Chairs' Conference last September, another way in which we have worked to develop and sustain our commitment to teaching and scholarship within the context of our professional relationships to one another and our shared work with the students we are privileged to teach daily.

This year, we also recognized faculty colleagues for their sustained and committed contributions to our community. The awards presented are noted below and described on the next two pages.

- Dr. John Wesselink Award
- David Crichton Memorial Teaching Award
- Hutch Bearce Community-Building and Faculty Leadership Award
- Huffman Award for Outstanding Support of International Education
- Frank W. Moore Faculty Award
- Moore Family Faculty Award
- Marvin L. Hackert Faculty Development Fund for Science and Mathematics

We are also celebrating the collective 107 years of service of three valued faculty colleagues. Robert Franks (Mathematics/Computer Science) has been teaching Central College students for 25 years. Robert Maurer (Economics/Accounting/Management) is retiring after 45 years at Central. Michael Schrier (History) retired last fall after 37 years at Central. Their work has made possible our work today.

This publication is printed in appreciation of the faculty, administrators and staff who define Central College through their leadership and dedication to our students and community.

Mary E. M. Strey, Ph.D.
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty
Central College
April 2013
2013 Faculty Award Recipients

2013 Recipient of the Dr. John Wesselink Award

Michael Harris, Professor of English
This award recognizes faculty achievement in scholarship having direct impact on classroom teaching. Nominations for the award specifically identify the faculty member’s scholarly accomplishments in relation to advancements in courses, programs, majors and student participation in research.

2013 Recipient of the David Crichton Memorial Teaching Award

Debela Birru, Associate Professor of Business Management
This award recognizes outstanding teaching at Central College that perpetuates the type of instruction that challenges and shapes the intellectual development of students.

2013 Recipient of the Hutch Bearce Community-Building and Faculty Leadership Award

Robert Maurer, Associate Professor of Accounting
This award recognizes members of the faculty for their efforts over a sustained period of time in the category of community building and either mentorship or leadership.

2013 Recipient of the Huffman Award for Outstanding Support of International Education

Paulina Mena, Assistant Professor of Biology
This award recognizes the extraordinary contributions made by Donald and Maxine Huffman to the Central College programs in International Education. International Education includes cross-cultural areas and foreign language courses, with particular emphasis on study abroad.

2013 Recipient of the Frank W. Moore Faculty Award

Ellie DuPre’, Professor of Biology
Mark Mills, Associate Professor of Mathematics
This award acknowledges faculty who have promoted student learning within the natural sciences division through teaching and/or service over time.

2013 Recipient of the Moore Family Faculty Award

Jay Wackerly, Assistant Professor of Chemistry
This award recognizes and fosters joint faculty-student summer collaborations that promote a greater depth of student understanding within the Natural Science Division disciplines than would normally occur through regular coursework.

2013 Recipient of the Marvin L. Hackert Faculty Development Fund for Science and Mathematics

Allen Hibbard, Professor of Mathematics
This fund enhances the quality of the sciences at Central College through those activities which promote professional development and research.
 Associations conference in San
 Attended the annual Anthropology
 September 21, 2012.
 Chairs' Conference, Central College,
 Pedagogies. Anthropology, and Medical
 Josh Doležal presented
 Along with Linda Laine and
 Associate Professor of
 Anthropology
 Jeff Bass
 Associate Professor of
 Anthropology
 Published a peer-review journal
 article: Madam & Eve: The Politics
 of Race and Postcolonial Television
 in South Africa. Television & New
 Published Unity in Diversity?:
 Women’s Reception of Home Affairs
 and Rebuilding the South African
 Nation. In Radhika Parameswaran
 (ed.) Audience Studies. Oxford:
 Presented a conference paper titled
 Society’s Emerging Femininities:
 Neoliberal, Post-feminist, and
 Hybrid Identities on Television
 in South Africa at the Society of
 Cinema and Media Studies in
 Chicago, March 9, 2013.
 Debela Birru
 Associate Professor of Business
 Management
 Attended the Midwest Business
 Administration International (MBAA
 International) Meeting in Chicago,
 Illinois, February 27 – March 1,
 2013.
 Andrew Campbell
 Assistant Professor of Business
 Management
 Attended the Iowa Association of
 Colleges of Teacher Education Fall
 Conference in Cedar Rapids, in
 October 2012.
 Attended and took 35 students to
 the Iowa Mathematics Conference
 in February 2013 and presented
 a session titled Using Journals to
 Promote Mathematical Thinking.
 Professional Accomplishments of the
 Central College Faculty 2012 - 13
 Mark Babcock
 M. Joan Kuyper Farver
 Endowed Chair in Music and
 Associate Professor of Music
 Elected to be a National Council
 Member, Councillor for Convention
 for the American Guild of Organists.
 Served as the artistic director for the
 ICDA Music in Worship Event held
 in Mason City, July 2012.
 Serves on the Iowa Choral Directors
 Association Board as the Repertoire
 and Standards Chair of Music in
 Worship.
 Performed a professional recital and
 lecture Sept. 23, 2012. Many special
 guests attended the ceremony and
 award presentation, including Joan
 Farver and Dels Folkerts, the first
 recipient of the endowed chair.
 Glenn Barnett
 Associate Professor of
 Biochemistry
 Completed a training course in
 Epigenetics at the Foundation for
 Advanced Education in the Sciences
 Graduate School at the National
 Institute of Health in Bethesda,
 Maryland in December 2012.
 Walter Cannon
 Professor of English
 Delivered a paper License in ink or
 what you will; how and how not to
 write, read, and receive letters in
 Twelfth Night, at the Shakespeare
 Association of America, Toronto,
 Accepted for publication by
 Finishing Line Press (2013) a
 chapbook collection of poems, The
 Possible World.
 Mayra Cerda-Gomez
 Professor of Spanish
 Participated in a day-long Oral
 Proficiency Interview Familiarization
 Workshop on May 14, 2012. The
 workshop was led by the American
 Council on the Teaching of Foreign
 Languages’ (ACTFL) trainer Dr.
 Judith Linkin-Gasparro of the
 University of Iowa.
 Thomas Davis
 Assistant Professor of Education
 Attended the Midwest Business
 Administration International (MBAA
 International) Meeting in Chicago,
 Illinois, February 27 – March 1,
 2013.
 Attended the Annual Convention of
 the National Education Association
 Received a $10,000 grant from the
 Grow Iowa Values Fund for a
 project titled: Prairies For
 Agriculture Project: Using
 Diverse Prairie Restorations for
 Carbon Sequestration Within the
 Agricultural Landscape. The funds
 will be used to hire student assistants
 and pay a soil laboratory to analyze
 soil samples.
 M. Joan Kuyper Farver
 Endowed Chair in Music and
 Associate Professor of Music
 Published the article: Hikan
 Rosengren’s Commission of Concerto
 for clarinet by Frank Ticheli in The
 Clarinet, June 2012.
 Festival Coordinator for the
 International Woodwind Festival on
 Central College’s campus.
 Appointed as Artistic Director and
 clarinetist for the Monterverdi-Tuscany
 Concert Series in Tuscany, Italy.
 Performed solo recitals and gave
 master classes at Winona State
 University (Minn.) and Clarke
 University (Iowa).
 Created a series of video tutorials for
 high school musicians to help them
 prepare for Iowa All-State band and
 orchestra.
 Josh Doležal
 Associate Professor of English
 One of 10 finalists for the 2011 DANA
 Award for Essay with Purple Gold.
 Article Relationships not Revolution
 appeared in the Harvest 2012 issue of
 Edible Iowa River Valley.
 Feature Old Ways, New Faces also
 appeared in the September/October
 issue of The Iowaan.
 Essay The Sweet Spot appeared in the
 Fall 2012 issue of Shenandoah,
 a literary quarterly published by
 Washington and Lee University.
 Presented his essay Circles at the
 Western Literature Conference in
 Lubbock, Texas, which met from
 November 7-10, 2012. Chaired a
 creative writing panel at the conference
 and completed a three-year term on the
 Executive Council of the WLA.
 Cynthia Doggett
 Associate Professor of Music
 Clarinet soloist with the Ciudad
 Orquesta de Cámara de Merida
 (Merida, Mexico).
 Performed a solo recital at the
 European Clarinet Association
 Festival in Ghent, Belgium.
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 and completed a three-year term on the
 Executive Council of the WLA.
Recent publications include an essay, Down from the Mountaintop, in the Summer 2012 issue of Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment and a book review of Drucilla Wall’s poetry collection, The Geese at the Gates, in the Fall 2012 issue of Western Michigan Literature.

