

# PRINCIPIA PURPOSE

WINTER '14



## *OFF TO A ROARING START*

Young Alums Make Their Mark

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The *Purpose* Celebrates  
Its Centennial

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My Principia Story:  
A Great Place to Practice  
Christian Science

# LEARNING

TO LEARN. TO DO. TO THINK.

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PRINCIPIA SCHOOL



The mission of the *Principia Purpose* is to build community among alumni and friends by sharing news, updates, accomplishments, and insights related to Principia, its alumni, and former faculty and staff. The *Principia Purpose* is published twice a year.

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Dear Reader,

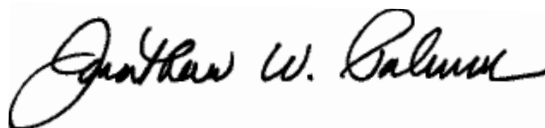
Principians *are* the *Purpose*! From feature articles to bits of news, everything in each issue is by or about an alum or current student, staff, or faculty member. On the one hand, then, this issue is like every other. On the other, it's different—focused on Principians in a whole new way.

Our cover story introduces you to 30 young alums “off to a roaring start.” Meet artists, musicians, conservationists, engineers, nonprofit founders, and public servants, to name only a few. Their initiative, dedication, creativity, courage, and success are cause for great gratitude—and appreciation! A Principian reading these stories can't help but feel excited to be part of this community of high-achieving thinkers and doers.

In her 1934 commencement address to the first graduates of the four-year College, Principia founder Mary Kimball Morgan reminded the graduating class of the responsibilities that lay ahead of them. “The world needs purposeful men and women,” she said, “men and women who are fitted to be leaders in every avenue of righteous activity” (*Education at The Principia*, p. 173). Nearly eighty years later, the need remains. Thankfully, as the cover story amply illustrates, Principians continue to meet that need.

This issue also celebrates 100 years of the *Purpose* itself! The magazine's first issue came out December 15, 1913. Read an overview of the *Purpose* from past to present, and then test your knowledge of Principia history and trivia with the crossword puzzle on page 41.

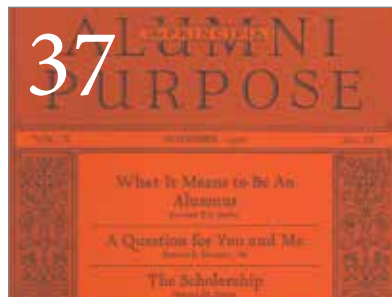
Whether you read this issue from front to back or back to front, as some people do, you'll find items of interest on every page. We hope you will be engaged and inspired by this centennial issue of the *Purpose*.



Jonathan W. Palmer (C'78)  
Chief Executive



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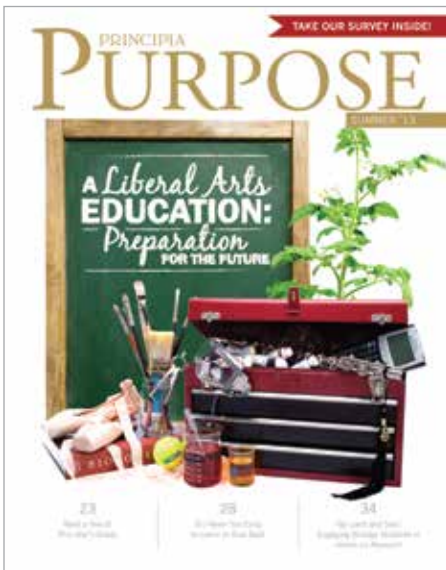


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This note is overdue but I just wanted to send along my sincere appreciation for the last issue of the *Purpose*. I certainly enjoyed all of your pieces on the value of a liberal arts degree. You and the rest of the Marketing team have done a great job in bringing the *Purpose* to such a consistently high standard.

*Clay Jackson, C'78*

You hit a home run in the Summer '13 *Purpose*. At the core of a liberal education lie the great liberal and liberating skills, the ones which enable anyone to live a good life and to earn a good living. By centering on skills, you helped to correct the view that a liberal education is primarily about the acquisition of factual information and ideas. I love the 102 Great Ideas of the Western World, starting with Angel and ending with World, but even ideas are not the gold standard. Skills are.

*Dr. Colin Campbell, C'49*  
*Principia College Professor Emeritus*  
*of English*

## A sampling of responses to the survey in the Summer '13 issue



- The magazine would look better if it was smaller and not trying to do so much. Simpler maybe. It's hard to read it all. I appreciate all your efforts to put out a nice publication, though.
- I love it. I think it's great! Thanks for your work. The profiles of graduates move me to tears! I am so grateful to see Christian Science active at Prin!
- I think the magazine should be shorter in page length. It should be much more Principia-focused. I miss the glossy cover. Fewer Principia ads, please. It's hard to tell what is an ad and what is a story.
- The integration of ideas, articles, content, seems haphazard. No continuity. No theme. Nothing that gives it substance or compelling reason. I rarely read it in the last 18 months. I used to read it from cover to cover. What happened?
- I love the *Purpose*—read it cover to cover and reread some of the articles. Thank you for the excellent work that you are doing!
- Famous authors use “comedy relief” in their serious stories. I'd like to see this included in the articles.
- The reason I am responding is the *Purpose* has lost its way. It looks and reads cheesy. Quality has decidedly taken a hit. Taking alumni news out of the body of the *Purpose* diminishes its importance. You have work to do.
- It seemed a little busy to me this time. I like more white space. I miss the glossy paper—but I understand.
- I would greatly appreciate faculty and/or guest writers with ideas on bettering our world—all aspects!

*Many thanks to all those who responded to the survey. We appreciate your feedback!*

## School Facility Upgrades Completed

The extensive Middle School renovation project was completed at the end of this summer. A new entryway, lobby, and multipurpose room greeted students on the first day of school. In a previous phase, a brand new art room and library (shared with Lower School) were completed, and individual classrooms received face-lifts.

On the athletics front, significant upgrades to the Mesa soccer field began over the summer—bringing it to regulation size for competitions, reorienting the direction from east-west to north-south, and adding permanent lights. The varsity boys' team played a few games on the resurfaced field before their season ended.



The new Middle School entryway

## Musicians, Entrepreneurs, Artists Visit Campus

The fall semester saw a rich array of visiting speakers and performers who engaged deeply with students as well as more broadly with the Principia community.

- Jazz bassist and alum Dan Loomis (US'98) returned to campus in September with fellow musicians James Westfall (vibes) and Jared Schonig (drums), sharing the unique sound that has earned accolades for their Wee Trio. It was



a treat to see and hear these professionals at work, right on the heels of their latest release, *Live at the Bistro*, which was recorded at sold-out performances here in Dan's hometown.

- Global citizen and social entrepreneur Caroline Watson spoke to students on both campuses about the groundbreaking work her organization, Hua Dan, is doing by bringing participatory theatre to women, migrant workers, and children in China. At the School, she led a short workshop and shared how she applies her understanding of Christian Science to her daily work and life.
- Innovative jazz flutist Galen Abdur-Razzaq returned to campus for a wonderful jazz concert, with local musicians accompanying him, in Ridgway. He also found time to sit in on Lower and Middle School band practices, sharing techniques and lots of laughs with the students.

- Acclaimed landscape artist Brooks Anderson—who has a daughter in the Upper School—visited with aspiring artists at all levels of the School, in addition to giving a lunchtime talk in the Social Center. Anderson, who describes himself as a colorist in the Romantic style, paints landscapes that capture the magnificence of northern California and the Pacific Northwest. Last year, he donated one of his paintings to the Principia Parents Association's Trivia Night Auction, and on this visit, Principia gratefully received the gift of his cloudscape *Gloria*.

## Athletic Season Honors

The fall sports season resulted in several noteworthy honors for our students and teams, including second place in District competition for both boys' soccer and girls' volleyball. In addition, senior Matt Gilman set two school records for football:

Average yards per carry—9.9  
Points per game—17



## New Academic Institute Opens

In November, Principia College announced the founding of the Institute for the Metaphysics of Physics with Dr. Laurance Doyle (pictured above) as director. “The purpose of the institute is to research, educate, publish, and inspire students, faculty, staff, and humanity about the revolution going on in physics, particularly in quantum physics,” Dr. Doyle says. As a school for Christian Scientists, he notes, “Principia College is particularly well-equipped to participate in the metaphysics (underlying reality) of these academic discoveries, which [discoverer and founder of Christian Science] Mary Baker Eddy foresaw and discovered.”

The institute will provide opportunities for student and faculty research, particularly in the area of quantum physics as it relates to metaphysics. While the institute will be of special interest to math, physics, computer science, and chemistry majors, its activities will be open to all students. Participating students will have opportunities to engage

in ongoing research about quantum astronomy at the SETI Institute in California, where Dr. Doyle is a principal investigator and astrophysicist, as well as other research organizations.

## Students Present at Nearby Conference

In September, four Principia College students—seniors Brent Bennett, Hilary Frandsen, and Shelby Tisiani, and sophomore Adam Eckert—presented scientific research at the third annual St. Louis Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation (SLEEC) conference, hosted by the Saint Louis Zoo. In addition to the four presenters, a group of College students attended the conference and interacted with faculty and students from area universities.

## Kiplinger Recognizes the College . . . Again

Thanks to the generosity of our alumni and other donors, Principia College is able to keep tuition rates more reasonable than those of many other small liberal arts colleges and to offer generous scholarship and aid programs. As a

result, the College has once again been ranked third on Kiplinger’s list of 10 Best Values in Private Colleges under \$20K, based on the average net cost after need- and merit-based aid.

## A Strong Showing for the Programming Panthers

Each year the Programming Panthers compete in the Association for Computing Machinery’s International Collegiate Programming Contest. In early November, this year’s team, composed of junior Andy Crump and seniors Adam Rolph and Jessica Barril (pictured from left below), worked uninterrupted for five hours alongside 129 teams, finishing in the top third in the Midwest region.



## Tennis Scholar-Athletes Honored

In early September, both the men’s and women’s tennis teams received All-Academic Team Awards from the International Tennis Association. The award is conferred upon teams with a cumulative team grade point average of 3.2 or above during the 2012–13 academic year. “It’s a real honor for our tennis players to be recognized as scholar-athletes,” comments women’s coach Shannon Carney. “Their academics come first, and it’s terrific to see them excel in both.”



# OFF TO A ROARING START

Young Alums  
Make Their Mark

*L*et's cut to the chase—Principia graduates *rock*. We all know this, but no one is more aware of it than those of us serving on the Alumni Board. In our work out in the field and at reunions, we meet literally thousands of alums each year, and we're keenly aware of and delighted by the significant contributions Principians are making to our world.

Recently, it occurred to us that while there is ample alumni recognition for lifetime achievements, there's not as much for those in the early stages of their careers. So we launched a campaign to spotlight the abundance of talent, dedication, and hard work among Principia's young alumni (graduates from 1996 forward), those who are off to a roaring start in life as they put their education to good use in every corner of the world, in every field of endeavor—from business and government to community leadership, the arts, education, philanthropy, and more.

We asked for nominations, and you delivered. (But we're still asking—because we know there are more young alums making their mark than we could cover here. So please feel free to hop on over to [www.principiaalumni.org/youngalum](http://www.principiaalumni.org/youngalum) and tell us about your favorite young alum.)

Choosing the finalists was not an easy task, but here are the stories we found most inspiring. Are you ready to meet these remarkable young graduates? Read on!

—Heather Vogel Frederick  
Alumni Board Member 2010–2013



Learn more at [www.jpl.nasa.gov](http://www.jpl.nasa.gov).  
Photo by Masato Sasaki (Honda R&D)

“Principia placed emphasis on people and relationships. And that has translated into good collaboration.”

## SIDDARAYAPPA BIKKANNAVAR (C'02)

### *From space to solar car races*

By his junior year at the College, Sidd Bikkannavar had already completed two undergraduate research fellowships at Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), the branch of NASA that focuses on robotic space exploration. And when he was hired by JPL before graduating, he was one of the organization's youngest employees. “I flew back from Pasadena to walk across the stage,” he remembers.

In his current research, Bikkannavar is at the forefront of new technology in optics that allows for intelligent control over light waves, something traditional optics can't do. “This has opened the design space to a whole new class of telescopes,” he explains. “They're lighter, can correct their own errors, and can unfold and

deploy in orbit.” Bikkannavar and his team were awarded the NASA Software of the Year medal for their developments in this field (Adaptive MGS Phase Retrieval).

In addition, Bikkannavar recently finished writing a college textbook chapter on wavefront sensing and control, his area of expertise. The book is used at Caltech and other graduate schools. His work has also led to involvement on national security issues as well as potential developments in correcting human eyesight. While he's excited about the latter, Bikkannavar admits, “My head's up in space.”

Yet, he's also very much on the ground. Two weeks a year, Bikkannavar dedicates himself

to solar car racing, an interest he's kept up ever since joining the College's solar car team. He even helped found and organize the biennial South African Solar Challenge. This year, however, he was back behind the wheel, driving Japan's Kaiton II car at the World Solar Challenge in Australia and the FIA Alternative Energies Cup in Japan.

Bikkannavar says Principia put him ahead in key ways, even though it's not a research school. “Principia placed emphasis on people and relationships,” he notes. “And that has translated into good collaboration.”

—Emily Melchner



## STEPHANIE TRICK

(US'05)

### *Sharing classic jazz around the globe*

With her nuanced touch, accurate style, and bright smile, Stephanie Trick is one of today's best stride and classic jazz pianists. Her ever-growing list of concerts includes appearances at the Vancouver Jazz Festival, San Diego Jazz Fest, Breda Jazz Festival in the Netherlands, Boogie Woogie Festival in Lugano, Switzerland, and Kobe Jazz Street Festival in Japan, to name only a few. In addition, her albums have been reviewed and featured in many well-known publications in the U.S. and France.

Trick earned her undergraduate degree in music from the University of Chicago. That's also where she began performing professionally and discovered her love for jazz from the '20s and '30s.

In February 2012, the Hot Club of France awarded Trick its New Talent 2011 Prize for her *Stephanie Trick LIVE* album. That same year, she received the prestigious Kobe-Breda Jazz Friendship Award.

Along with playing solo, Trick performs in a four-hands piano duo with Italian jazz pianist Paolo Alderighi (her husband) and in a trio with Danny Coots on drums and Phil Flanigan on string bass. More recently, she and Lorraine Feather, a vocalist and Grammy nominee, formed the duo Nouveau Stride. Their debut CD is titled *Fourteen*.

Trick credits her time at Principia for her outstanding success today. The principled education she received became, as she puts it, "the basis of everything I did. . . . I followed my highest sense of right without a sense of limitation and followed my dreams to become a musician."

—Savanna Sprague

Learn more at [www.stephanietrick.com](http://www.stephanietrick.com).

