

HOPE COLLEGE

SOC & SOCWORK TALK

SPRING 2009

A SEMI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY & SOCIAL WORK
[HTTP://WWW.HOPE.EDU/ACADEMIC/SOCIOLOGY/](http://www.hope.edu/academic/sociology/)
DROP US A NOTE ON YOUR OWN ACTIVITIES.
THIS ISSUE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED
BY SOCIOLOGY SENIOR ASHLEY YOWTZ ('09).

The overwhelming response we received to the first issue of Soc&SocWorkTalk has encouraged the department to share what some of our alumni have been accomplishing since their graduation from Hope College. In this issue, there will be a (re)introduction to several of your former classmates, including where their work and family experiences have taken them in their respective journeys.

As mentioned in the first issue, we look forward to hearing from other alumni and will work toward publishing the updates we receive. In an effort to keep the community connected, we ask that you send your reminiscences to luid-ens@hope.edu or the Sociology & Social Work Department, Hope College, Holland, MI 49423. Enjoy!



BRAD HEIDEMA 1989 GRADUATE SOCIOLOGY & BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION MAJORS

Indulging his passion for people's social, economic and spiritual well-being, Brad Heidema has spent the last twelve years as Human Resources Director for Consumer's Concrete in Kalamazoo. Graduating from Hope with degrees in both Sociology and Business Administration has been what Brad describes as a "perfect blend for the human resources vocation." According to Brad, being involved in the Human Resources department of a company with 340 employees demands that you must be flexible, moving easily from constructing retirement and compensation programs to discussing union contracts with their labor attorney all while creating a balance so that both sides win. Brad has accumulated nicknames, based on the roles he plays as Human Resources Director. "Corporate Social Worker" comes from his involvement with the hardships of the employees during this economic downturn. He finds himself playing on-site counselor, neutral listening ear, or the third party that suggests outside assistance. "Brad Trump" stems from his engagement in unpopular decisions to terminate staff. Through it all, Brad relies on his Christian religious and spiritual background to maintain the respect and dignity of each employee he encounters. He believes that we are all missionaries for Jesus, regardless of our vocational calling.



KRISTEN BOYD HINTZ

1989 GRADUATE

SOCIOLOGY & PSYCH-SOC MAJORS

After graduating from Hope in 1989, Kristen Boyd Hintz earned her MA in College Student Personnel at Bowling Green State U. Since then, Kristen's career has taken her through different capacities in higher education administration. Kristen's work has triggered her special interest in millennial students, and she is fascinated by what research has found thus far for this generation. Debra Swanson's research on "helicopter parents" is right on the mark! Kristen is currently working with graduate students in business through the Career Services office at MSU. Kristen's 20th Hope Reunion afforded her and a group of classmates the ideal opportunity to share and reminisce.



LISA LOBER ASHLEY

1992 GRADUATE

PSYCHO-SOC MAJOR

Upon graduating from Hope (with a Psych/Soc major "before the social work major existed!"), Lisa Lober Ashley completed an MSW at Western Michigan University. Her career turned to development and fundraising for a time, but she now finds herself putting her training in Social Work Policy and Administration back to work as the head of the Hospice of Little Traverse Bay. She credits the passion she found among Hope College faculty as the inspiration for her work with dying patients and their families. She is especially grateful for what she has learned by watching the faculty share their individual passions.

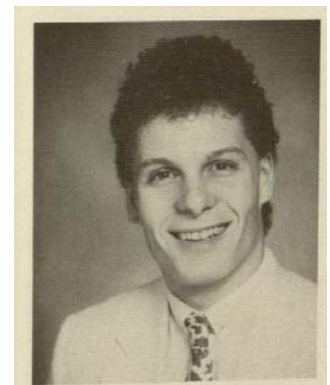


WALLACE "WALLY" KING

1988 GRADUATE

SOCIOLOGY & PSYCHOLOGY MAJORS

After receiving his diploma from Hope, Wallace "Wally" King went on to get his MSW from Grand Valley in 1994. Upon graduation, Wally began working in the Hudsonville school system as a coach and social worker. In 2000 Wally moved to Grand Rapids Northview where he was the school's social worker and soccer and softball coach. While working at Northview, Wally spent time training softball and baseball players in various local facilities. As time progressed, he found himself assisting several college softball programs and was a clinician for various clinics throughout the nation. This included training men's and women's teams for a week in Grand Cayman (nice work if you can get it!). Last summer, Wally was hired by Syracuse University in New York as a (full-time!) Assistant Softball Coach. He is contemplating a doctorate degree in social work or sports psychology. Classes begin at the start of this summer when the softball season concludes.