Along with Linda Laine and Jeff Bass presented Medical Communication, Medical Anthropology, and Medical Humanities: Interdisciplinary Pedagogies at the First Annual Chairs’ Conference, Central College, September 21-22, 2012.

Dennis Doyle
Professor of Communication Studies
Received the 2012 Service to the State Award from the National Communication Association.
Received the Iowa Communication Association’s 2012 Citation Award for distinguished service to communication education in Iowa.
Attended the annual conference for FORUM on Education Abroad in Denver, Colo. March 21-23. Doyle is a member of the Outcomes Assessment and Research Committee of the FORUM. Doyle also served as a guest critic for the Iowa High School Speech Association All-State Speech Festival March 26 at UNI in Cedar Falls. He presented oral and written critiques in the areas of original oratory and after dinner spoke to over 100 Iowa high school students.
Attended the annual meeting of the Iowa Communication Association September 21-22 at DMACC’s Ankeny campus. Doyle chaired a panel entitled Digital Skills Across the Communication Curriculum and also served as respondent to a competitive panel of undergraduate student research papers.

Alida Droppert
Assistant Professor of Education

Leslie Dunink
Associate Professor Exercise Science
Moderated a feature presentation entitled, Overuse Running Injuries to the Lower Extremity. At the National Athletic Trainers’ Annual Meeting in St. Louis, Mo., June 2012.
Participated in Concussion Assessment and Return to Play Issues webinar sponsored by the Iowa Brain Injury Alliance and the Iowa Athletic Trainers’ Society on November 20, 2012.
Presents Return to Learn: Progressing Students Back to the Classroom After Concussion webinar sponsored by the Iowa Brain Injury Alliance and the Iowa Athletic Trainers’ Society on December 4, 2012.
Accepted an invitation to present Return to Learn: Progression Students Back to the Classroom After Concussion at the 21st Annual Best Practices in Brain Injury Service Conference, Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa, Des Moines, March 9, 2013.
Ellie DuPre
Professor of Biology
Attended the 7th annual Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education (CALHE) held at Missouri Western University in St. Joseph, Mo. on March 23-24, 2013.
Ellie DuPre, Cathy Haustein and Nicole Palenske received a Monticello Foundation Grant for research during the summer of 2012.
Ellie DuPre, Jen Diers, Paulina Mena, Tom Linton, Ashley Garr, and Deb Bruxvoort collaborated on a presentation Clearing Up Confusion: Immediate Feedback Techniques in the Classroom at the First Annual Chairs Conference of Central College, September 21-22, 2012.
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Peggy Fitch
Professor of Psychology
Co-authored a chapter with former colleague, Pam Steinke, and graduate student, Tara Hudson, Research and Theoretical Perspectives on Cognitive Outcomes of Service Learning that appears in Research on Service Learning: Conceptual Frameworks and Assessment published by Stylus. Presented this work at the 12th annual conference of the International Association for Service-Learning and Community Engagement in Baltimore, Md. September 24, 2012.
Robert Franks
Professor of Computer Science
Attended the annual Iowa Undergraduate Computer Science Consortium meeting at Grinnell College on October 27, 2012.
Along with Stephen Frye and Mark Johnson, attended the ACM SIGCSE (Special Interest Group in Computer Science Education) 2013 Conference March 7-9 in Denver, Colo.
Reviewer for papers submitted to the ACM SIGCSE 2013 conference.
Served as a pre-publication reviewer for a data structures in Python textbook to be published by Wiley and Sons.
Stephen Frye
Professor of Computer Science
Along with Robert Franks and Mark Johnson, attended the ACM SIGCSE (Special Interest Group in Computer Science Education) 2013 Conference March 7-9 in Denver, CO.
Katie Gaebel
Assistant Professor of Education
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Stephen Frye
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Along with Robert Franks and Mark Johnson, attended the ACM SIGCSE (Special Interest Group in Computer Science Education) 2013 Conference March 7-9 in Denver, CO.
Robert Franks
Celebrating 25 Years
Professor of Computer Science