Photo by Les Gruseck



## JOE FITZGIBBON

(US'03, C'07)

*Finding common ground in politics*

Democratic State Representative Joe Fitzgibbon was elected by Washington's 34th District in 2010, just three years after graduating from Principia College. Since then, he has focused considerable attention on environmental issues. In fact, his love of the environment paved his path into politics.

While at the Upper School, Fitzgibbon started a club to build awareness among students about key environmental issues. "Because of Prin," he notes, "I felt the great possibilities of what one person could do to improve the community and the world. I also learned that only blessings can come from giving our all to something we believe in deeply."

Fitzgibbon credits his Upper School experience for other lessons as well. He says his track and cross-country coaches, Bill Simon (US'54) and Blair Lindsay (US'72, C'76), taught him to persist and to evaluate success from a spiritual rather than a material standpoint, lessons he relies on heavily in his work as a representative.

Concerning the College, Fitzgibbon recalls loving his work with political science professors John Williams (C'76), Dr. Brian Roberts (C'88), and Dr. Julie Blase. Yet his biggest takeaway wasn't the wisdom of any single individual but, rather, the ethos of the institution as a whole. "Other schools might focus on

how to build one's own career, but there's a very public-spirited approach at Principia," Fitzgibbon comments. "The emphasis is on working to bless the community. Things like abroads and the Public Affairs Conference show how Prin is expanding that strong sense of community to embrace the rest of the world."

Fortunately, along with that expansive sense of community came strategies for dealing with differences. "In the work I do, there are a lot of disagreements," Fitzgibbon notes. "Prin definitely fosters respect for differing points of view and teaches you how to have a productive discussion in order to find common ground. That's extremely important."

—Phebe Telschow

## AMANDA (MULCAHY) MADDOCKS (C'00)

### *Keeping research on the right track*

Somewhere along the way, Dr. Amanda Maddocks's career plans took an unexpected turn—and she's glad they did! Instead of becoming a middle school science teacher, as planned, she's a top-level administrator at Concordia University Chicago.

After completing her bachelor's degree in biology at Principia, Maddocks earned a master's in education from Saint Xavier University in Chicago. While she was there, a professor suggested she get a doctorate, noting that she would be good at helping teachers learn and grow. Maddocks followed that advice, going on to complete a PhD in research methodology at Loyola University Chicago.

Just as she was finishing her doctorate, Maddocks received a job offer from Concordia University Chicago, where she became one of the school's youngest professors and one of the only non-Lutheran faculty members on campus. Advancing rapidly, she soon became the inaugural chair of Concordia's Department of Foundations, Social Policy, and Research, which is housed in the school's College of Graduate and Innovative Programs. Maddocks was also asked to serve as executive director of doctoral programs and saw these programs grow from 30 to 300 students in just four years.

Today, along with being an associate professor of research, Maddocks is director of academic research and chair of the university's Institutional Review Board, which evaluates the ethical merit of all faculty and student research proposals.

Maddocks is especially grateful for her four years at Principia, which reinforced the idea that, as she puts it, "As long as you're doing things for the right reasons, they tend to work out." If the unexpected trajectory of Maddocks's own career is any indication, there's a lot of truth in that.

—Christine Nacewicz



“As long as you're doing things for the right reasons, they tend to work out.”

Learn more at [www.cuchicago.edu/faculty/amanda-maddocks](http://www.cuchicago.edu/faculty/amanda-maddocks).

Photo by Andrea Spencer

## AARON GOLDSMITH

(US'02, C'06)

### *Major League radio broadcaster*

Aaron Goldsmith is second in command in the radio broadcast booth for the Seattle Mariners baseball team, and he loves every minute of his time there! But he didn't land his dream job overnight. "Lots of people say that if you do something you love, you'll never work a day in your life," Goldsmith comments. "In my experience, nothing could be further from the truth. I love broadcasting baseball on the radio, but it took plenty of *work* to get where I am today."

After graduating from the College, Goldsmith earned his certificate for radio broadcasting and production from the Broadcast Center in St. Louis. He landed a number of internships with different baseball teams after that, all of which provided valuable experience. Goldsmith worked with the Gateway Grizzlies from the St. Louis area in 2007, the Bourne Braves from Cape Cod in 2008, and the Portland Sea Dogs from Maine in 2009.

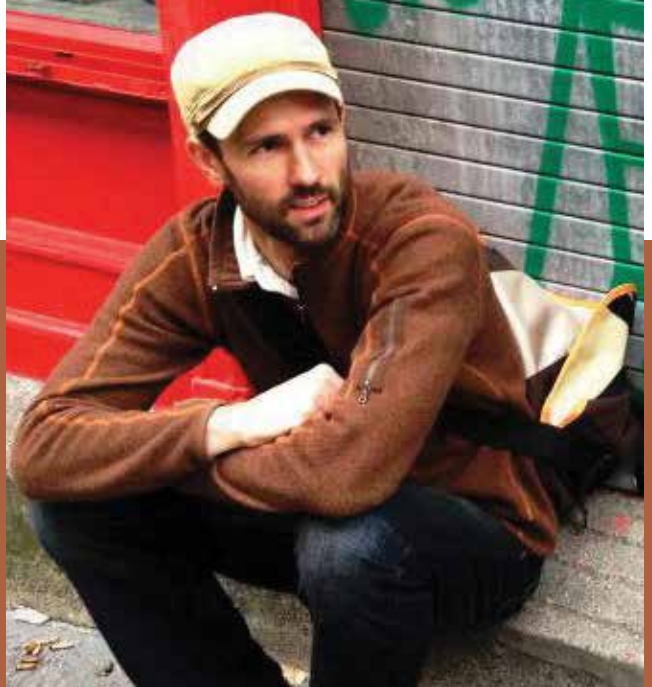
Then, just as he was running out of steam for internships and thinking about getting into a different industry, Goldsmith received a callback from the Frisco RoughRiders in Texas. They wanted him to be their lead broadcaster!

Two years later, he was called up by the Pawtucket Red Sox in Rhode Island, a move that advanced him from Double-A to Triple-A baseball. Then, after only a year in Rhode Island, a broadcasting position for the Mariners opened up, and Goldsmith decided to apply. After a series of interviews, he was offered the job. At last, all that hard work doing what he loves paid off!

—Christine Nacewicz



“Do what you love and what interests you, not what you think you ought to do.”



## SCOTT KNICKERBOCKER (C'98)

### *Listening to nature*

While at the College, Scott Knickerbocker couldn't foresee where he'd wind up a decade and a half later—but it almost seems as though he could. Graduating with a major in English and a minor in biology proved to be the perfect combination for eventually earning an MA and then a PhD in English with a focus on ecocriticism from the University of Oregon.

Currently a professor of English and environmental studies at The College of Idaho in Caldwell, Idaho, Dr. Knickerbocker leads an interdisciplinary academic and backcountry skiing program he created called Winter

Wilderness Experience, based in the rugged Sawtooth Mountains of central Idaho. He sees such off-campus education as a way to pay forward the benefits gained from his experience on the England Abroad his junior year at the College.

In November 2012, the University of Massachusetts Press published Knickerbocker's book, *Ecopoetics: The Language of Nature, The Nature of Language*, which explores the relationship between artifice and the natural world in the work of several modern American poets. Charting a new direction in ecocriticism, *Ecopoetics* embraces writers'

use of artifice—instead of their rejection of it—as a legitimate way of evoking the natural world.

“Do what you love and what interests you, not what you think you ought to do,” Knickerbocker advises. Far from just an empty saying, that's advice Knickerbocker himself followed until he found the perfect balance for his parallel interests in literature and the environment.

—Christine Nacewicz



“Principia gave me a global understanding that inspired me to make this world a better place.”

## STEPHANIE LITTLE (C'03)

### *Conservation through education*

“Principia is a small community with a big wingspan,” comments Stephanie Little, who majored in environmental studies. “Principia gave me a global understanding that inspired me to make this world a better place,” she continues. “I credit my biology professors, Coach Lee Ellis, and my house mom Treanna Clinton for providing a ‘whole man’ education and preparing me with life skills, community awareness, and a sense of purpose.”

That well-rounded training set Little up for a flawless transition to her work as an environmental scientist for California State Parks, where she has been making a visible difference for the past 10 years.

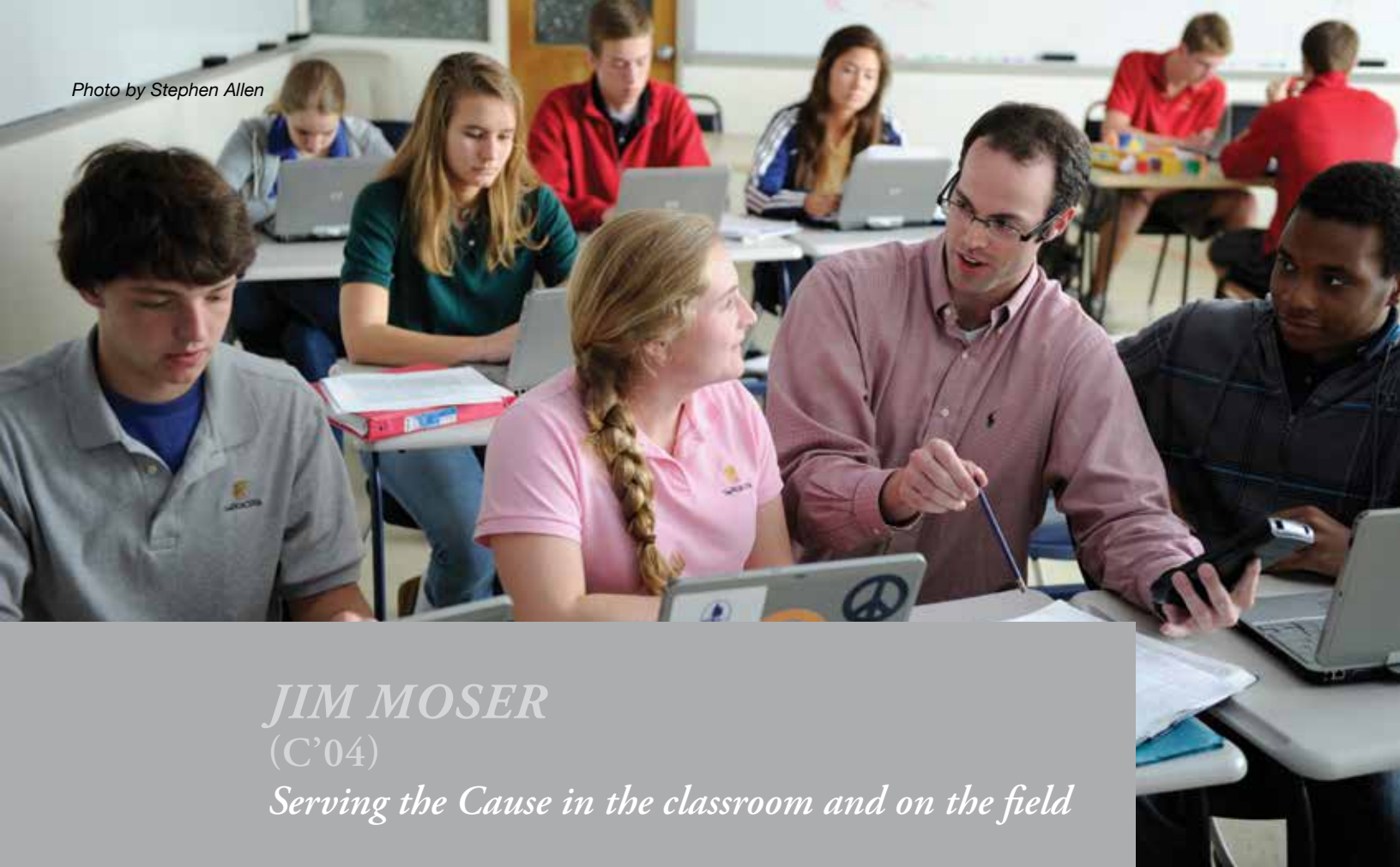
Little devotes her time to monitoring and protecting endangered species and their habitats. For example, Share the Shore is a coastal stewardship program Little implemented to increase public awareness of threatened snowy plovers nesting on local shores. Thanks in part to her efforts, there are now over 30 miles of California beaches lined with bilingual signs and children’s depictions of plovers and other shorebirds. These signs educate the public about the importance of habitat conservation and shorebird recovery and, as a result, reduce trespassing in nesting areas.

Little’s efforts to protect the environment aren’t limited to her day job, however. Since 2006, she has served as a board member for the Morro Coast Audubon Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to bird and habitat conservation. And she was recently elected to the National Audubon Society Board of Directors as regional director for California, Hawaii, and Guam.

No doubt, that level of community service contributed to the San Luis Obispo County Community Foundation’s 2012 selection of Little for a Top 20 under 40 award, which honors professional excellence and commitment to community.

—Savanna Sprague

Learn more at [www.morrocoastaudubon.org](http://www.morrocoastaudubon.org).  
Photo by Pamela Colley



## *JIM MOSER*

(C'04)

*Serving the Cause in the classroom and on the field*

From teaching math during the day and tutoring in the evenings to coaching football in the fall and tennis in the spring to teaching Sunday School on the weekends, there's little that Jim Moser hasn't done to support his community.

After graduating from the College, Moser put his double major in physics and math to use in a variety of ways. He was a substitute teacher in a public school district, created math problems for a textbook publishing company, and worked in the oil and gas industry. He also spent a few summers working at the camps for Christian Scientists in Harrison, Maine. In 2006, Moser began teaching at Principia, first

in the sixth grade and currently in the Upper School.

"While at Principia College, I saw excellent teaching models from all of my professors," Moser says. "Those are the models I want to follow; they help me decide what kind of teacher I want to be."

In particular, Moser appreciated his math classes with Dr. David Gibbs (US'58, C'62), noting that Professor Gibbs taught him what true rigor and academic excellence look like. But that's not all. "The most important thing I learned was not to be intimidated by complexity," Moser comments.

A man of integrity and selfless service, Moser has made an exceptional difference in the lives of countless students. For one thing, his care and enthusiasm are catching; Moser says he can't imagine doing anything else. "It's fun to see the growth in other people when maybe they don't have the perspective to see it in themselves," he notes.

—Savanna Sprague



Learn more at [www.euphratesinstitute.org](http://www.euphratesinstitute.org).

Photo by Nathaniel Wilder (C'04)

“It’s about seeing the reality of the oneness of all humanity. In today’s globalized world, everything is interconnected . . .”

## JANESSA GANS WILDER

(C’98)

### *The Golden Rule’s global reach*

Janessa Gans Wilder began discovering the nuances and contrasts of cultures much earlier than most. Her family spent a summer in Mexico when she was seven, and at age 12, she traveled alone to France, where she lived with a French family she had never met before and attended a French school. The year was challenging: “I cried myself to sleep every night for the first month,” Wilder says. But it was also transformative.

“At such an early age, that kind of experience really becomes part of your identity,” Wilder explains. “It was how I learned to be open to what another culture has to offer—and the value of what other cultures have.”