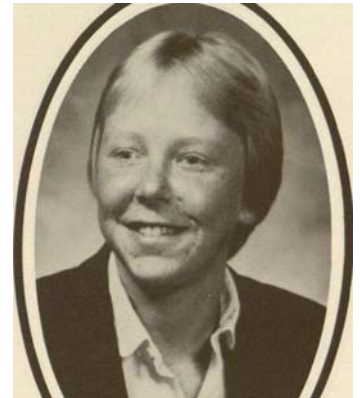


AMY CHAMPAIGNE SPALDING**2000 GRADUATE****SOCIAL WORK MAJOR**

After graduating from Hope, Amy Spalding went on to earn her MSW from Michigan State University (her CSWE-accredited degree from Hope gave her advanced standing at MSU!). Her social work career has involved working extensively with victims of domestic and sexual assault as well as substance abuse. Amy's current occupation is a therapist for mental health and substance abuse at St. Vincent Catholic Charities both individually and through group work. For the past two years, she has received training for Sandtray/Worldplay and EMDR treatments. Amy currently resides in Holt, just outside Lansing, Michigan. She and her husband have two children: son, Keiren, is 7 ½ and in second grade and daughter, Hailey, is 3 ½.

**CARI BECKMAN****1982 GRADUATE****PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIOLOGY COMP.**

Upon completing her undergraduate degree at Hope, Cari Beckman began her career as a social worker in a residential treatment facility for developmentally disabled young adults. She remained at this position for four years and began contemplating graduate school and an MSW, but she decided to take a step back and explore what really interested her, first. As a surprise to herself, Cari became involved with Human Resources and has maintained that interest. She is currently the Director of Employee Relations & Learning for a 4,200 employee hospital and health center in Naperville, Illinois. Since 1988, she has been involved in employee relations and about ten years ago, she assumed responsibility for a small team which is in charge of organizational development and management training and development. Cari feels she has found the perfect fit for her in her current occupation and absolutely loves what she does.

**JOE (JOEL) DAVELAAR****2001 GRADUATE - (WITH HIS DAD & SOME BUDDIES)****SOCIOLOGY MAJOR**

After a complicated path to finding a major at Hope (he changed his mind about every year or two), Joe Davelaar graduated with a degree in Sociology and has never regretted his decision (Yay!). Although he has yet to use what he has learned on the subject in his current career, he can remember the effect Professor Swanson's Intro to Sociology and Professor Nemeth's sport classes had on him. Joe has gone on to become an elementary physical education teacher and enjoys it immensely. He currently resides in Holland with his wife, Allison, and his son, Adam Paul, who is two years old, and new daughter, Anna Lynn. The best part about where he lives is its close proximity to a park for his children and Wiersma's Grocery Store for last minute shopping.



Check out our webpage!

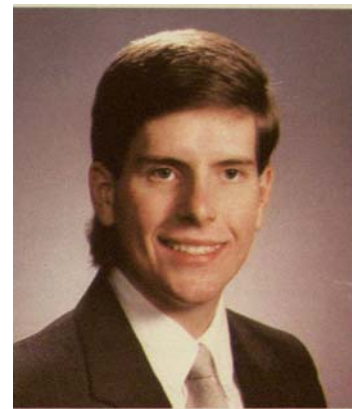
<http://www.hope.edu/academic/sociology/>

JIM MONNETT

1991 GRADUATE

SOCIOLOGY & ENGLISH MAJORS

After graduating from Hope, Jim Monnett received his Master of Divinity degree from McCormick Seminary in Chicago and became a Presbyterian Church USA pastor. He married Karin Marsilje (also of the class of '91, see below) after she completed her MSW from the U of M. Although they had been classmates for four years, they met just three weeks prior to graduation from Hope. They have a daughter, Kate, who is in the fifth grade, and they currently live in a multicultural neighborhood in Ann Arbor. Jim has served four churches in Indiana and the Detroit metro area. In September, he began working as Director of Youth Ministry at First Presbyterian church in Ann Arbor as God continues to call him to serve teenagers. He is currently working on his Doctor of Ministry degree at Louisville Seminary with a focus on how to train adult lay leaders to serve on youth mission trips. This summer, Jim plans to lead forty high schoolers to San Jose, Costa Rica to work with the Portantorchas Bible School. Jim credits the faculty at Hope for the influence they had on his ministry. Although his work is primarily youth ministry, he enjoys keeping up with sociological matters by reading books like *Generation Me* by Dr. Jean Twenge and *Wanting to Be Her: Body Image Secrets Victoria Won't Tell You* by Michelle Graham.



KARIN MARSILJIE

1991 GRADUATE

PSYCH-SOC COMPOSITE & PSYCHOLOGY MAJORS

Upon graduation from Hope, Karin Marsilje went on to receive her MSW from the University of Michigan. She married Jim Monnett (class of '91) and they have a daughter together in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Karin fulfills her passion for children by working with preschoolers and kindergarteners. Her husband, Jim, credits this passion as both a gift and a blessing as it is both rewarding and challenging. She has also worked with Hospice. Karin and Jim get to visit Hope College and reminisce on their times there when they visit Karin's family in Holland. She misses her beloved Beaukes, which has since been relocated.



We hope you've enjoyed catching up with these classmates. It is our hope that we can include many more of you in future Newsletters. **Please send us an e-note or a snail mail letter bringing us up to date of your life.** Send letters to Luidens@hope.edu or to the Department at Hope College. We look forward to hearing from you. **We owe a special word of thanks to graduating senior, Ashley Yowitz, for all her good work on this issue!**