Robert Franks is really a farmer at heart, though he has never grown any crops. Instead, his harvest is the students he has been teaching and advising for 25 years at Central.

“Teaching is a lot like planting seeds,” Franks says. “You do the best you can and then nature takes over. With the things I have done in my classroom and on campus, it might be five years down the road before it pops up for students.”

In the same vein, Franks loves to see his students blossom under his tutelage, although he denies much of the credit. “All of a sudden they know so much, and it’s obvious you know you’re at least a part of it.”

For a computer science professor, the metaphor may seem a bit poetic, but Franks has always valued the personal side of relationships with students, keeping in touch with them long after graduation. After 25 years, he has even been in situations with former students meeting with students of their own—a sign that his legacy is growing.

None of that seemed likely when Franks first came to Central in 1988, following his wife to central Iowa in her career with the federal courts. After earning degrees from Northwest Missouri State and Iowa State Universities, Franks took a temporary role as a sabbatical replacement in the department. The next year, a tenure-track position opened up, and he got it.

“I thought maybe I would be here a couple years, and all of a sudden this turned into 25,” he says.

It’s a good thing for his colleagues that he stayed. Over the years, Franks has been on all the major faculty committees, chairing policy, personnel and curriculum. While he was chair of the last, Central instituted the new core and switched from trimesters to semesters. Those roles set him up for a major next step: serving as interim dean of faculty from 2009-11 as President Roe left and President Putnam began. He was surprised by the offer to take on the responsibility. “Maybe it was the fact that everyone else took a step backward and I wasn’t paying attention,” Franks jokes. “No, it has been a really humbling experience that my colleagues had enough confidence in me that I could do the job during a transition.”

As dean, Franks helped keep track of the previous administration’s policies, made sure nothing was falling through the cracks and prepared for his successor, Mary Srey, so she could be as successful as possible. He was also able to hire new faculty, a meaningful experience.

His favorite part of the job was helping faculty do things they might otherwise have missed out on, like focus on research, go abroad and attend professional meetings. He also enjoyed recognizing faculty for the amazing work they were already doing.

Still, Franks is happy to be back teaching, where “the rubber meets the road,” as he puts it. As a teacher and advisor, he is able to build relationships with students much more easily than when he was an administrator.

Kelly Schauffhut Blythe ’14, now the online communications specialist at Central, appreciated her advisor’s interest in her success. “It’s clear that his goal both in and out of the classroom is to watch his students succeed,” she says. “It’s been a very rewarding experience with him.”

To Je’ Dhawan ’91, founder of Start-Up City Des Moines and a former advisee of Franks, appreciated his professor’s teaching style. “Instead of measuring how accurately we responded to a question, Dr. Franks took the time to evaluate our understanding of the nuances of the topic. He encouraged our continuous exploration of the science, helped us test and validate our hair-brained ideas and promoted a level of discussion rarely seen in math and computer science. A true rock-star member of the Central faculty!”

Consumed with puzzles and patterns in his work life, Franks indulges his creative side during his free time with digital photography. He photographs both nature and people and is currently working on a series exploring the hidden spots on campus. One of his favorites is taken from the fire escape of the Geisler Library.