Fast forward to adulthood. After 9/11, Wilder volunteered to

spend 21 months in Iraq on special assignment for the CIA. One of her takeaways was an acute awareness of Americans’ lack of understanding of the situation in Iraq, and even less so of the Iraqi people themselves. So in 2006, once back in the U.S., she left the CIA to form the Euphrates Institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to creating more informed and engaged global citizens, with a focus on the Middle East, where some of the greatest challenges of our era—security, energy, and religious fundamentalism—are the most pronounced.

A firm believer in the value of a liberal arts education, Wilder credits the approach to learning at Principia that fosters interconnectedness across the disciplines and an ability not only to see

connections between the problems plaguing our world but to come at solutions for them from different angles.

Though the Euphrates Institute’s focus is on the Middle East, Wilder believes its work has a broader reach. “It’s about seeing the reality of the oneness of all humanity,” she explains. “In today’s globalized world, everything is interconnected, and events that happen on the other side of the planet directly affect us here at home. This gives a more urgent impetus for living the Golden Rule, not just on a personal level but on an international level.”

—Kari Bradley



## KEITH LANE

(US'96, C'01)

### *Building bridges with stories*

Keith Lane didn't want to be just another photojournalist feeding into the media frenzy around the Middle East uprisings two years ago. "It's not all about bullets and bonfires," he says.

So last spring, Lane traveled to Cairo as a freelance photographer to co-direct a public art project funded through Kickstarter.com. About a dozen local participants brought suggestions for topics—ranging from urban litter to gender issues—and worked with Lane and his colleague to design, develop, and implement proposals for artworks within the city.

"It was all about getting the community to engage with these issues in ways they weren't used to," says Lane, who originally intended to stay only for the one-month project.

As it turned out, Lane lived in Egypt for over a year, working to bring perspective to the country's evolving political landscape. "A lot more goes on than what's in the news," he notes. Now back in Washington, DC, he's compiling a book about art in Egypt and recently released a new personal photography project focused on urban water issues.

Lane says it took a while to find his niche after graduating. His biology degree led him to environmental advocacy work in Bangladesh, where he bought his first camera in 2008. Describing himself as a storyteller, not an activist, he says, "I can only hope that stories will build bridges of understanding."

His advice to other young people seeking to make a difference: Don't quit! "Everything will turn against you and say it's hard," he notes. "But that's where the work begins."

—Emily Melchner

Learn more at [keithlanephoto.com](http://keithlanephoto.com).

Photo here by Amanda Mustard; cover photo by Ariana Drehsler



“Our goal is to help connect people to their local environment and provide them with the skills and resources to do that in creative and productive ways.”

Learn more at [www.watershedmg.org](http://www.watershedmg.org).

## CATLOW AND LISA SHIPEK (C'00 and C'02)

### *Conserving water, building relationships*

A decade ago, as graduate students at the University of Arizona, Catlow and Lisa Shipek began talking with other students about sharing what they were learning about natural resource management and water conservation with the public. Out of that desire came the non-profit Watershed Management Group (WMG).

Progress was slow at first because all of WMG's founding members were either still in school or just launching careers. But a turning point came after about three years, when the Shipek worked with a watershed group in rural Costa Rica. “That’s when we decided to commit more time to developing the nonprofit,” Lisa explains. They agreed that one of them would work full time for WMG (without a salary) and the other would get a paying job to support them. Soon thereafter, Catlow received a job offer and Lisa became WMG’s volunteer executive director. She dove into grant writing and fundraising and, after only three months, secured a grant for WMG’s first large-scale program—in Tucson, Arizona.

“Our goal is to help connect people to their local environment and provide them with the skills and resources to do that in creative and productive ways,” Lisa explains. “We focus on their own yard or neighborhood, but we’re also working at the municipal level to ensure that progress is more widespread.”

Among WMG’s various programs is a co-op that helps people transform their yards, making them capable of conserving water and energy, growing food, building healthy soils, and promoting wildlife. Catlow explains, “Through a sweat-equity process, people help install these systems and also learn about them. In the process, they earn credits for hosting an installation at their own place.”

WMG also offers two- to nine-day professional training programs for architects, environmental consultants, engineers, community advocates, and educators to learn methods for hands-on implementation, assessment, and design of everything from water harvesting (rain and graywater systems) to stream restoration to ecosanitation.

Both of the Shipeks value the foundation their Principia College liberal arts education provided. Catlow identifies “the well-roundedness of the education, the ability to think critically and to problem solve, and having a diverse background to pull from” as key takeaways.

Lisa emphasizes what she learned about teamwork and leadership from playing on the Principia College soccer team. She also says the Nepal Abroad led by Dr. Gary Fleener (US’81, C’85) was critical to her development. “It really opened my eyes to doing environmental work from a community development perspective,” she explains, “and it showed me the importance of understanding the social, economic, and political factors that influence environmental issues. It also taught me that the crux of making change is working with people.”

That emphasis on working effectively with people is a top priority for the Shipeks. “When we look for staff, we are looking for communicators,” Catlow says. “Everything we do at WMG, we do for an educational purpose, but our programs are also about building relationships.”

—Kari Bradley



## ADAM MESSER (C’02)

### *Finding the right software solution*

“Your career evolves over time,” notes Adam Messer, adding that it takes “lots of steppingstones to get where you want to be.” Having proved the truth of this, Messer looks back over the steps he’s taken since graduating from the College and can see how each one contributed to the range of skills and experiences he relies on now as a manager at Deloitte Consulting. In addition, he notes the value of his connections with Principia alums. Those ties were key, in fact, to finding and landing his first job.

After double majoring in computer science and history at the College, Messer earned his master’s in software engineering at Northern Kentucky University and his MBA from Fisher College of Business at The Ohio State University. During part of that time, he worked for Carlson Software, rising to the post of senior engineer. In that position, he was often assigned to special projects, which led to his interest in consulting.

Then, while pursuing his MBA, Messer worked as a technology summer associate with Deloitte, stepping in as a senior consultant. Impressed by his performance, Deloitte hired him as soon he graduated and, just two years later, promoted him to his current role.

For Messer, two of the best aspects of consulting are the variety of projects and the focus on problem solving. He especially enjoys customer-related challenges and helping to find the right solution for each organization.

—Christine Nacewicz

Learn more at [www.deloitte.com](http://www.deloitte.com).

Photo by Kristin (Morse, C’02) Messer



**IAN ANAND FORBER-PRATT**  
(US'98, C'08)  
*Securing children's right to family life*

Ian Anand Forber-Pratt's mission is to ensure India's children are safe and cared for—an ambitious goal in a country where an estimated 31 million children are considered vulnerable or orphaned.

Adopted from India and raised in the United States, Forber-Pratt understands the need to give children a stable life. With that in mind, he returned to India in 2011 to establish Foster Care India.

Today, Forber-Pratt is educating state and local government officials in Rajasthan, India, helping them recognize the need for social change and the benefits of establishing a non-institutionalized foster care program.

Working on child neglect cases with local authorities, he helps find both temporary and permanent care for needy children.

Forber-Pratt's desire to help Indian youth predates his time at Principia, but the College's 2007 India Abroad spurred that desire by allowing him to study the caste system and consider ways to support India's youth. "The trip solidified for me that India was where I was headed," Forber-Pratt says.

After graduating from the College, Forber-Pratt earned an MSW from the Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. While there, he completed a practicum at St. Louis Foster Care, where he

subsequently worked full time in their Extreme Recruitment program, an innovative—and highly successful—approach to moving children as quickly as possible from foster care into permanent, adoptive families.

In 2011, with his move to India, Forber-Pratt shifted his focus to that nation's needy children. Both passionate and patient, Forber-Pratt expects his efforts to benefit Indian children for generations to come.

—A. C. Brown

Learn more at [www.fostercareindia.org](http://www.fostercareindia.org).  
Photo by Seema

# BETSY MUELLER

(C'98)

## *Bringing films to light*

Betsy Mueller's passion for art and, more specifically, animation, was fueled at a very young age, so majoring in studio art, with an emphasis in graphic design, was a natural fit at the College. An all-around athlete, she also played golf, volleyball, and basketball.

After graduation, Mueller taught physical education in elementary schools for many years, substituting as an art teacher and taking night classes to help refocus her attention on animation. With determination and patience, she went on to become the lead lighting technical director at companies such as Digital Domain, Motion Picture Company, ReelFX, ImageMovers Digital, and The Orphanage.

The list of films for which Mueller has served as a lighting technical director is long and varied, including *Ender's Game*, *Pacific Rim*, *Superman: Man of Steel*, *Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows*, *Transformers: Dark of the Moon*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Star Trek* (2009), *Happy Feet*, and *Life of Pi*. The last two—*Happy Feet* and *Life of Pi*—won Oscars for best visual effects, thanks to Mueller and her teams. She was also the lighting lead for *Thor*, the lead lighting artist for *Mars Needs Moms*, and the lighter and compositor of *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2*. Currently, Mueller is a senior lighting technical director for Industrial Light & Magic, where she is working on *Captain America 2* and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, both of which will be released in 2014.

Though Hollywood blockbusters may seem a far cry from Elsah, Illinois, Mueller gives thanks to her professors at Principia, especially Colette Colleston, Coach Lee Suarez, Dr. John Near (C'69), Judith (McCreary, C'67) and Glenn (C'68) Felch, and Dan Kistler (C'79). She explains, "I'm able to do what I do because Principia helped show me that I can work on my studies with Christian Science, that the sky is the limit, and that I should never give up. What I learned from Principia is invaluable, and no one can take that away from me."

—Savanna Sprague



“What I learned from Principia is invaluable, and no one can take that away from me.”

Learn more at [www.betsymueller.com](http://www.betsymueller.com).  
Photo by Eric Nordby



## **JACE (VERHOEVEN) LARSON (C'01)**

### *Getting to the truth*

Investigative TV reporter Jace Larson likes to tell a visual story, especially one that exposes injustices. Equally important to him is building relationships. “My desire is to connect with everyone in my story,” he says. And by that, he means even the “bad” guys. “They are people too,” he adds.

Some of Larson’s reports have resulted in job losses (or worse) for his subjects. And although he doesn’t enjoy that aspect of the work, “I like putting things right,” he says.

In 2011, Larson and his 9News team in Denver won the duPont-Columbia Award—broadcasting’s version of the Pulitzer—for coverage of a mortgage fraud scheme affecting dozens of families. Ultimately, the suspect was tracked abroad and arraigned by United States Marshals, thanks to the long-standing investigation Larson led. Another of his high-profile reports was an award-winning interview with terrorist Najibullah Zazi.

The smaller stories are just as important to Larson, though, like exposing a Little League Baseball coach who illegally obtained merchandise for a raffle. “It may not have affected thousands of people,” he says, “but it did affect those little kids.”

Larson largely credits Principia for encouraging his sense of social responsibility. And he holds up *The Christian Science Monitor* for its example of journalism that blesses. Never far from his thought is the question, “Are we doing good with this story?”

For Larson, the greatest good is done on an individual scale. “We need a global understanding that we can apply on a local level,” he comments. “It’s enough if we can all be concerned about the issues that are most important to us.”

—Emily Melchner

**“**We need a global understanding that we can apply on a local level.”

Learn more at [www.facebook.com/jacelarsonTV](http://www.facebook.com/jacelarsonTV).

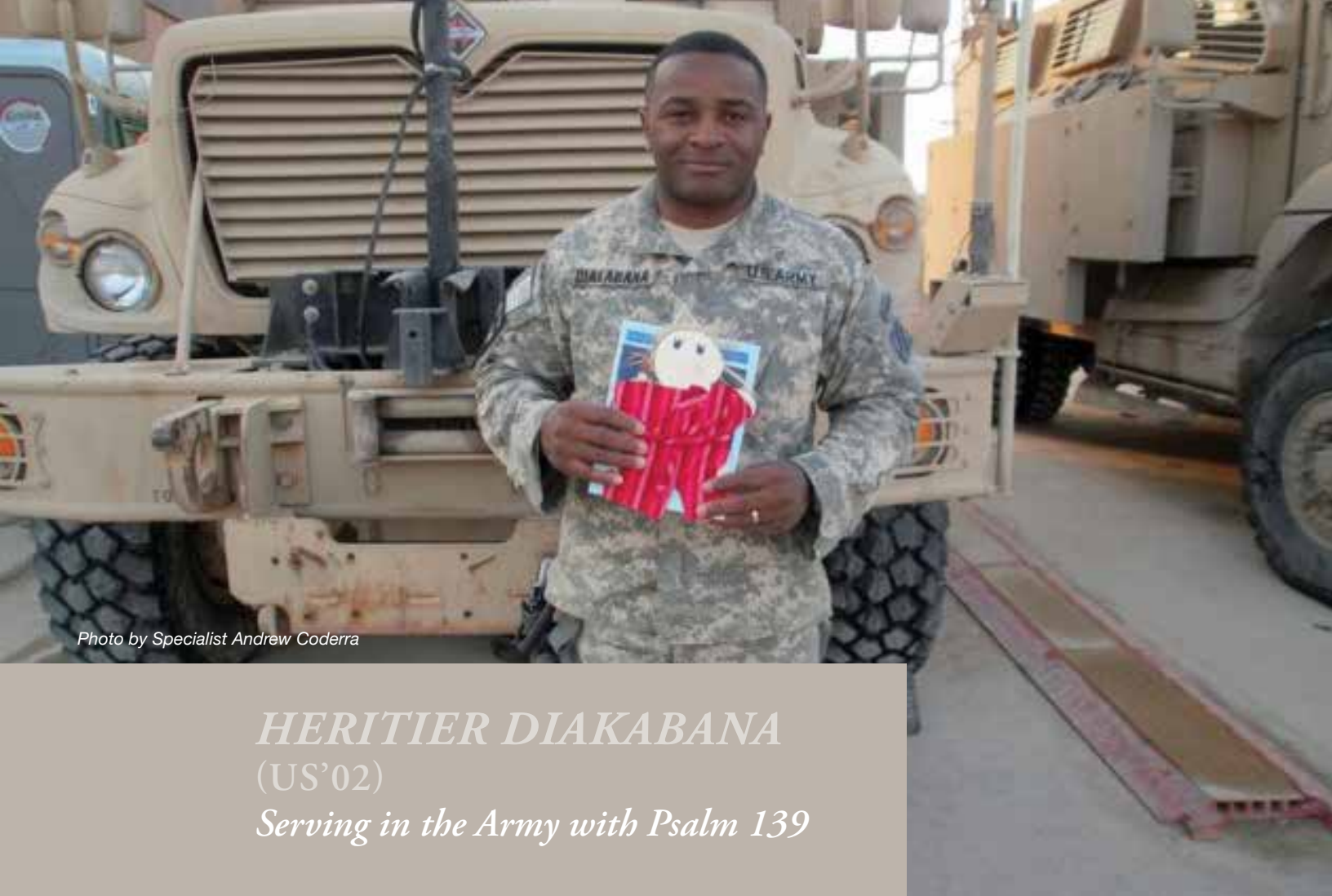


Photo by Specialist Andrew Coderra

## *HERITIER DIAKABANA* (US'02)

*Serving in the Army with Psalm 139*

At age 10, Heritier Diakabana left his native country of Zaire with his mother and five siblings to join his father in the United States. In 1999 his parents enrolled him in Principia Upper School.

