Laurelyn Keener Turbes ‘00 earned a BS and BA from the University of Minnesota-Duluth, graduated with her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Michigan State University, and completed a one-year internship in equine and camelid medicine in Ohio. In 2010, she moved home to Duluth and began her career in equine veterinary dentistry, later purchasing the focused ambulatory equine dental veterinary practice, North Wind Equine, LLC. Further educational opportunities have allowed her to offer advanced extraction procedures in addition to preventative dental care, and she continues to advance the level of equine veterinary dentistry available in the region.

**How did your experience at Marshall help you after graduation?**

My six years at Marshall shaped who I am. As a Hilltopper, I found peers as academically driven as I was, gained confidence as an athlete, was surrounded by faculty who pushed me to strive for excellence, and made lifelong friends. Skills learned in every class prepared me for college and educated me for life. My first year of veterinary school, I adopted the note-taking style that Ms. Ball taught in 7th grade, I still organize my bills in binders with tabs the way that Ms. Falsani taught us in 8th grade Literature and Language Arts, and I calculate medication doses for my patients using the conversion method Mr. Vosen required in AP Chemistry.

**Who at Marshall inspired you?**

Everyone. Being surrounded by people who believe in your success, and who expect you to put forth an excellent effort in all endeavors, enables and motivates you to do and be your best. I think about how, in my second or third day, Ms. Snyder came over to me at lunchtime and introduced me to a classmate who was sitting at the end of my table. That she had noticed us struggling, and looked to solve the problem, meant a lot to me in that first week and started the rise of my confidence. From classmates to teachers, coaches, the janitorial staff, college guidance counselors—everyone made Marshall a warm, inviting, and nurturing place.

**Who currently inspires you?**

My husband, whose drive to learn new things, and perform each task with excellence, is unparalleled in my experience. My parents, in-laws, and siblings, whose love and support is constant and boundless. My veterinary mentors, horsemanship trainers, and the animals themselves.