Luckily for his students and colleagues, Franks doesn’t hide out in these spaces for long. Soon he is back at it, sowing seeds in the next generation.
Keith Jones
Mark & Kay DeCook Endowed Chair in Character and Leadership Development and Professor of Psychology
Invited to the Council of Independent Colleges Department and Division Chairs Workshop, Portland, Ore. to present The Wisdom of Chairs and “Open Mike” for Participants
Presented with T. Easton a paper titled The Influence of Sexual Content on Perceptions of Advertisements at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, Ill.
Presented with A. Schute a paper titled Measuring Sustainability Attitudes: The Development of a New Scale at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, Ill.
Nicole Kaplan
Associate Professor of French
Served as external reviewer with Aly Krogstad for the Department of Foreign Language and Literature at Westminster College in Fulton, Mo. April 12-13, 2012.
Participated in a daylong Oral Proficiency Interview Familiarization Workshop on May 14, 2012.
Along with Kathy Korecheck, Maria Snyder and Oscar Reynaga presented Educating Global Citizens: Cultural Competences in the Modern Language Classroom and Beyond at the First Annual Chairs’ Conference, Central College, September 21, 2012.
Presented with Maria Snyder Are We Creating Global Citizens? Teaching and Assessing Cultural Competence in the French Classroom at the Iowa World Language Association Annual Conference (IWLA) October 13-14, 2012 in Des Moines.
Mathew Kelly
Associate Professor of Art
One of 58 participants chosen for ThinkTank7, a biennial workshop offered by Integrative Teaching International dedicated to developing and sharing contemporary pedagogies in art. ITI publishes the outcomes from the ThinkTank workshops in their online journal titled FutureForward with the most recent issue, FutureForward: FoundationsNOW available under resources.
Kelly has been a Board member with ITI for the last three years and Editor of FutureForward: Leading Change and this year’s issue FutureForward: FoundationsNOW.
Terence Kleven
Professor of Philosophy and Religion
Presented a paper Ibn Bājja’s Commentaries on Alfarabi’s Five Aphorisms, presented to the XII International Congress of Medieval Philosophy of the International Society for the Study of Medieval philosophy (StPEM), Freising, Germany, August 20-25, 2012 and submitted to the Proceedings for publication.
Faculty sponsor for a Central undergraduate paper presentation at the Society of Biblical Literature Regional meeting at Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Ill. February 7, 2013.
Presented a paper For I Will Cleanse Their Blood that I Have Not Cleansed: The Political Philosophy of the Land, the People and the Nations in the Book of Joel at the Society of Biblical Literature Regional meeting at Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, Ill. February 8-10, 2013.
Reviewed a Summer Faculty Workshop Grant Proposal for the National Endowment for the Humanities, March 2013.
Kathy Korecheck
Assistant Professor of Spanish
Participated in a daylong Oral Proficiency Interview Familiarization Workshop on May 14, 2012.
Robert Maurer
Retiring in 2013
Associate Professor of Accounting
Robert Maurer and accounting grew up together at Central College. During his 45 years as an accounting professor, Maurer has seen his specialty change from a few classes without a major to an established academic discipline with a conceptual framework.
“I think I’ve seen accounting come of age as something that has credibility in the educational environment, because we have a theory,” he says with pride. “We no longer do the number-crunching by hand, which gives the accountant time to think about what the numbers mean, what they should mean and how we should measure things.”
That kind of thinking didn’t exist when Maurer first earned an M.B.A. at Indiana University. Accounting was just a mechanical process. But when he came to Central in 1968, Maurer was immediately asked to expand his skills and perspective. Dean Jim Graham sent him to the University of Iowa to learn its computer system, which Central was hooked up to. When the college acquired a stand-alone computer several years later, Maurer wrote programs for students to use in class, including a bank simulation in which he played the part of the Federal Reserve. He also wrote a manual on SuperCalc, a precursor to Microsoft Excel.
As the technological change didn’t Maurer’s relationships with students—his favorite aspect of teaching. “In earlier years, I was kind of a friend, then I became a dad. Now I’m a grandpa,” he says. “I’ve grown up and the students haven’t—they are still 20-year-olds.That keeps you moving; you are working with young folks all the time, and you’ve got to remain young.”
Despite his grandfatherly appeal, Maurer describes his teaching style as authoritative. Accounting requires lectures, and there’s no room for discussion about which answer is better. “I think that’s both a blessing and a curse,” he explains. “I tell students the numbers are easy and the words are hard. We deal with the precision of numbers as opposed to the ambiguity of words.”
Still, Maurer always had words to spare for his accounting majors and other students on campus. He was the advisor to the Phi Dels for many years and fondly remembers Homecoming floats and spaghetti suppers. He also valued relationships with colleagues—including Don Butler, who hired him and took him to the Drake Relays when he came to interview.
Forty-five years later, Maurer is retiring and looking forward to “playing with his toys”—four vintage race cars from the ’60s, ’70s and ’80s, along with two vintage sports cars from the ’70s. From the time he began racing in 1970, Maurer has accumulated several national championships and raced with legends like Paul Newman and Mario Andretti.
But Maurer won’t forget his other passion—the numbers and theory of accounting that led him to Central in the first place. He plans to rejoin the board of the local chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants and volunteer with the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) in Iowa. Involved with the ever-changing field of accounting, Maurer will keep growing up.
Kimberly Koza  
Associate Professor of English  

Ally Krogstad  
Professor of Spanish  
Led a session titled Ignite a Flare for the Dramatic: Playing in Spanish Class at the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico, July 7-10, 2012. 
Published Designing and implementing their own future: Grassroots efforts among the Maya of Guatemala in the journal Regions and Cohesion, the journal of the Consortium for Comparative Research on Regional Integration and Social Cohesion – RISC. Volume 2, Issue 1, Spring 2012. 
Visited Westminster College in Fulton, Mo. April 12-13, 2012 as external reviewers for their Department of Foreign Language and Literature. 
Participated in a daylong Oral Proficiency Interview Familiarization Workshop on May 14, 2012. 

Erik Ladner  
Assistant Professor of Spanish  
Participated in a daylong Oral Proficiency Interview Familiarization Workshop on May 14, 2012. 
Served as President of the Iowa World Language Association, 2011-12. 
Serving as Conference Chair of the Iowa World Language Association 2012-13.

Linda Laine  
Associate Professor of Communication Studies  
Presented Four Models of Community Engagement in Academic Courses with colleagues, Peggy Fitch, Ellie DuPre and Walter Cannon at the Upper Midwest Civic Engagement Summit, June 6, 2012 at Macalester College, St. Paul, Minn. 
Linda Laine, Jeff Bass, and Josh Dolezal presented Medical Communication, Medical Anthropology, and Medical Humanities: Interdisciplinary Pedagogies at the First Annual Chairs’ Conference, Central College, September 21, 2012. 
Attended the annual meeting of the Iowa Communication Association September 21-22, 2012 at DMACC’s Ankeny campus. Laine serves on the executive board for the association and participated on a panel entitled Digital Skills Across the Communication Curriculum: Balancing the Practical and Theoretical. 
Serves as an at-large member and communication officer for the Executive Committee of the Iowa Communication Association and is a member of the editorial board for the Iowa Communication Journal. 