After graduation, Diakabana joined the U.S. Army. He served as a gunner for his platoon's sergeant, riding in the hatch of a Humvee during patrols in Baghdad, Iraq. With his upper body exposed to enemy fire, Diakabana thought often about Psalm 139 and its comforting question, "Whither shall I flee from thy presence?"

In May 2004 in Iraq, Diakabana found the same psalm especially

powerful. While he was on reconnaissance patrol, an intuition told him to turn around. Headed directly toward him was a rocket-powered grenade. Diakabana shouted a warning to his buddies and took cover. Shrapnel struck him, but he and his fellow soldiers walked away.

The following year Diakabana entered the United States Military Academy, the only freshman in his class decorated with a Purple Heart. As heady as that may have been, Diakabana remained humble, ready to learn alongside his fellow cadets.

Diakabana graduated from West Point in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering

and a specialty in robotics. Stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, he is an Army captain now, training to become a military advisor and planning to start an executive MBA program at Northeastern University this winter.

"The Army has allowed me to see various countries and to contribute to U.S. foreign policy while promoting peace and stability," Diakabana says. "However I think my most proud accomplishment has simply been the fact that I've committed myself to living an honorable life."

—A. C. Brown



Photo by Nathaniel Wilder (C'04)

“Prin helped me stand out in a way that I appreciated more later on.”

## JESSICA MORSE

(C'04)

### *Public service at home and abroad*

To say that Jessica Morse has dedicated her life to public service is an understatement. She “always had a clear direction,” she says, and always wanted to work in public service. But “looking back, it’s interesting to see how it’s developed,” she adds.

After graduating from Principia, Morse went to work for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Baghdad, Iraq, where she helped design and develop a successful civil service reform program. Once back in the U.S., she worked for the Department of State in Washington, DC, where she continued to focus on

Iraq, helping to improve U.S. assistance programs there.

In 2008, Morse enrolled in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, where she completed her master’s degree. Upon graduating, she was immediately hired by the U.S. Pacific Command stationed in Hawaii, where she spent two years working to improve the US-India defense relationship. Currently, she is back at USAID, serving as a program analyst.

Morse has found that the opportunities and connections at Principia, the strong sense of

ethics, and the emphasis on good character—and on putting that character into action—gave her an advantage over others whose college experiences focused more narrowly on academics. “Prin helped me stand out in a way that I appreciated more later on,” she comments.

—Christine Nacewicz

## JOSHUA FOSS (C'04)

### *Taking sustainability to the next level*

Sustainability has been a buzzword for decades, but designer and strategist Joshua Foss says that's not enough: "We'll see much more expanded pioneering work done in the future."

And that's just what Foss is doing. At Ecala, a management consulting firm, Foss and his co-founder are working with cities and large corporations to measure ecological innovation and guide clients up the spectrum from "detrimental socio-ecological impact" to "beneficial socio-ecological impact"—a.k.a. "thrivability."

"Our goal is to promote thriving—a 'net-positive' method of development that gives more back to nature and society than was consumed," Foss explains. Some companies in Europe are already doing this, he notes, but Ecala is one of the first to champion it in the U.S.

After graduating with a BA in studio art, Foss, who grew up in Minnesota with 2,000 acres of pristine wilderness at his back door, sought to combine his love of nature and art. In 2007, he debuted on the HGTV reality show *Design Star*, but the pressure didn't suit him. He's more a fan of cooperation than competition. "I've always been motivated by asking, 'How can I best serve? Where can I have the most impact?'" he comments.

Ultimately, questions like those led him to Sweden, where he earned a master's degree in Strategic Leadership Towards Sustainability at the Blekinge Institute of Technology. Next, he joined a UK-based firm where he consulted on projects like the development of a 3,500-home, mixed-use community whose aim is to have the lowest environmental impact in all of Europe.

Currently, Foss teaches a graduate course at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. He also speaks internationally and is an ambassador for the Living Building Challenge, the world's most rigorous green-building accreditation.

To other young entrepreneurs, Foss says, "Be comfortable with uncertainty. There may not be a market for you right away, but trust that something will open up."

—Emily Melchner

A photograph of Traci Fenton, a woman with blonde hair, wearing a blue top, speaking at a podium. She is holding a microphone in her right hand and gesturing with her left hand. The background is a blue screen with the word "CENTRAL" visible.

## TRACI FENTON (C'97) *Freedom in the workplace*

Traci Fenton was hired by a Fortune 500 company soon after she graduated from the College. Before long, however, she left that position, certain there was something fundamentally wrong in the workplace. Four years later she took another leap of faith, leaving her post at NASDAQ to pursue the development of WorldBlu LLC full time. By this point, she was convinced that WorldBlu, which she started in her dorm room her senior year, held the answers to the problems she had experienced with both jobs.

WorldBlu helps companies use democratic principles, such as decentralization and transparency, to redesign organizations to operate from freedom rather than fear. "We live in a time of unprecedented voice and participation, thanks to social media,"

Fenton says. "We have clearly moved from the Industrial Age to a Democratic Age, which requires a shift in the way we work." With a freedom-centered, democratic approach, Fenton explains, employees are treated better and perform better, and companies are more innovative and improve their bottom line. Her goal is to see one billion people working in freedom and the global ripple effect that can result.

From its modest start in Lowrey House, WorldBlu now has members in over 80 countries, with client revenues totaling more than \$20 billion. Zappos, BBC, and Yahoo! are all clients, and Fenton has been recognized in global media including *The Wall Street Journal*, *Fortune*, and *Forbes*. Along with running WorldBlu, Fenton is writing a book called

*Freedom at Work* (forthcoming), which outlines the WorldBlu 10 Principles of Organizational Democracy™ and how they can be applied in workplaces. Recently, WorldBlu also launched a new freedom-centered leadership-training program.

Despite all her successes, WorldBlu's founder and CEO is no stranger to trials. But throughout initial financial struggles, discouragement, resistance from others, and health challenges, Christian Science has been her bedrock. "When you're doing something world-changing, fear is going to come up," she comments. "But as you begin to see the patterns of how it works, you don't get as intimidated by it—and it certainly doesn't call the shots."

—Emily Melchner

## KATE WELLS

(US'06, C'10)

### *Writing all over the map*

If there's one thing Kate Wells has in her work as a reporter for Michigan Radio (an affiliate of NPR), it's variety. In a typical two-week span recently, she covered Medicaid expansion, the financial crisis in Michigan's public schools, and the debate over the deportation of a Senegalese artist in Detroit whose life, as an openly gay man, would be in danger in Senegal.

"It's awesome!" exclaims Wells. "It's the most fun job I can ever imagine. But you need to be able to be conversant very quickly in a lot of different things." Fortunately, the multidisciplinary approach to learning at Principia prepared her for this. Professors who challenged her to write arguments—and then deftly knocked them down—helped a lot, too. "I think that's the best way to learn how to write," she comments.

The summer after her junior year at the College, Wells interned at New Hampshire Public Radio and knew, after the first day, that she was hooked—for life. The following summer she interned with Iowa Public Radio during the lead-up to the Iowa presidential caucuses. At the end of that summer, she was offered a full-time position and spent the next two years covering national news in the run-up to the 2012 elections. "It was an amazing way to learn by being thrown into the deep end," she says.

During this time, Wells won a regional Edward R. Murrow Award for her story on robocalls, a new, unregulated type of political advertisement that allows one to create an ad quickly and broadcast it to a large audience for pennies a call—without anyone being able to trace its origin. "I'm really proud of that piece," Wells reflects. "It had its own voice." As she describes it, the piece was able to say, "This is craziness, and this is how it works, and let's think a little about it instead of just being finger-wagging. It was a lot of fun. There was humor in it, we laughed, and then it won a regional Edward R. Murrow. I was incredibly humbled and grateful."

—Kari Bradley



“It’s awesome! It’s the most fun job I can ever imagine. But you need to be able to be conversant very quickly in a lot of different things.”

## RAVEN SMITH

(US'98, C'02)

### *Social enterprise in the private sector*

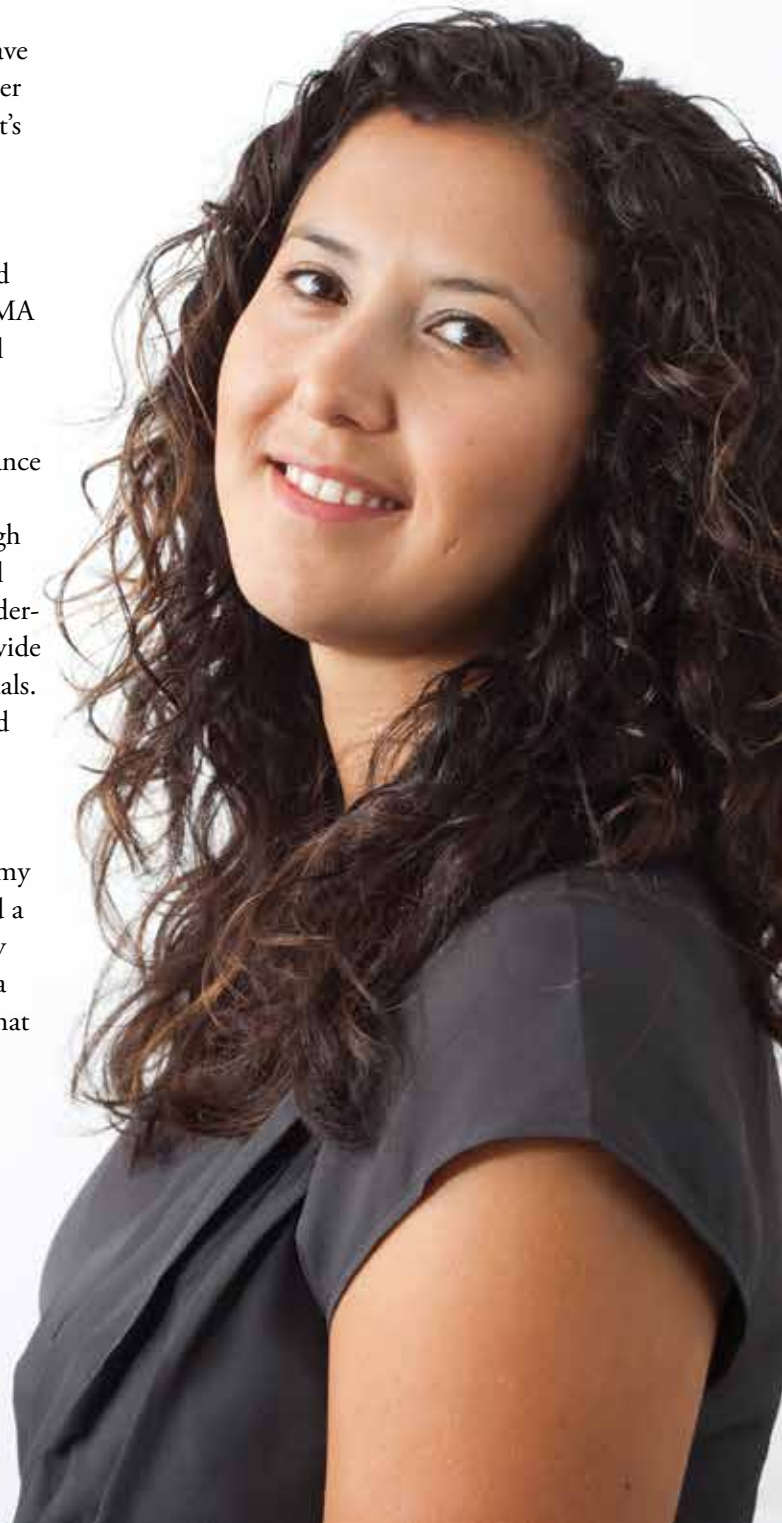
Raven Smith's desire to make a positive difference in the world forced her to face an important reality early on. Namely, she realized that good intentions, energy, and passion weren't enough. She would have to acquire solid skills and expertise, training and experience, in order to position herself to make a truly substantive contribution. So that's exactly what she did.

After completing her BA in business administration at the College, Smith went on to work in the Banking Services Division of Edward Jones and to earn an MBA from Harvard Business School and an MA from The Fletcher School, where she concentrated on international business and development economics.

While at Fletcher, Smith interned with one of the largest microfinance banks in India—an eye-opening and direction-shaping experience. Since then she has worked to help large companies innovate through social enterprise. Specifically, she has worked with Zurich Financial Services, AIG Consumer Finance, and American International Underwriters to tailor innovative products for emerging markets and provide vital financial services to small businesses and low-income individuals. Today, Smith is a senior associate at Innosight, a global strategy and innovation consulting firm in Boston.

“So much of what I care about in life was nurtured at Prin,” Smith comments. “My time there helped shape my sense of community, my values, and my desire to be of service to the world. I also developed a more nuanced sense of success there. As a result, I care more deeply about having a positive social impact. Because of Principia, I have a better inner compass and a better understanding of how to bring that fortified inner compass to everything I do.”

—Phebe Telschow



“Because of Principia, I’m the person I am today. Principia laid the foundation for me.”



## **TERRY GRIGSBY** (US’97, C’01)

### *Naval service built on a strong foundation*

When Terry Grigsby watched the horrifying events of September 11, 2001, he felt called to serve his country. A recent graduate of the College, with a degree in business administration, Grigsby left his job in the investment field and joined the United States Navy. Eleven years and seven tours later, Grigsby is now a lieutenant commander who has worked with the Navy’s top admirals.

During a tour in Afghanistan, Grigsby was assigned to procure weapons and ammunition for the Afghan National Police. “Part of my work was instilling Western accountability values . . . and making sure items were received and stored safely,” he explains. “It was my responsibility to do due diligence and make sure items didn’t get into the wrong hands.”

Recognized for outstanding service, Grigsby has received various awards, including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and Navy and Marine Corps Commendation and Achievement Medals. He earned his master’s degree from Webster University and is currently working toward his second master’s at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.

Some may have doubted, at first, that Grigsby would achieve this level of success since he was born a “crack baby,” he explains. But his great-grandmother and, later, his adoptive parents made sure a Principia education was possible. He says the curriculum wasn’t easy and his teachers made him work hard, but they also helped him learn how to stay up on his studies while participating in football, basketball, and band. As

he puts it, “I got proficient at multitasking, and that carries over well into my work in the military.”

Grigsby also appreciates the long-lasting values set by Principia Middle School house parent Charles Harlow and College basketball coach and residential counselor Garry Sprague (US’82, C’86). “These guys were really good thinkers,” Grigsby says. Summing up his reflections, he adds, “Because of Principia, I’m the person I am today. Principia laid the foundation for me.”

—A. C. Brown



## JACQUELYN (FIELD) AND RYAN (STARK) STAR (BOTH C'97)

### *Engineering a fulfilling path*

“Prin provided a unique forum for self-discovery. I was allowed to keep my academic options—and my mind—open.”

—Jacquelyn Star

Photo by Jennifer Wisnoff

When they stepped on campus for freshman orientation, Ryan Stark and Jacquelyn Field joined over a dozen fellow students who all had a clear goal—becoming an engineer. In choosing a liberal arts college for their education, Ryan and Jacquelyn saw Principia as a path that would not limit their ambitions.

“Prin provided a unique forum for self-discovery,” Jacquelyn comments. “I was allowed to keep my academic options—and my mind—open. I started my freshman year assuming I’d be a math or physics major, but I surprised myself and my family when I realized I had a passion for chemistry. Had I attended one of the big engineering schools, a change of heart like this would not have been realistic.”

“I, too, never anticipated graduating from Principia with a physics degree,” Ryan adds. “That sounded very intimidating to me at first. But I was hooked by the inspiring and personable teachers in the math and science departments, including Dr. David Gibbs (US’58, C’62) and Dr. Paul Robinson (C’63). They became role models and encouraged a potential I didn’t always see in myself.”

Like other 3+2 engineering students, Jacquelyn and Ryan planned to attend Principia for three years and then transfer to a school with an engineering program. As time went on, however, the thought of leaving friends, athletics, and an environment where they thrived wasn’t very attractive. “I participated in the first solar car build my freshman year,” Ryan recalls. “I had made close friends and was enjoying myself at Prin, so I decided to stay. But I didn’t give up the idea of becoming an engineer after Prin, and I knew Jacquelyn was working that angle too.”

With the help of two key mentors—Dr. Jeff Cornelius (C’81) and Dr. David Cornell (C’59)—Ryan and Jacquelyn began mapping out a plan for a graduate degree in engineering. Jacquelyn went on to complete a master’s in civil and environmental engineering at the University of California, Berkeley. Ryan later completed his master’s in electrical engineering at California Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo, California. They were also married in between!

Both agree that their background in the sciences provided a unique perspective and diversity of

thought that turned out to be an asset in their engineering studies. “As a scientist and an engineer, I had training in questioning both the ‘whys and hows’—the theoretical and the practical,” Jacquelyn explains. “This multi-dimensional approach in thinking helps me to this day in my career. Both Ryan and I value our Principia education. We see that we’re different than other engineers, but we’ve found that’s a good thing.”

Jacquelyn and Ryan currently live in Bakersfield, California, with their three children. They both have rewarding careers working in the oil industry—careers that have carried them around the world and back. Jacquelyn is currently an engineering supervisor, responsible for a team that drills wells and builds new facilities to support continued oil production from some of the largest and oldest fields in California. Ryan is a project manager for automation infrastructure, working within the IT, engineering, and operations groups to improve the efficiency and security of oil and gas production.

—Kari Bradley



## LINDSAY GARRITSON (C'08)

### *Making music from a spiritual foundation*

Most people do things in a certain order. For example, they usually focus on school and then pursue a career. Not Lindsay Garritson. A pianist, she started performing nationally and internationally at the age of four and never looked back.

Garritson grew up surrounded by music. Her parents and two older sisters are renowned musicians and teachers, and she loves performing with her family—but she stands firmly on her own musical ground. Recent highlights of Garritson’s impressive career include second prize at the 2011 Montreal International Musical Competition, first place at the 2011 Yale School of Music Woolsey Concerto Competition, and first place at the 2010 Chopin Piano Competition at the Mozarteum International Summer Academy in Salzburg, Austria. Most notably, she was recently deemed one of the 30 best young pianists in the world at the quadrennial Van Cliburn International Piano Competition held in spring 2013.

Along with her BA in music from Principia College, Garritson holds a master’s degree and artist diploma from the School of Music at Yale University, where she currently serves as staff accompanist.

“Because of Principia, I learned how to bring my devotion to God to every part of my life,” Garritson says. “It helped me cultivate a way of thinking and living spiritually. Plus, it was really enriching to have a liberal arts approach because it taught me how to think. But the greatest thing I got out of my four years at Prin is a spiritual foundation.”

—Phebe Telschow

Learn more at [www.lindsaygarritson.com](http://www.lindsaygarritson.com).  
Photo by Tom Winter



## **MELISSA DUFFY** (US'96, C'00)

### *International law and community building*

Hoping to help bring positive change and stability to turbulent parts of the world, Melissa Duffy traveled to the Netherlands the summer after graduating from the College to attend a symposium sponsored by the International Institute for Mediation and Conflict Resolution. That experience focused her attention on law as a tool to effect change. She went on to earn a law degree from Georgetown University and then joined the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Office of General Counsel.

In her current position as an associate at Hughes Hubbard & Reed, Duffy specializes in export controls and trade sanctions, working with large, multinational companies to navigate U.S. government and international sanctions and determine how to comply with them. In particular, her work supports U.S. foreign policy in regions fraught with political conflict, human rights abuses, and concerns about weapons of mass destruction.

Surprisingly, perhaps, Duffy likens the "small town" aspects of working in DC with the close-knit community at Principia. As a result, the lessons she learned on campus are standing her in good stead. "You really have to learn how to be collegial and to build your sense of community . . . and to face people and not run from conflicts or try to bully your way through them," she explains. "In DC you might have to request cooperation from a party that you have to oppose on another project, so you have to work through personality differences constructively and use really creative problem-solving skills."

Duffy received mentoring at Principia that has been crucial to her current work as well. She recalls Dr. George Moffett (C'65), then president of Principia College, coaching her to confidently entertain and introduce Secretary of State James Baker at the Public Affairs Conference she directed. "Dr. Moffett very specifically and very supportively empowered me with direct responsibility and leadership," Duffy comments. "That experience made me much more comfortable functioning in an environment like Washington, DC."

—Kari Bradley

**“** . . . you have to work through personality differences constructively and use really creative problem-solving skills.”



## *JULIANA KO* (C'08)

*Strengthening community to save lives*

The day after graduating from Principia College, Juliana Ko drove to New Mexico to begin her two-year commitment as a math teacher with Teach for America at Thoreau Middle School.

Ko's life on the edge of the Navajo Nation led to many new and challenging experiences. During her second year of teaching, 15 young lives were lost due to suicide. These unfortunate events drew Ko closer to the community, making her want to stay and create ways to encourage Navajo youth to take control of their lives and look forward to the future.

With the help of the county, Ko began working to establish a 501c3 nonprofit community

center focused on health and well-being, education, and recreation. Just two months after Ko finished her time with Teach for America, the Board of Directors for the Thoreau Community Center was formed and the organization incorporated.

As the center's executive director since its inception, Ko has provided a safe, productive place for children to go after school. The center offers tutoring programs, enrichment activities, a library and computer lab, and also programs for adults.

The Corporation for National and Community Service awarded Ko the 2011 Service Impact Award for establishing the Thoreau Community Center, and the center as a whole received

the 2012 Chispa Award, from the New Mexico Community Foundation, for accomplishing a lot with limited resources.

Ko says the Principia College Peru Abroad, during which she interacted with that country's indigenous people and gained some understanding of the issues facing them, helped prepare her for working with the Navajo Nation. She's also grateful to Principia for instilling in her the "importance of prayer as the foundation of any endeavor and of always going back to God."

—Savanna Sprague



Learn more at [www.lewishowes.com](http://www.lewishowes.com).

Photo here and on the cover by Michael Brian Photography

## LEWIS HOWES

(US'01, C'08)

### *Taking networking to a new level*

As an All-American with the NCAA record for the most receiving yards in a single game, Lewis Howes was well on his way to a career as a professional football player—so much so that he left college early to join the Arena Football League. Unfortunately, an injury in his first season altered his plans. Down, but never out, Howes collected himself and shifted his impressive energies toward the business world.

He started with what he loves: making connections and helping others do the same. His strategic use of LinkedIn turned out to be a springboard for building a number of multimillion-dollar online businesses. Howes designed the Sports Networker website and founded the Sports Executives Association specifically to meet the networking needs of individuals at every level of the sports industry. He has written two books on the role of social media in today's business world: *LinkedWorking: Generating Success on the World's Largest Professional Networking Website* and *The Ultimate Webinar Marketing Guide*.

Howes has over 100,000 people on his weekly e-mail list, 85,000 Twitter followers, over 22,000 Facebook fans, and 25,000 LinkedIn connections. Five hundred thousand people have seen his business-related videos on YouTube, and over half a million listeners have heard his top-rated iTunes podcast, "The School of Greatness."

As if keeping up with all that weren't already a full plate, Howes is also working with Adam Braun, founder of Pencils of Promise, to build schools and educational opportunities in developing nations. And last but not least, Howes continues to be an outstanding athlete, playing team handball at a highly competitive level. A member of the USA Men's National Team, he hopes to compete in the 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil.

"Going to Prin was the best decision of my life," Howes says. "It gave me a solid foundation of inspiration, love, and community and helped me see that I really can do anything I want to do."

—Phebe Telschow

“ [At Principia] the small classes make it easy to have great relationships with professors.”



## MATT SONNESYN (C'99)

### *Putting good policy first*

Matt Sonnesyn has dedicated his career to helping decision makers in the nation's capital understand the best policy choices and then navigate the politics to achieve results.

After graduating from the College with a double major in international relations and Spanish, Sonnesyn worked for the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, DC, before earning a master's degree in public policy from Harvard's Kennedy School, where he was a Kennedy Fellow. That's also where he worked as a teaching assistant for visiting faculty member Lamar Alexander (R-TN), a former governor of Tennessee. That association launched Sonnesyn into a decade of work with Alexander, first on his successful campaign for U.S.

Senate and then in several key roles—ultimately as the senator's chief of staff. Among the many bipartisan projects Sonnesyn has worked on, the America COMPETES Act stands out for its efforts to invest in cutting-edge scientific research and improve science education across the nation.

These days, Sonnesyn is director of research at the Business Roundtable, an association of chief executive officers from over 200 leading U.S. companies that bring in a total of \$7.4 trillion in annual revenue. The companies' combined value comprises nearly a third of the total value of the U.S. stock market. Sonnesyn is responsible for the comprehensive research needed to develop new public policy initiatives, and

he currently leads the association's effort to “fix America's broken immigration system.”

Reflecting on his time at Principia, Sonnesyn enumerates three key benefits. “First,” he notes, “it's a place where it's OK to say no to the kinds of social and moral distractions that are overwhelming at most colleges. Second, there's an incredibly strong concentration of opportunities to participate—in student government, the CSO, *The Pilot*, PAC, and so many other important activities. And third, the small classes make it easy to have great relationships with professors. That's unique and valuable.”

—Phebe Telschow



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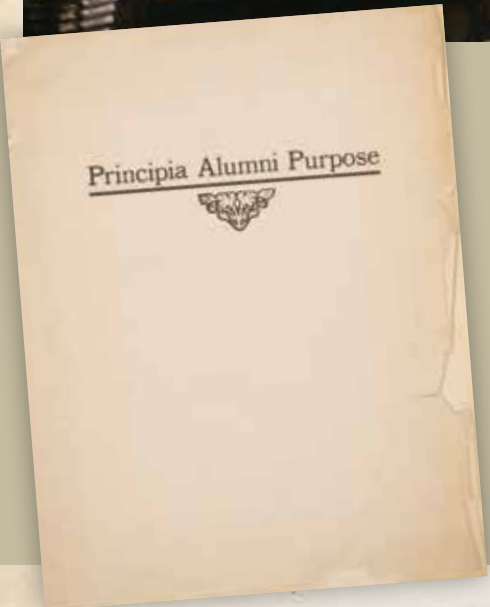
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Principia's founder, Mary Kimball Morgan



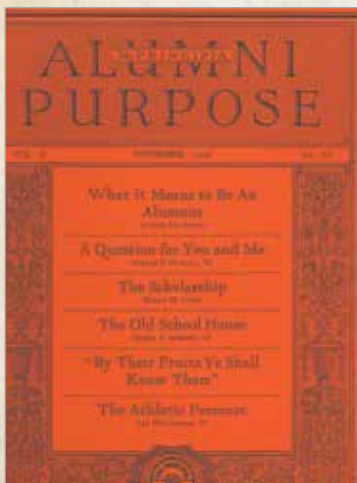
Principia Alumni Purpose

# The *Purpose* Celebrates Its Centennial

by Trudy Palmer

*During the first 100 years of Principia's alumni magazine, both content and presentation have evolved, with some features disappearing entirely and others getting a makeover.*

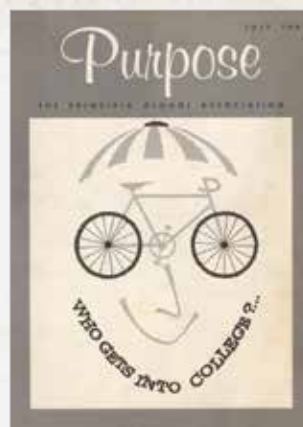
For example, Alumni Association Board and committee meeting minutes no longer fill the magazine, but opening editorials, after decades of absence, have resurfaced as the Welcome. The table of contents has moved around, too, with stints on the front cover in the 1920s and the back cover in the 1980s. The frequency of publication has varied widely, and even the magazine's title has changed over the years from *Principia Alumni Purpose* to simply *Purpose* to today's *Principia Purpose*. >>



1926



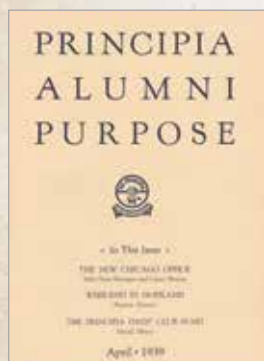
1946



1961



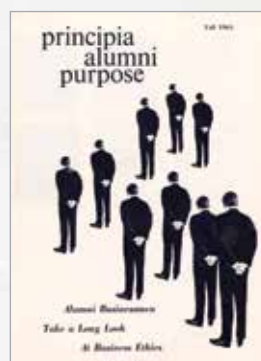
1967



1939



1952



1963



1971

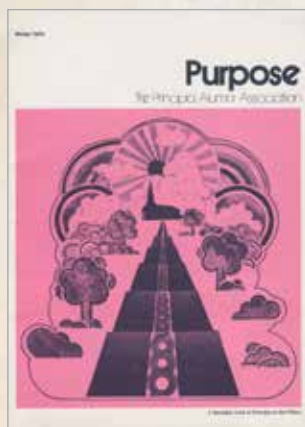
Through all of these changes, however, the magazine has stuck to its original objectives, spelled out in the inaugural issue on December 15, 1913. The editors of that first issue—Winnifred Andrews Hubbell (Class of 1906), Erwin Cory Stout (1910), and Frederic Evan Morgan (1910)—explained the magazine’s “threefold” aim in their opening editorial.