Tom Linton  
Associate Professor of Mathematics  
Tom Linton, Jon Diers, Paulina Mena, Ellie DuPré, Ashley Garr, and Deb Bruvvoort collaborated on a presentation Clearing Up Confusion: Immediate Feedback Techniques in the Classroom at the First Annual Chairs Conference of Central College, September 21-22, 2012. 

Mitch Lutch  
Associate Professor of Music  
Attended the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, Chicago, Ill. December 2012. 
Clinician for the Urbandale High School Band Summit, Urbandale, January 2013. 
Co-coordinator for the ongoing instrument donation initiative to the Yucatan Youth Music Program, January 2013. 
Attended the College Band Directors National Association Conference, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N.C. March 2013. 

Sam Mate-Kodjo  
Associate Professor of Spanish  
Participated in a daylong Oral Proficiency Interview Familiarization Workshop on May 14, 2012. 
Participated in a successful Ghana Summer immersion experience with five students and five faculty/staff members, June 1-28, 2012. 
Elected as vice president of the Ghana Association of Hispanics at the University of Ghana, August 2012. 
Attended the Laso/Hispanophone Caucus (LHCALA) at the ALA and was elected secretary, March 23, 2013.

Michael Schrier  
Retired in 2012  
Michael Schrier  
Associate Professor Emeritus of History  
At first, Mike Schrier was more of a math guy—he loved numbers and solving problems, but he knew he didn’t want to go into the profession. His undergraduate degree was in mathematics from the University of Iowa before he decided to return to school and fell in love with history.

Schrier was teaching at the University of California, Riverside when he came to Iowa and began at Central in 1974. He taught mostly European history, and his main interest was medieval Spain. As the one Europeanist in the department for many years, Schrier had to teach about all of Europe and began to develop his interests in WWI and WWII.

In the ’70s and ’80s, Schrier was also the head men’s tennis coach. He was devoted to his classes and student-athletes—teaching four days a week and then leaving for weekend trips with the team on Friday.

Schrier coached from 1975-87 and earned 11 conference championships in a row, the men’s tennis record for consecutive conference championships.

Schrier transitioned into full-time teaching once the demands of recruiting became too much; however, he continued to stay involved with tennis, heading up the NCAA Championships committee for Division III until 1997 and running the national tournament for many years.

As a professor, Schrier enjoyed developing new classes that would enhance student learning. He helped create the general studies and social science majors. Between general studies, social science and history, Schrier often had more than 100 advisers.

“I always felt that he was an excellent advisor,” says friend and colleague Lori Witt, associate professor of history. “He really spent time with students, and he always tried to get them to think about what they were going to do after college, even if they didn’t want to. In the end, that really helped them because then they didn’t panic so much their senior year.”

Schrier enjoyed the work of teaching, whether it was on the tennis court or in the classroom. Outside of Central, he had many hobbies, including model trains. After his retirement in August 2012, he was published in O Gauge Railroading Magazine.

“He did a lot as a professional,” Witt says. “He hired me, he helped set up the department the way it is, and he ran the department. Before I knew anything about him, I immediately knew he was a really good historian and cared about his students.”
Beth McMahon
Associate Professor of Library Science
Attended Iowa Association of College and Research Libraries annual conference at Luther College, Decorah, on May 5, 2012.
Presented with Writing Center Director Dan Lawson Lines and Intersections: The Autographic Librarian and Writing Center Collaboration at the International Writing Center Association, October 24-27, 2012 in San Diego, Calif.

Paulina Mena
Assistant Professor of Biology
Attended the Iowa Academy of Science Annual Meeting held at Northwest Iowa Area Community College in Mason City, on April 20-21, 2012. Mena served as Vice-Chair of the Organisinal Biology Division and judged posters for the Iowa Junior Academy of Science.
Attended the 7th annual Conference on Student Laboratory Techniques in the Classroom at the First Annual Chairs Conference of Central College, September 21-22, 2012.
Mark Mills
Associate Professor of Mathematics
Attended the Reconnect workshop on June 3-9, 2012 at Winona State University. Reconnect is sponsored by the Center for Discrete Mathematics and Theoretical Computer Science (DIMACS) at Rutgers University and is dedicated to connecting college faculty whose primary responsibility is teaching with a new or current topic in applied mathematics. This year’s workshop was co-sponsored by an agency of Homeland Security and the topic was Game Theory and Security. Participants are currently working in groups to create modules that can be used in a classroom setting to teach undergraduate students some of the topics presented in the workshop.
Passed the actuarial industry’s Exam P (Probability) on July 19, 2012. This exam is the first in the progression of professional exams that actuaries take to become credentialed within the actuarial career.
Participated in a panel discussion entitled What Faculty Life is Like that is a part of the Preparing Future Faculty program for graduate students at Iowa State University in September 2012.
Attended the Joint Math Meetings in San Diego, Calif. January 8-11, 2013 and presented Starting an Actuarial Science Major at a Liberal Arts College in a session specifically devoted to actuarial education.

Taylor Newton
Assistant Professor of Psychology
Published a peer-review article: McIntosh, D.N., Newton, T., Poulin, M.J. (in press) The Importance of Religion and Spirituality in the Midst of Stress and Trauma.

Chia Ning
Professor of History
Published an article (in Chinese) The Grand Minister Resident of Xining and the Qing Administration in the Highly Divine Qinghai in Qinghai yangjiao (The Journal of the Qing Studies), no. 3 (Fall 2012) 57-70.
Served as the outside evaluator for College of St. Benedict and St. John’s University’s Asian Studies’ Program. Based on her campus interviews on the CSB/SJU campus in May 2012, she completed the final report of CSB/SJU’s Title VI Grant in promoting Asian Studies to the U.S. Department of education in October 2012.