The first two objectives, they pointed out, aligned with the Alumni Association’s own goals: “to keep the graduates of Principia in such close touch with the work and growth of the school that they may form an important and competent factor in aiding the work” and “to diffuse by precept and example the highest idea of manhood and by so doing to establish the proper relations between Principia and the world at large.” The third reason for starting the *Purpose* was folksier: “to answer the demands made by all of us for more intimate and private news and means of communication.”

## A conversation among family members

That desire for “more intimate . . . communication” is especially evident in the early issues, which were sent only to Alumni Association members (fewer than 100 at that point). In some ways, they read like letters to an extended family. Consider this report from the first issue, for example: “Another recent visitor to Principia was Helen Boyer Duncan, ’08. Mrs. Duncan looks all of her 18 years, and not a day older. She tells many stories of the cleverness of her three-months-old son, and promises to have him here for our inspection Reunion week.”

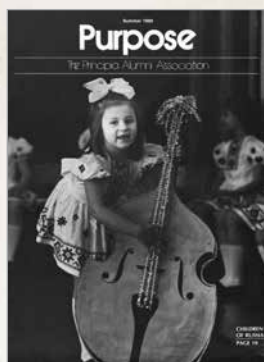
Similarly, a Do You Remember column recalls moments of family lore such as the time “Buddy, bearing one pitcher of milk, stepped through the dining-room window backwards” or “Sergeant Hubbell entered an excellence drill with chocolate creams in his hat—and the dire results.”



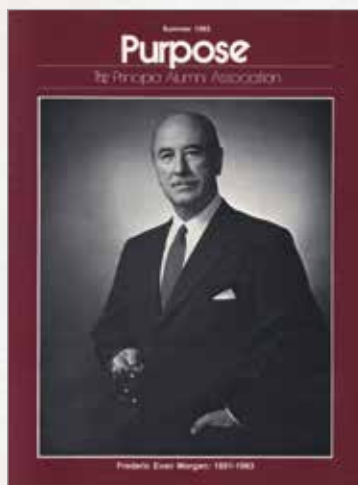
1974



1978



1980



1983



1987



1989



The Spring 1964 issue pictured above—a special issue on politics—won a “distinctive merit citation” from the American Alumni Council, which at the time represented 1,300 colleges and universities. In addition, the council selected the *Purpose* as one of the Top Ten Alumni Magazines in 1963 and 1964.

As with most families, a little fussing takes place, too. For decades, ads and notices scolded alumni who were behind in their dues, sometimes even listing each class's total arrears as a way of spurring friendly competition. (The practice of charging dues ended in 1942.) Alumni were also strongly encouraged to attend reunion as a way of staying up to date about the school so that they could promote it effectively. “Let us all feel that it will be more than a pleasure to return this coming May,” an April 1914 editorial exhorted. “To all who can, it is a duty.”

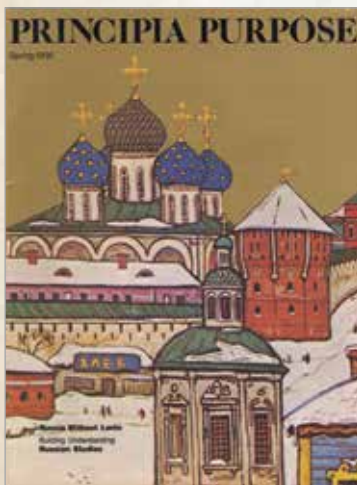
In addition, early issues urged alumni to recruit students and to contribute financially to the school. This excerpt from the front-page editorial of the May 1, 1917, issue makes that expectation plain: “Just as the war conditions of today make it necessary for every American to show his loyalty to his country, so does the present condition of Principia make it necessary for every Alumnus to show his loyalty to the School.”

## Signs of the times

An obvious tug at alums' allegiance, the reference to “war conditions” also shows the editors' determination to be timely. Going further, their inclusion of a metaphysical talk by Frederic Morgan, the son of Principia's founder and a later president of the school, shows their desire to make the *Purpose* useful, too. Originally delivered to Principia's military cadets, Morgan's talk explains how to think about war from a Christian Science perspective. Reprinting it in the *Purpose* is, in essence, an act of continuing education.

The effort to be timely and instructive weaves its way forward through the decades. World War II is another key period when the magazine looks out at the world with a focus on Principians' part in it. For example, the January 1942 issue, called the “Service Issue,” records the names of Principians serving in the war, accompanied by this explanation: “The

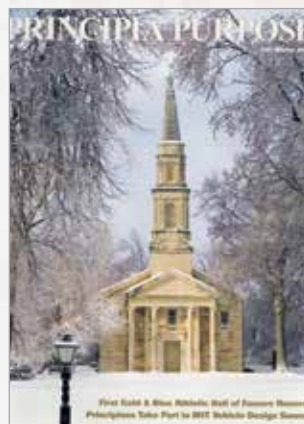
*continued on page 42*



1990



1993



2006



2010



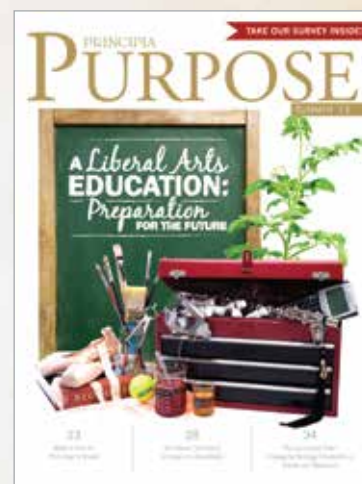
1991



1997



2009



2013



1994

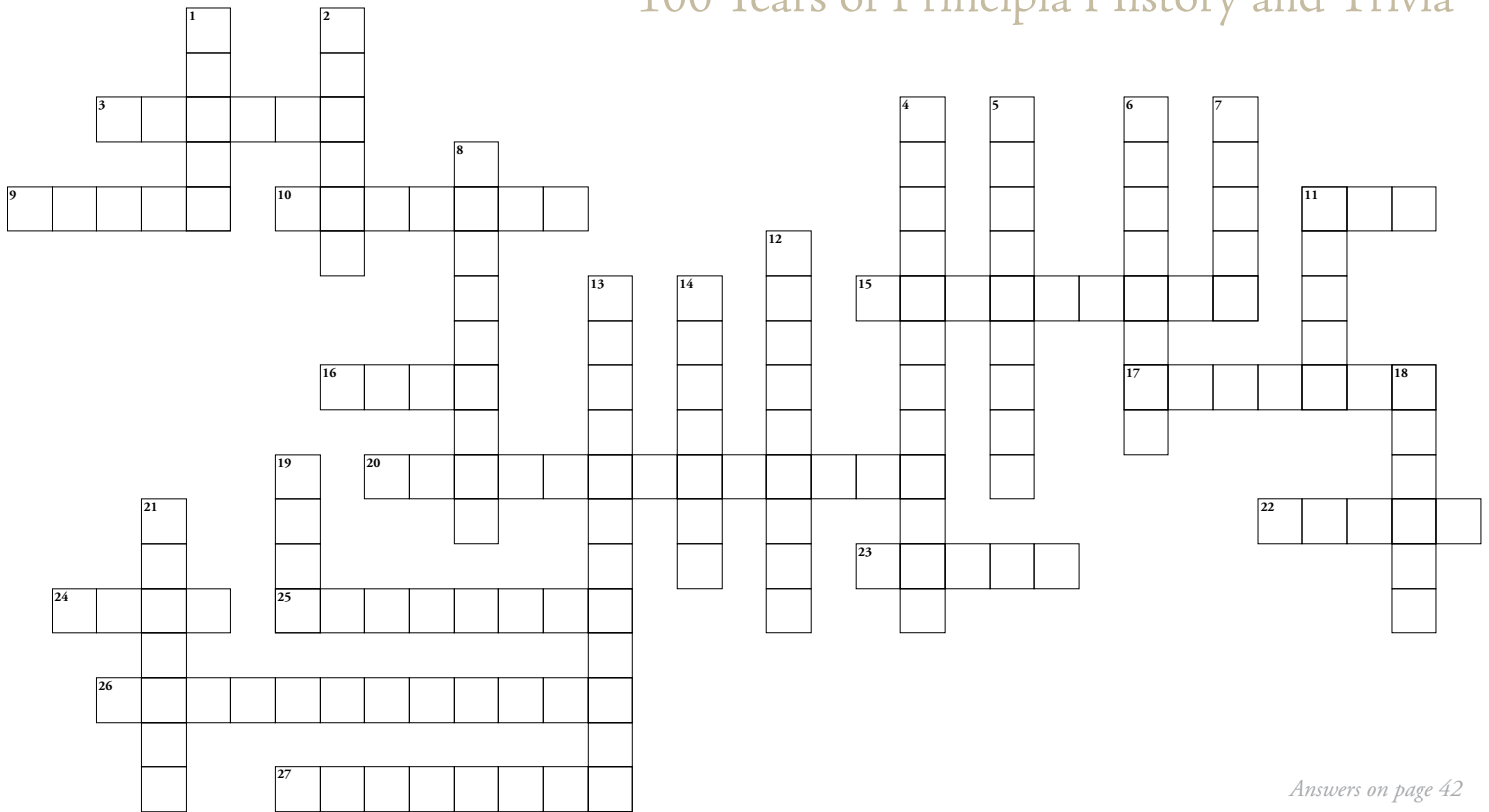
## A Magazine for Friends of Principia

As Principia grew, so did the desire to broaden the readership of the *Purpose* to include non-alum friends of Principia. To accommodate this expansion and still preserve the magazine's "family" feeling, *Progress at Principia* was born. A much shorter publication, *Progress* included only a few of the articles and items of interest from the *Purpose* and no alumni updates (news of weddings, births, etc.).

For more than half a century, *Progress at Principia* went to non-alumni members while the *Purpose* continued to go to alumni. Then *Progress* was discontinued in 2009. Since that time, alumni and non-alumni alike receive *Principia Purpose*. Members of the Alumni Association also receive *Connections*, which contains alumni updates, reunion recaps, messages from the Alumni Association Board, and so on.

# CENTENNIAL CROSSWORD PUZZLE

## 100 Years of Principia History and Trivia



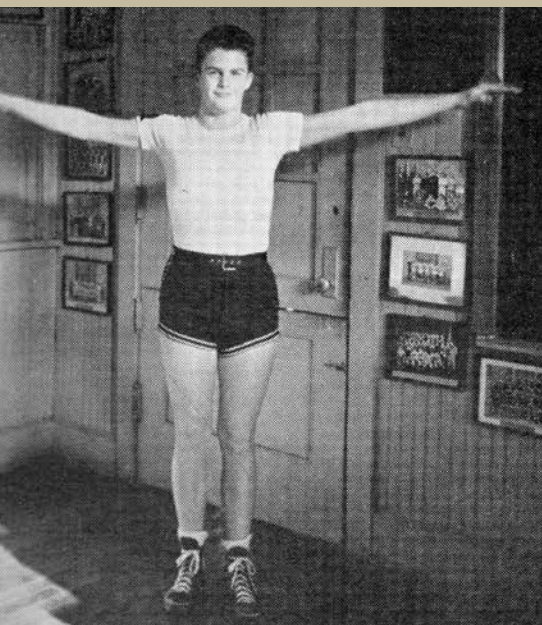
Answers on page 42

### ACROSS

- 3 What is the last name of the teacher who helped Mary Kimball Morgan name Principia?
- 9 What was the name of the bus/train that used to run from Elsayh to Alton?
- 10 What was the name of the Principia yearbook that preceded the *Blade* and the *Sheaf*?
- 11 What is the abbreviation for Principia's current continuing education program?
- 15 What is the name of the popular Upper School hangout area near Ridgway Auditorium?
- 16 The School campus is a little less than \_\_\_\_ hundred acres.
- 17 What is the last name of the person who wrote the first history of Principia?
- 20 What storybook bear greeted children for many years at the entrance to the Preschool?
- 22 What is Principia's emblem? (Hint: It goes with the school's motto.)
- 23 What is the last name of the former Upper School football coach who trained his players to answer "What is football?" this way: "Sir, football at Principia is 48 minutes of hitting, blocking, tackling, and guts. It's football played to win, and winners we are! We love it! We love it! We love it! Yeah!"
- 24 What is the last name of the former Principia administrator who would have been especially happy about the College rugby team's recent national championship because he was a rugby champion himself?
- 25 What is the first name of the person who coined the phrase "Christ-idea in education"?
- 26 What is Maybeck's Sample House affectionately called?
- 27 What are the street names by which the old St. Louis campus is known? (Hint: List them in non-alphabetical order.)

### DOWN

- 1 What is the maiden name of the person after whom Howard House is named?
- 2 In what season did the Upper School move to the country campus?
- 4 What level of the School was recently renovated quite extensively?
- 5 Which College house dedicated in 1950 was funded through a bequest from a woman who had neither attended Principia nor seen the College campus. (Hint: Her first name was Ada.)
- 6 What is the last name of the College English professor who most recently earned emeritus status? (Hint: This person is also a poet.)
- 7 What is the name of the College building where studio art classes take place?
- 8 Over the years, what "boat races" have College couples enjoyed watching from the bluffs at night?
- 11 The \_\_\_\_\_ Pub is best known for its shakes.
- 12 What is the name of the Preschool Christmas program?
- 13 What event took place in the Chapel several months before classes were held on the Elsayh campus?
- 14 What is Principia's current mascot?
- 18 What is the last name of the alum who won an Academy Award for *Tender Mercies*?
- 19 What were the call letters of Principia's radio station before it became Internet radio?
- 21 Which member of the Morgan family became president of Principia after Frederic Morgan?



## Calling All Captions!

Turning 100 seemed like a good time to start a new tradition, so we're kicking off a caption contest. Submit your caption for the photo above to [purpose@principia.edu](mailto:purpose@principia.edu). We'll publish some of the best submissions in the next issue. Will yours be one of them?

### ACROSS

3 Perrin 9 Dinky 10 Penguin 11 PLL  
15 Blue Lobby 16 Four 17 Leonard  
20 Winnie the Pooh 22 Wheat  
23 Morse 24 Bole 25 Clarence  
26 Mistake House 27 Page Belt

### DOWN

1 Morey 2 Winter 4 Middle School  
5 Sylvester 6 Campbell 7 Voney  
8 Submarine 11 Piasa 12 Sugarplum  
13 Commencement 14 Panther  
18 Duvall 19 WTPC 21 William

*continued from page 39*

list of names is intended to encourage *other* Principians to help win the war in whatever ways they can and to support the men who are in actual service."

A few decades later, the turbulence of the 1960s claims considerable space in the magazine. Coverage of a Public Affairs Conference on the Vietnam War and several photo essays of Upper School and College students working with low-income, inner-city youth show how much the magazine is a product of its time. Article titles like "Why Are Students Rocking the Boat?" and "Youth Power" further drive home the point. Presumably, the goal of these pieces isn't so much to instruct readers about social change as to inform them of the impact of that change on Principia.

## Continuing education

Instruction remains an important aspect of the magazine, however, sometimes occurring very overtly. In the late 1960s, for example, four substantial self-study courses on the Old and New Testaments, Art in the Western World, and Religions of the World—all prepared by Principia College professors—take up the bulk of their respective issues. And in the 1970s, two series of articles—one on the Bible and another on effective communication—spread continuing education on these topics across multiple issues.

Over the century, a wealth of other articles have taught readers more subtly about everything from lasers to ethics, from dealing with teenagers to life among the Eskimos, from the history of Elsalh to peacemaking in Sierra Leone. While not encyclopedic in its coverage, the *Purpose* hasn't left many stones unturned, as this sampling of titles from five decades suggests:

"The Modern Arts and the Christian Scientist" (1972)  
"Food: Fads, Fallacies, Facts, and Fables" (1974)  
"Southeast Asia: Cautious Optimism" (1976)  
"Fossil Fuels: A Fearsome Forecast" (1980)  
"Should You Buy Your Children a Computer?" (1983)  
"Exploring Islam" (1986)  
"Heavy Metal Music: A Look at the Contents" (1989)  
"Cultural Sensitivity: Key to Population Control" (1989)  
"Russia Without Lenin" (1990)  
"The Masai: Cultural Leap (or Link?)" (1992)  
"The Democratic Idea: Two Perspectives" (2007)  
"Beyond Environmentalism to Sustainability" (2009)  
"The Many Pages of the Book's Future" (2010)  
"Mediation: Reshaping the Legal Landscape" (2013)

For all the variety in its pages and its many face-lifts over the years, the *Purpose* still hews to its original intent: to keep readers connected to Principia and to demonstrate the impact of a Principia education around the world. Here's to a second century of Principia-style sowing and reaping—and sharing! ■



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# Scholarly Pursuits

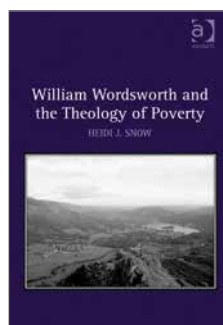
by Armin Sethna

## New Books by College Faculty

Teaching a full load of classes, grading finals, leading trips, fulfilling administrative duties, and designing new courses typically take up every moment on a Principia professor's calendar.

However, this did not deter English Department chair Dr. Heidi Snow (C'79) and History Department chair Dr. Gregory Sandford from publishing books this year—the culmination, in both cases, of years of research. Their volumes are on very different topics and time periods: the theological influences on Britain's most famous Romantic poet and the survival of Christian Science in communist East Germany. Yet they both feature a treasure trove of original research, scholarly attention to detail, and abundant proof of the authors' deep interest and expertise in their respective topics.

### A new view of Wordsworth



Released in December, Dr. Heidi Snow's first book, *William Wordsworth and the Theology of Poverty* (Surrey, UK: Ashgate, 2013), grew out of a long-held

affinity for the British poet laureate who ushered in the Romantic Age of English poetry. "The way Wordsworth wrote about nature resonated with my own experiences," Snow comments, recalling her early encounters with his poems in graduate school. She became increasingly attuned to the spiritual and religious undertones in Wordsworth's work, perceiving a side to the poet that was somewhat at odds with the prevailing scholarly views of him as largely "irreligious" or even atheistic.

In Snow's assessment, Wordsworth (1770–1850) could not help but be impacted by the diversity of religious views and debate that characterized

his era. For Europe, the late 1700s and early 1800s were a time of great change and upheaval—political, social, economic, and theological. In largely Anglican England, new theologies were gaining ground, such as the Methodist, Quaker, and Unitarian systems. These religions espoused a more humanistic, less Calvinistic view of the human condition—particularly of the poor and of poverty—and this view was widely discussed and practiced in Wordsworth's beloved Lake District.

Snow explored these influences on Wordsworth's writing during her doctoral studies at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, which she undertook while teaching at Principia. Her dissertation, completed in 2008, forms the basis for her book, which, Snow writes, aims "to reconstruct the theological landscape regarding poverty in which William Wordsworth lived and to uncover the hidden and complex religious attitudes towards poverty in his poetry" (p. 8).

During the five years since completing her degree, Snow has led two Principia



Dove Cottage, Wordsworth's home in Grasmere

abroad programs to England, adding extra time at the start or finish to research county records as well as the private papers of Wordsworth and his sister, Dorothy. “The College was very generous in the support of my research,” Snow acknowledges grate-

by Wordsworth, an intrepid walker reputed to have covered some 175,000 miles on foot during his lifetime. The group visited his residences and was treated to an evening of good food and great poetry at Dove Cottage, hosted by the Wordsworth Trust.

... Wordsworth could not help but be impacted by the diversity of religious views and debate that characterized the era.

fully, “and it was really wonderful that my commitment to the abroads and to my research dovetailed.”

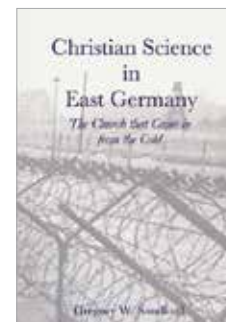
A six-month sabbatical from January to June 2013 was also very timely, providing uninterrupted research time near Grasmere, where Wordsworth lived for 14 years and which he described as “the loveliest spot that man hath ever found.”

At the end of her sabbatical, Snow co-led a Principia Lifelong Learning trip, guiding a group of hikers on many of the same walks taken

Snow will be teaching a course on Wordsworth spring semester, as well as leading a Religion in Literature seminar. While her book will not be required reading in either of these courses, it will be on the reserve list and available to interested students.

Meanwhile, before the ink is even dry on this printing, Snow is already starting on her next project—a detailed analysis of “The Excursion,” one of Wordsworth’s longer poems (published in 1814) that was to be part of a much larger, unfinished work, *The Recluse*.

## Christian Science in operation—behind the Iron Curtain



2014 marks 25 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall, a seminal event that symbolized the beginning of the end of

the Cold War and had worldwide repercussions. Just six days earlier, on November 3, 1989, another type of wall had crumbled in East Germany (though with much less international fanfare)—the wall of legal repression and political persecution that resulted in the banning and criminalization of the practice of Christian Science in that country for decades.

Dr. Gregory Sandford’s recently released *Christian Science in East Germany: The Church That Came in from the Cold* chronicles the tireless efforts of the “silent heroes” of this revolution—the scattered individuals and families in East Germany who courageously stood by their faith; their friends and colleagues in West Germany, who offered material and moral support; and officials of The Mother Church in Boston, who pursued prayerful and diplomatic channels on behalf of East German Christian Scientists.

Sandford is very well placed to tell this story, which at times resembles something out of a thriller by John Le Carré (to whose best seller the subtitle gives a nod). Having conducted his PhD research in East Berlin and served as a U.S. diplomat

>>



Watchtower in East Berlin. Photo © Ed Eckstein/CORBIS

there during the 1980s, Sanford developed relationships with key East and West German Christian Scientists. “These contacts allowed me to keep up with developments in the Christian Science movement from [the East German] perspective,” Sanford explains.

For East Germans, such contact with Westerners was fraught with risk, as the book documents in several instances. And despite “diplomatic immunity,” Sanford himself was not free from the long reach of the Stasi, East Germany’s feared secret police. He was closely watched; his phone was tapped; his family’s home in East Berlin was occasionally searched; and “one time, they tried to drive me off the road in my car,” he recalls.

Interestingly, although Christian Science flourished in Germany after being introduced in the 1890s, it rarely functioned without some degree of official interference. There was general suspicion from the pre-World War I government, outright persecution from the Nazis, and long-running and insidious bureaucratic repression, harassment,

and eventually outright banning by the Communist regime that assumed power in East Germany after World War II. This systemic harassment took a toll on individual Christian Scientists as well as on the movement as a whole. Lacking regular contact with others of the same faith, many East German Christian Scientists felt somewhat adrift and unsure of their understanding. Many eventually fell away or gave up their practice of the religion. Some in this group returned to it eagerly, however, as soon as it was once again legally permitted.

While compassionate toward those who lost their hold on Christian Science during these trying and dangerous times, Sanford focuses on the people who stayed the course. His book comprehensively describes the political, diplomatic, and necessarily clandestine efforts of East German Christian Scientists to hold meetings and services and even to own and purchase Christian Science literature, especially copies of the weekly Bible Lesson or the *Christian Science Quarterly*.

Sanford also spotlights individuals within the byzantine and repressive

East German bureaucracy who managed to maintain an open mind toward those of differing beliefs. One of these officials, Gunther Behncke, spoke movingly at the 2003 Annual Meeting of The Mother Church, which was held concurrently in Berlin and Boston. He recounted his initial negative impressions of Christian Science and the qualities he saw in the East German Christian Scientists who worked with him that eventually led him to support their quest for recognition of the religion. In a later interview with Sanford, Behncke spoke admiringly of the “many hundreds” of Christian Scientists who, “despite persecution stood by their faith” and were “actually the silent heroes.”

Sanford’s access to people like Behncke and other key players from this period, along with his painstaking research in U.S. and German archives, lends both credibility and an on-the-scene feel to his writing. For both its sourcing and narrative, therefore, the story of “the church that came in from the cold” is a valuable addition to the annals of the Christian Science movement around the world. ■

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# A Great Place to Practice Christian Science

by Heather K. Libbe



Students on the 2010 Nepal Abroad. Photo courtesy of Brooke Benbenek (US'07, C'12).



Heather in New Zealand showing her support for the College's 2013 Cowbell Classic cross-country race. Unless otherwise noted, all photos are courtesy of Heather Libbe.

Driving onto the Principia College campus for the first time, I knew it was my right place. To be honest, I probably wouldn't even have had to complete my visiting weekend because I could feel the "atmosphere of Love divine" as soon as I stepped foot on campus (*Christian Science Hymnal*, No. 144). I knew I would have a fruitful and growth-filled four years, but my experience far exceeded my high expectations.

For example, my business classes helped me discover how much of a leavening impact being honest and ethical can have in the work environment, while my religion classes helped further my understanding of and love for the Bible. Playing tennis taught me the importance of getting thought where it needs to be *before* beginning an activity and gave me new views of

how to express persistence and mental endurance in the "Court of Spirit" (Mary Baker Eddy, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 434). Furthermore, after going through class instruction, I was grateful to see how my practice of Christian Science and my work as a resident assistant in one of the freshman houses went hand-in-hand.

## Abundant opportunities

Having grown up in Christian Science, I had many opportunities to make it my own through healings I had as a child and teenager, interactions with friends and family, and experiences as a camper and counselor at several of the camps for Christian Scientists. Nevertheless, Principia provided me with even more of these opportunities through academics, athletics,

extracurricular activities, and experiences studying abroad—opportunities that nurtured my study and practice of Christian Science.

I thought it was especially neat to see how many students were eager to take The Life of Mary Baker Eddy and History of the Christian Science Movement courses, share healings at the Christian Science Organization (CSO) testimony meetings, participate in weekly hymn sings, serve on CSO committees, attend Quiet Time talks, go on Metanoia expeditions, and share inspiration throughout the day. Getting to be part of a community of deep thinkers and spiritual healers was both uplifting and inspiring. I was constantly amazed at how much support was available through friends, coaches, faculty, staff, and resident counselors, among others. >>



Heather at the Mary Baker Eddy Historic House in Rumney, New Hampshire. Photo by Constance Shryack.

## An expanded sense of home

On top of all of that, I'm grateful for all the unique opportunities I was given by attending a school for Christian Scientists. For example, because home is one of my most favorite ideas, I felt very blessed to be able to devote an entire semester to writing a capstone project on the way Mrs. Eddy's concept of home changed as she moved from place to place. In addition to really enjoying learning about this topic, I

Louis campus around 10:30 p.m., I discovered that I had left all my notes in Elsay in addition to the one biography I actually needed to read from, despite having many others with me. Fortunately, my initial reaction was a bit of chuckling as I exclaimed, "Well, I guess that wasn't the presentation I was meant to give." I then turned to God, and as I was listening about how to continue, I heard almost immediately, "Just make My dear children feel at home." So that's what I focused

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I am thankful for all the avenues Principia provides for discovering one's own niche.

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expanded and deepened my own sense of home in the process.

I also learned a beautiful spiritual lesson while preparing a presentation about my capstone to share at the Upper School. Though I had carefully written out everything I was planning to say, when I arrived on the St.

on—completely enveloping everyone in love, warmth, joy, and peace. The presentation basically rewrote itself that night, and it was such a gift to share my sense of home with others the next day.

I also felt a deep sense of home while running cross country my sophomore



Heather with 2010 College grad Emily Kabura

and junior years. The team was unlike any other I've been a part of because the members were constantly focusing on how they could support and encourage their teammates. Instead of having a sense of unhealthy competition, people put forth their best and cheered on others as they overcame any sense of limitation. There was such a beautiful sense of family, whether we were in the middle of a tough workout, on the road to a race, or enjoying dinner together after practice. After starting off together with inspiration, getting to run all the amazing trails in the area with your best friends as the leaves were changing colors was just incredible! Healing happens as people turn their thought to God and pray while they're running.

## Tangible spiritual support

Recently, while reflecting upon how it was possible to form deep connections instantaneously, as happened over and over again throughout my Principia experience, I realized that it stemmed from being in the presence of

individuals who are constantly working to behold the perfect man (see *Science and Health*, pp. 476–477). I was very grateful for this during my junior year when I had a particularly difficult quarter. Throughout that time, my professors were very supportive, and I was granted extensions on almost every major assignment because I ended up spending about three weeks off campus supporting a friend. This meant the world to me because, while I was truly interested in what I was learning and was actually looking forward to completing all the papers and projects, my focus needed to be on prayer. What a gift to be surrounded by people who not only understood that but were actively knowing that “man is made in the image and likeness of God,” as Mary Baker Eddy explains (*Science and Health*, p. 475). I’m not sure I could have found that kind of support many other places in the world.

My involvement in Principia’s CSO was also a huge support that quarter, especially because I served as one of the Readers. In fact, I experienced an instantaneous healing as I stepped out onto the Chapel platform that very first time and looked out at so many wonderful thinkers, healers, and sincere seekers. The stress and heaviness I’d been feeling lifted, and I experienced an incredible sense of peace.

## A global perspective

As much as I appreciate the personal growth I experienced at the College, I’m also grateful that Principia helped me think more about and pray for the world. I was continually impressed by how globally minded the community was. Learning alongside individuals

from around the world and attending talks by world-renowned speakers had a powerful impact on me. In addition, events such as the Public Affairs and Pan-African Conferences helped inform community members about world issues—both the progress that was being made and the areas that still needed to be addressed. In one case, sharing healing ideas about human trafficking following a Public Affairs

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I experienced an instantaneous healing as I stepped out onto the Chapel platform that very first time . . .

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Conference on that topic served as a nice springboard for my continued prayers.