Nicole Palenske
Assistant Professor of Biology
Attended the IOWATER Introductory Workshop held June 30, 2012 in Ames. IOWATER is a citizen based program directed by citizen monitors within local communities.
Attended the AD Instruments Student Laboratory Techniques Training Conference at the University of Texas, San Antonio, July 11-12, 2012. The hands-on development workshop provided training for computer-based laboratory learning for Human Physiology courses.
Attended with Paulina Mena the Iowa Academy of Science Annual Meeting Held at Northwest Iowa Area Community College in Mason City on April 20-21, 2012. Palenske served as Chair of the Organisnal Biology Division and presented a paper with Hannah Corbin ‘12 Acute Effects of Methyl-Triclosan Exposure on the Physiology of Xenopus laevis larvae.
Attended the Experimental Biology Conference held at the San Diego Conference Center in San Diego, Calif. on April 21-24, 2012.
Along with Ellie DuPre and Cathy Haustein received a grant from the Monticello Foundation for funding of summer research (2012) with undergraduate students. They presented their work, Short Term Research – Long Term Impact, at the First Annual Chairs Conference, Central College, September 21-22, 2012.
Attended the Heartland Global Health Conference held at Des Moines University, October 17, 2012 with 16 of her Biology Seminar students who presented posters on the conference theme Partnering for a Healthy Ecosphere.

Attended with Ellen DuPre and Paulina Mena the 7th annual Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education (CALHE) held at Missouri Western University in St. Joseph, Mo. on March 23-24, 2013.

Dave Pavlat
Associate Professor of Exercise Science
Hosted the Central College Strength and Conditioning Clinic, May 2, 2012.
Presented Using Video to Enhance Student Learning at the Inaugural Central College Chairs Conference, September 2012.

Brian Peterson
Professor of Economics
Participated in a panel discussion, Team-teaching: Lessons, Learned and Strategies for Success, at the 1st Annual Chairs’ Conference at Central College, September 21, 2012.
Participated in a panel discussion Balancing Teaching, Research and Service at the Preparing Future Faculty Workshop at Iowa State University in Ames, in October 2012.
Attended in January 2013 the American Economic Association Annual Conference in San Diego, Calif.
Acting as a referee for Perspectives in Economic Education Research.
Book reviewer for CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries.

Anne Petrie
Professor of Music
Performed three shows with BobRalston, longtime organist with the Lawrence Welk Orchestra, at the Pella Opera House, May 3-4, 2012.
Attended the annual board meeting and national conference of the National Association of Teachers of Singing in Orlando, Fla. June 28 – July 3, 2012. Anne is completing a two-year term as governor of the NATS Central Region (Illinois, Iowa, Missouri).
Performed a program with pianist Marlys Grimm, Eighty-Five Years of The Broadway Musical on October 9, 2012 for the Ottumwa Women’s Club, and on November 4, 2012, at First Presbyterian Church, Newton.
Adjudicated the National Association of Teachers of Singing (Iowa Chapter) student auditions at Simpson College, November 2-3, 2012.

Diane Phoenix-Neal
Visiting Assistant Professor of Music
Performed in recital at the Iowa Viola Festival held at the University of Northern Iowa in November 2012.
Awarded a Personal Development Grant for the Spring of 2013 to commission, perform and record a new music composition for the viola, Ceaseless Spinning of Things by Jerry Kornowics, president of the Polish Union of Composers.
Performed a recital for viola and piano entitled Elegies with assistant professor of music, Paul Kovakovic on February 27, 2013.
Joy Prothero
Associate Professor of Education
Presented at the 27th Annual Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESAs) in Tampa, Fla. Nov. 28-Dec. 1, 2012. Prothero’s presentation was titled, Going Green: Paperless Board Meetings!
Prothero was re-elected chair of the State Executive Board of Directors for the Area Education Agencies in Iowa. She presided over the state meeting in November.
Chairs the Iowa Educators Consortium, chairs Iowa Association for Educational Purchasing, and is a member of the Area Education Agencies Collaborating for Iowa Kids.
Elected secretary of the Early Childhood Iowa Empowerment Board for Wapello and Mahaska Counties.
Elected Vice President of Iowa State University Extension Council for Mahaska County and Outreach.
Appointed member of Evaluation Committee for Iowa State University, March 2013.

Dawn Reece
Associate Professor of Sociology
Attended the Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meetings held in Minneapolis, Minn. on March 29 – April 1, 2012. The conference theme was Sociological Understanding of the Global Transformation.

Treva Reimer
Professor of Art
Attended the American Alliance of Museums conference, April 29 – May 1, 2012 in Minneapolis, Minn.
Attended the Iowa Presenters Network summer meeting, August 14-15, 2012 in Mason City.

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Attended the Iowa Presenters Network summer meeting, August 14-15, 2012 in Mason City.

Hosted the Iowa Arts Presenters Network on campus on December 4, 2012.
Chaired the committee to select the winner of the Student International Travel Award for the United States Institute of Theatre Technology in January 2013.
Attended the annual USITT Conference and Stage Expo March 20-23, 2013 where she presented the Student International Travel Award to the winner at the international committee reception.

Randall Renstrom
Assistant Professor of Psychology

Oscar Reynaga
Lecturer of Spanish
Participated in a day-long Oral Proficiency Interview Familiarization Workshop on May 14, 2012.
Reviewed scholarship applications the summer 2012 for Latinos Unidos of Iowa, a nonprofit organization serving the Hispanic and Latino communities in central Iowa.
Organized and moderated two interactive Skype sessions for Intersections Students in the Fall 2012 with guests Ralph Sosa, animation director for the The Simpsons television program, and Tom Atwood, a renownedcommercial photographer.
Participated in the Faculty Development Workshop in Merida, Mexico, January 3-9, 2013.

Brian Roberts
Associate Professor of Art
Exhibited ceramic sculptures at the 10th Iowa Sculpture Festival in Newton and was awarded second place. Jeff Fleming, the director of the Des Moines Art Center, was the judge.
Participated in the three-day workshop, Hot Glass Casting by Paul Marioni at the Artisan Studio in Woodbine, which focused on casting with hot glass using sand molds.
Attended the 42nd Annual Glass Art Society Conference in Toledo, Ohio. The conference celebrated 50 years of the American Studio Glass Movement.

John Roslien
Associate Professor of Exercise Science
Participated in April 2012 in a Focus Group – Recreational Impact of Aquatic Invasive Species to the University Women on April 9, 2012 and Iowa Spring Flora and Threats for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Maria Snyder
Assistant Professor of German and French
Participated in a day-long Oral Proficiency Interview Familiarization Workshop on May 14, 2012.
Participated in a two-week faculty development workshop on pedagogy and cinema and on the didactics and implementation of the European Common Framework of Reference for Language in the French foreign language classroom at the University of Perpignan, France, July 9-20, 2012.
Participated in the summer literary translation workshop, collaborating with the German-Georgian author Nino Haratschwilli, translator Katy Derbyshire and literary editors and publishers at the British Centre for Literary Translation at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England, July 21-27, 2012.
Participated in the Faculty Development Workshop, Collaborating with the German-Georgian author Nino Haratschwilli, translator Katy Derbyshire and literary editors and publishers at the British Centre for Literary Translation at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England, July 21-27, 2012.

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Mary Stark
John & Anna Poole Endowed Chair in Humanities and Professor of English
Co-presented with Stephen Johnson for two groups recently; Monarda, Trillium and Orchids that can grow in Iowa for the Association of University Women on April 9, 2012 and Iowa Spring Flora and Threats from Invasive Species for the United Methodist Women in Monroe on April 13, 2012.
Published Brown Snake (Storeria dekayi) in South Central Iowa with Stephen R. Johnson in the Chicago Herpetological Society. Vol 48 (1) January 2013.
Published in American Native Plant Society Newsletter, Summer 2012, Vol 13 (3).

Published an exploration of the lizard community at Homolavi State Park with notes on predator signaling in northern plateau lizards with Stephen R. Johnson in the Bulletin of the Chicago Herpetological Society Vol 57, Number 3, 2012.

Co-presented with Dr. Stephen R. Johnson at the Des Moines Botanical Society on March 2, 2013, From Potted Plants to Presidents: A Botanical Ramble.

Wade Steenhoek
Director of the Martin Heerema Entrepreneurship Program

Certified to teach The Ice House Entrepreneurship Program, a collaboration between The Entrepreneurial Learning Initiative, Clifton Taulbert’s Building Community Institute and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

Conference speaker at EntreFest, an educational conference celebrating the entrepreneurial spirit of Iowa. Steenhoek shared his expertise in using a Business Model Canvas as a tool for early stage startups to vet their business model.

Esther Streed
Professor of Education

Attended and participated in conferences and workshops with the Iowa Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (IACTE) throughout the year.

Attended the Day on the Hill in Des Moines with two future teachers in February 2013.

Serves as a community representative with the Head Start Advisory Board for Central Iowa.

Chris Viesselman
Clinical Instructor of Exercise Science

Coordinated the technical needs for the American College Dance Festival Association’s Baja Region Conference, working with dance professionals and students at California State University Dominguez Hills in Culver, CA March 22-25. He then attended the professional conference for United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc. in Long Beach Calif. March 26 – 31.

Attended the professional conference for United States Institute for Theatre Technology in Milwaukee, Wis. March 18-23, 2013.

Provided scenic design consulting with the College of St. Scholastica Theatre Department, Duluth, Minn. for their production of Seussical the Musical.

David Timmer
Professor of Religion

Won an award of merit (second place) in the category of reporting and writing from the Associated Church Press for his critical review of Dueling Bonhoeffers in the October issue of Perspectives.

Valerie Van Kooten
Adjunct Instructor of English

Published a piece selected as an entry in the Iowa High School Speech Association (IHSSA) forensics contest. Kate Van Glisht, a senior at Pella Christian High, performed Van Kooten’s humorous piece Dog Litters Yard with Surprises as her entry in the prose division and received 1st at both the district and state levels.

Articulated a Bible study in 2010 that was picked up by Faith Alive Resources, the publication branch of the Reformed Church in America and the Christian Reformed Church. Shalom: Peace No Matter What is currently being used in 45 churches and youth groups across North America.

Chris Viesselman
Clinical Instructor of Exercise Science

Received the Iowa Athletic Trainers’ Society’s Graduate Scholarship, summer 2012.


Selected as a CAATE (Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education) Site Visitor, Spring 2013.

Elena Vishnevskaya
Associate Professor of Religion

Presented at the Faculty Abroad Development panel of the Annual Cooperating School Conference held at Central College on April 13, 2012.

Jay Wackerly
Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Awarded funding from the Petroleum Research Fund (PRF) program at the American Chemical Society Only 45 awards are granted each year nationwide.

Received external research funding: Undergraduate New Investigator award for The Synthesis of C4 Symmetric Oxazolact(4) arynes and Related Macrocycles. September 2012 – August 2014, ACS-PRF, $50,000.

Wendy Weber
Professor of Mathematics

Attended the annual meeting of the Iowa Section of the Mathematical Association of America on October 5-6, 2012 at Simpson College. Weber additionally participated in the Iowa New Experiences in Teaching (NEXT) meeting.

Attended the Iowa Council of Teachers of Mathematics Solving the CORE Equation state conference in West Des Moines, Friday, February 15, 2013.

Weber’s presentation Questions from the Classroom reached out to pre-service, middle school, high school and collegiate teachers.