Furthermore, studying abroad in both the Caribbean and later in Nepal and India gave me the chance to pray specifically for those regions while I was there and helped me see that we are all related as the children of God. Time and time again, we heard comments like “There’s something special about your group,” which was such beautiful confirmation that the healing power of Principians letting their light shine was being felt in a tangible way. I am also grateful for the opportunity to expand my sense of home as a “citizen of the world” by visiting Principia friends in the U.S. and abroad. There’s nothing like being part of a global network of healers!

As I reflect on my Principia experience, I find myself filled with gratitude for all the classes, activities, competitions, and conversations that caused me not only to practice and live Christian Science

but also to think more deeply about what it means to serve the Cause of Christian Science. Mrs. Eddy says in *Retrospection and Introspection*, “Each individual must fill his own niche in time and eternity” (p. 70). I am thankful for all the avenues Principia provides for discovering one’s own niche.

How wonderful it is to know that each of divine Love’s ideas has a perfect

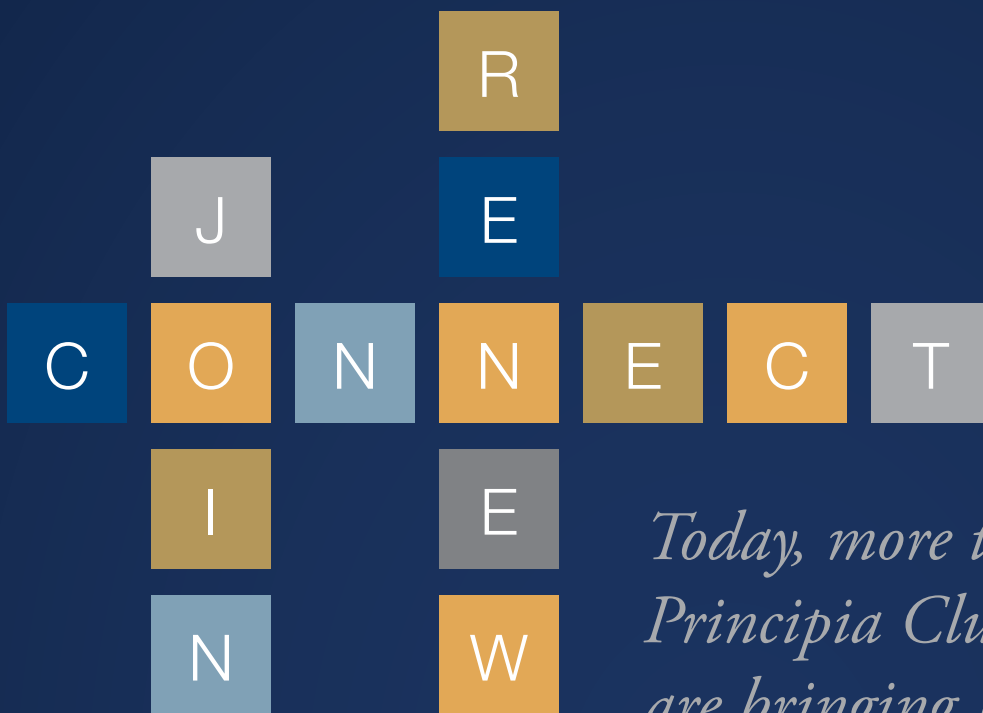
purpose, place, and plan that is ever unfolding. I feel very blessed to get to serve the Cause alongside so many inspiring alums who are bringing healing to the world in their own individual ways! ■

*Heather K. Libbe (C’11) is a Christian Science practitioner and enjoys writing for the Christian Science periodicals. Many of her articles include healings from her time at Principia and can be found online at [www.JSH-Online.com](http://www.JSH-Online.com) and [www.Time4Thinkers.com](http://www.Time4Thinkers.com).*

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# Volunteer Highlight: Living the Lessons Learned at Principia

by Phebe Telschow

Rose Mary Mets has been deeply devoted to Principia for years, even though she's not an alum. Her husband, Mel Mets (C'53), was a Westie with a close-knit group of friends who faithfully got together for reunions filled with love and laughter, so she knew there was something special about Principia. But not until Rose Mary and Mel started attending Summer Session on a regular basis in 1988 did she get a deeper understanding of what makes it so special. "The classes and professors, the beautiful campus and the friends, all made Summer Session a wonderful way to get to know Principia," she recalls.

After working in Boston at The Mother Church for many years, Rose Mary and Mel retired to Phoenix, where they started attending Principia Club functions in 1991. "There were wonderful people in the group, and we just loved the activities," Rose Mary notes. "Plus, we loved Principia and what it stands for and what it's doing for students. It's so worthy of support."

Rose Mary became co-president of the Phoenix Principia Club in spring 2005. She and Joy (Greenslade, C'68) Mee have been a highly effective team ever since. "It's wonderful to have a co-president," Rose Mary comments. "I'm good at the organizational work, and Joy is great at speaking to groups. And we both have a lot of enthusiasm." Joy is quick to add, "Rose Mary is very good with details and following through, and she's great at thinking ahead. I enjoy collaborating with her on new ideas and problem solving."

Joy graduated from the College with a BA in political science. She went on to earn a master's degree in urban planning from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, followed by a career in planning with the City of Phoenix. She says her reasons for participating in the Principia Club are simple: "I really valued my college experience. Principia prepared me well for graduate school—especially with writing. Principia didn't just teach me academics, but how to think, how to take responsibility, and how to treat my fellow man." She continues, "One's time at Prin may only last for a few years, but the idea is to learn something from Prin and take that spirit out and live it and use it to bless the



*Principia Club of Phoenix co-presidents: Joy Mee (left) and Rose Mary Mets. Photo by Hank Richter.*

world—to take what you learn about yourself, your God, and your community and put it all into practice."

That outward-looking focus is evident in many of the Phoenix Principia Club's activities. For example, working with DiscoveryBound, they recently sponsored their second walk-a-thon to raise money for MANA House, a transitional housing facility for veterans. The walks have been popular among club members. Last year's walk raised \$1,400; this year's has brought in \$817 so far, with contributions still coming in.

In addition to annual Christmas Sings and springtime picnics, speaker events have been a favorite activity over the years. John Williams (C'76), Hank Hamlin (US'41, JC'43), Marilyn Wallace (C'72), Janessa Gans Wilder (C'98), and Clark Beim-Esche are among the list of faculty and alums who have spoken to the club.

"Principia is not only there for college students," notes Rose Mary, "but also for lifelong learning. The club brings people together to appreciate and support a school that is developing thinkers for our world." ■

# AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

## SCHOOL

### Student Leadership Recognized

Senior **Emilie Fredrikson** was honored as an Outstanding Student Leader in St. Louis County in September. (She is pictured here with her father, Hans



Fredrikson, US'84, C'88.) The program recognizes students for leadership, contributions to school and community, citizenship, and high personal standards. Each of the county's 57 public and private high schools nominates a student for this honor, and all awardees participate in a daylong leadership skills workshop hosted at Washington University in St. Louis.

### Upper Schoolers Earn AP Honors

Eighteen Upper School students received accolades in 2013 for their overall performance on Advanced Placement tests. Twelve of the students were 2013 grads: **Cassidy Alford**, **Meg Andersen**, **Nathalie DeLoach**, **Claire Douglas**, **Meredith Hamilton**, **Stephen Hanlin**, **Georgette Hoffmann**, **Holly Messman**, **Matt Ross**, **Sara Stephenson**, **Dean Sterrett**, and **Kayleigh Wood**. The six others recognized are current seniors: **Emilie Fredrikson**, **Nicole Gerber**, **Emma Halsey**, **Ben Swank**, **Tanner Walters**, and **Kevin Ward**.

### District and State Choir Achievements

Along with sophomores **Olivia Halverson** and **Lily Oyer**, senior **Otis Heimer** was selected to the All-District Honors Choir. In addition, **Otis** advanced to All-State Honors Choir.

### National Merit Scholarship Commendations

Four students received commendations in the National Merit Scholarship competition. Seniors **Maddi Demaree**, **Nicole Gerber**, **Ben Swank**, and **Jordan Van Horsen** were recognized on the basis of their high performance in the October 2012 PSAT test. Only 3.3 percent of all test takers (or 50,000 out of 1.5 million students) attain this level of achievement!

### Success in Speech and Debate

Senior **Kevin Ward** attained the highest level of student membership in the National Forensic League (NFL), with over 250 points. (The NFL is an honor society that seeks to promote skill and competence in public speaking at the middle and high school levels.) Kevin's forte is in extemporaneous competitions, where participants do not know the topic beforehand and are given only 30 minutes to prepare a talk on one of three subjects announced at the competition.

## COLLEGE

### Lincoln Laureate Named

Each year, Principia College nominates one senior for the prestigious Lincoln Academy Laureate Award based on

overall excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities. Selected from colleges and universities across Illinois, the honorees take part in a gathering at the Old State Capitol in Springfield, Illinois. **Haley Morton**, a history and political science double major, is this year's Principia College Lincoln Academy Laureate.

Morton ran on the cross-country team all four years and currently works as a writing tutor on campus, along with doing quite a bit of writing herself for classes and law school applications. For her senior capstone presentation, Morton is researching Title IX, legislation best known for expanding opportunities for girls and women in athletics.

### Athletes Earn National Recognition

Senior **Wylie Mangelsdorf** placed fifth at the NCAA Division III National Championships at Hanover College, earning All-American status in the process.

Junior **Tess Rountree** finished the volleyball season ranked third in the nation in NCAA Division III for kills per set with 4.73 and for points per set with 5.71.

### Mediation Team Members Present at a Conference and Compete

In late October, Principia's mediation team participated in the International Academy of Dispute Resolution's 5th Annual World Congress held at Drake University Law School. Along with attending mediation and advocacy

workshops, they gave a presentation entitled “Worldwide Outreach through Mediation” alongside students from Sri Lanka and India.

A month later, the team returned to Drake to compete in the 2013 International Intercollegiate Mediation Tournament, finishing eighth among 44 teams from the United States, Canada, and India. This was Principia’s



*Mediation team members, pictured left to right: freshmen Olivia Pierce-Bluhm and Cassidy Alford, junior Brian Simpson, coach Dr. Jeffrey Steele, juniors Lauren Littell and Molly Glascock, and freshman Nohemy Johnson. Photo courtesy of Molly Glascock.*

fourth appearance at the tournament and its third top-eight finish. This year’s accomplishment was all the more remarkable since four novices joined the six-person team this fall, three of them freshmen.

## Principia Wins Rugby National Championship

The Thunder Chickens, Principia College’s rugby team, recently won the 2013 USA Rugby 7s DII National Championship! In their final match of the weekend, the team soundly defeated (27–12) the University of Wisconsin-Stout, a DIII school of roughly 8,200 undergraduates. Though UW-Stout had a good team with a strong defense, Principia controlled the game from the beginning, taking an early lead.

Sharing the victory with the greater student body, the team celebrated the



*Photo by Lisa Marunde (C’84)*

day after their return during a reception complete with speeches, cake, and expressions of gratitude. Thrilled with the championship, head coach Ward Patterson (C’82) commented on the team’s focus on more than athletics. “I don’t coach rugby, I really don’t,” Patterson said. “I coach character education, and I use rugby to get there.”

## ALUMNI

### Amanda (Blaikie) Sparfeld (US’02, C’06)

An accomplished and ardent flutist, Amanda Sparfeld won the 2013 Alexander and Buono International Flute Competition this fall. For the winner’s recital in October, she had the privilege of performing at Carnegie Hall—accompanied by Dr. Marie Jureit-Beamish, her Principia College professor and mentor. Having performed around the country and overseas, Sparfeld is currently Principal Flutist with the Michigan Theatre Opera and the Battle Creek Symphony.

### Austin Lines (US’07)

On July 23, 2013, after more than 12 hours of traversing icy slopes through the darkness in a remote mountain range in Central Asia, Austin Lines and his four climbing mates accomplished the first-ever successful ascent of the 5,318-meter (17,500-foot) peak formerly known as Point 5318. As a result, Lines and his team received the privilege of naming the peak, which they dubbed “After You” to acknowledge the climbers who had previously attempted this mountain—and to be able to tell their girlfriends back home, “We named the mountain after you!”

### Catherine Speer (US’07, C’11)

An avid dancer (and currently, a program coordinator in Principia’s Alumni, Field Relations, and Annual Giving Office), Catherine Speer won eight first-place and two second-place finishes in this year’s Ballroom Blitz Pro-Am Competition in Orlando, Florida. Paired with her coach Stan Collins, Speer competed in four different Latin dances—Samba, Cha Cha, Salsa, and Bolero—against student/coach teams from all corners of the United States.



## “Honesty Is Spiritual Power”

by Dorsie Glen

**A**s I pack up 24 years of accumulated “stuff,” wonderful memories of my years at Principia come flooding back to me. One of my joys has been reading cards of appreciation and thanks received from community members over the years. (I save everything!) It’s heartwarming to read, especially from students, how much they needed to hear someone being honest with them regarding the issues they were struggling with, even if at the time that wasn’t what they wanted to hear.

Those notes have helped me answer the question I consistently get asked by community members: What do you hope our students will learn while they are here? For me, it’s the understanding that being honest in all our actions is the most important thing we can do. We’re probably all familiar with Mary Baker Eddy’s emphasis on honesty. Consider these statements: “Honesty is spiritual power. Dishonesty is human weakness, which forfeits divine help” (*Science and Health*, p. 453) and “. . . honesty always defeats dishonesty” (*Miscellaneous Writings*, p. 126).

There is always a consequence for doing what we know is the wrong thing, but there is a greater consequence when we are dishonest about it. Also, being honest ourselves helps us see that others express honesty, too.

When I first started working at the College, I was a resident counselor. One time I was walking with a student to talk to the dean of students, who was going to ask this young woman if she had been using drugs. She had already told me she had used them, so I asked her what she was going to say to the dean. She said, “I’m going

“It’s not easy to be completely honest in every situation, but it preserves our integrity.”

to say no because you are the only one who knows the truth and you are my friend.” I was shocked. What should I say to her? All I could do was pray.

Once we were in the dean’s office, he asked her, “Did you do drugs?” She looked at me, looked back at him, and said, “Yes.” When I asked her later why she told the truth, she said that when she looked over at me, she saw how much I loved and trusted her, and she couldn’t lie.

Wow, prayer works! I had been holding in my thought this line from a hymn: “Thou art Truth’s honest child” (*Christian Science Hymnal*, No. 382). The dean was so impressed with this student’s honesty that he allowed her

to stay but suspended the others who were involved and had been dishonest.

It is so important to establish our values and then make certain our actions align with those values. If we tell even a “white lie” and someone discovers it, that person may not trust us the next time. And even if the person

never knows we lied, we know—and that is not a good feeling.

It’s not easy to be completely honest in every situation, but it preserves our integrity. Plus, it gives us “spiritual power.” And who doesn’t want that?!

Don’t forget to send those cards of appreciation and thanks, and be sure to save the ones you receive—you’ll have wonderful memories. ■

*After serving as a resident counselor and then residence director, Dorsie Glen (C’68) became dean of students in 2008. She steps down from her post at the end of December 2013.*

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