Received with colleague, Maryann Huey, (Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Drake University) a $125,000 one year Math and Science Partnerships (MSP) grant from the Iowa Department of Education. The “Statistics and Probability for Teaching Secondary Students” project will provide professional development to rural, secondary, mathematics teachers in order to increase teachers’ statistics and probability content knowledge needed to implement the Iowa Core.

Paul Weihl
Associate Professor of Biology

Presented at an Advanced Placement Program professional development workshop at Roosevelt High School in Des Moines.

Professional Night speaker at the AP Environmental Science Reading in Cincinnati on June 6, 2012. His talk was entitled, From the Sugarcane to the Classroom: A Voyage of Discovery.

Named to the Data for the Ecology Classroom Advisory (DECA) panel of the Ecological Society of America. The initial project of the panel was a collaboration with the Cornell Laboratory SciencePipes Project. Paul’s contribution to this online resource is the Cemetery Demography module, used to teach human population biology.

Shawn Wick
Assistant Professor of Sociology

Attended the Iowa Sociological Association meeting at the University of Iowa in Iowa City in April 2012.


Organized and served as a discussant for a formal paper session on the Sociology of Development at the Midwest Sociological Association Meeting in Chicago, Ill. in March 2013.

Ann Wilkinson
Lecturer of Theatre

Participated in the Guthrie Theatre’s Educator Workshop Teaching Shakespeare in the Classroom lead by Andrew Wade (Royal Shakespeare Company) on Aug. 20. Over the July 27-28, 2012 weekend, she was included in Chekhov for Teachers at the Moving Dock Theatre in Chicago.

Attended a workshop for Youth Theatre Practitioners at the University of Wisconsin on Sept. 15, 2012.

Adapted the book Yellow Cab by Robert Leonard for the stage production of Dead Man’s Curve.

Participated in the Guthrie Theatre’s Educator Workshop Teaching Shakespeare in the Classroom lead by Andrew Wade of the Royal Shakespeare Company and was a member of the Voice Actor’s Intensive Workshop in San Diego, Calif.

Board member of the Iowa Arts Council and served on multiple artistic and major grants review panels throughout the year.

Board member of the Chicago Regional Board of the Screen Actors Guild and served as a respondent for the 2012 Iowa Thespian Festival.

Produced, cast and directed the audio book, The Four Things That Matter Most by Dr. Ira Byock. The project is a collaboration between the Union Shakespeare Company and the Voice Actor’s Intensive Workshop.

Kyle Winward
Assistant Professor of Library Science

Elected Secretary and Treasurer of the Innovative Interfaces (integrated library system) Users Group, Iowa Chapter (IAIUG), 2012.

Attended the IAUUG Conference at Grinnell, on March 27, 2013.

Bibliographic essay The Evolution of Computers is in pre-publication for Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries.

Jon Witt
Kenneth J. Weller Distinguished Professor of the Liberal Arts and Professor of Sociology

Released SOC 2013, the 5th edition of his introduction to sociology textbook published by McGraw-Hill.

Amy Young
Assistant Professor of German

Participated in a day-long Oral Proficiency Interview Familiarization Workshop on May 14, 2012.

Presented Sustainability in the Foreign Language Classroom at the Iowa World Language Association Annual Conference (IWLA), October 13-14, 2012 in Des Moines.

Amy Young, Maria Snyder, Michaela Masche, and Ruth Verweij presented Personalizing Learning in a Small Liberal Arts Context: the Self-Directed Learner in Vienna. at Emory University as part of the conference: Education Abroad Program in German-Speaking Europe in an Age of Globalization and Virtuality on March 23, 2013.
Moore Family Foundation Grant Awards

Fifteen Moore Family Foundation Grants were awarded in March 2013 to the following faculty:

**Glenn Barnett** (Chemistry) and **Cathy Haustein** (Chemistry) – “Modernization of HPLC data collection and manipulation for research and laboratories in chemistry”

**Russ Benedict** (Biology) – Prairie Plant Establishment in Drought Conditions: The Influence of Mowing and Season of Planting

**Shelley-Jean Bradfield** (Communication Studies) – “Colour TV: The Production, Text and Reception of Postcolonial Humor in South Africa”

**Anya Butt** (Biology) – Global Health: Understanding Risks, Markets, Community Approaches and Human Rights”

**Walter Cannon** (English) – *Twelfth Night Variorum*

**Jen Diers** (Education) and **Katie Gaebel** (Education) – “The Impact of Short-Term International Field Experience on Preservice Teachers’ Global Awareness”

**Cindy Doggett** (Music) – “Folk Music of the Yucatan Peninsula: Arrangements for Solo Clarinet and Chamber Orchestra”

**Josh Doležal** (English) – “Re(con)ceiving Experience: Cognitive Science and Creativity in The Sound of the Lark”

**Keith Jones** (Psychology), **Paulina Mena** (Biology), **Brian Peterson** (Economics, Accounting and Management) – Creating a Developmental Approach to Sustainable Undergraduate Scholarship in a Major

**Terry Kleven** (Philosophy/Religion) – *Al-Farībī, Four Introductory Treatises to the Five Syllogistic Arts. Arabic edition, English translations, notes and commentary by Terence Kleven*

**Paulina Mena** (Biology) – “Development of Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism assays to Determine Recombination Rates between Chromosomal Inversions in *Drosophila Americana*”

**Chia Ning** (History) – “Seal culture in the Manchu-Tibetan relationship of the eighteenth century: An examination of two newly discovered Manchu archives”

**Jim Shriver** (Associate Dean of Curriculum and Faculty Development) – “Advancing the Grant Writing Capacity of Central College Faculty”

**Jay Wackerly** (Chemistry) – “The Synthesis of Oxaquinonacyclophanes”

**Paul Weihe** (Biology) – “Support for Faculty Travel to the Ghana Study Abroad Site to Further Develop Teaching and Research Opportunities”