

parents' place @ hope college

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Parents' Place E-Newsletter *June 2004*

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Message from the Director

Campus is beautiful during the summer, but much too quiet with most of the students away! We're eagerly awaiting their return and look forward to welcoming the new class of incoming students in the fall.

The Parent Relations program will celebrate its first anniversary this fall. It's been an exciting year -- one of the many highlights was the creation of the Hope College Parents' Council. Be sure to read the [article in this issue](#) to learn more about the Parents' Council and our new members.

Our list of subscribers for the e-newsletter continues to grow -- please [click here](#) for information regarding how to subscribe. Subscribers receive the e-newsletter via their personal email accounts.

As always, if there are specific topics or issues which you would like to see included in future publications of the Parents' Place e-

newsletter, please call our office at 616.395.7250 or [email](#) us to share your ideas.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!



Stephanie Haag '95 Greenwood
Director of Parent Relations

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The CrossRoads Project

Hope College has initiated a new program designed to encourage students, faculty, and others in the Hope community to explore the interrelationships among faith, learning, and vocation. [“The CrossRoads Project: A Program for the Theological Exploration of Vocation”](#) is making its mark on campus and beyond.

Funded by a generous \$2 million, five-year grant from the [Lilly Endowment, Inc.](#), the CrossRoads Project’s central purpose is to encourage and support all members of the Hope College community in the ongoing task of discerning their callings in the world. This kind of active discernment will better prepare Hope College students for lives of service to God and to others, and will also help sustain the college’s faculty and staff in their callings.

The CrossRoads Project is undertaking a variety of initiatives that will allow the “theological exploration of vocation” to permeate the college community. Since the project began in Fall 2003, it has created grant opportunities for faculty who are developing First-Year Seminars and Senior Seminars that focus on vocational issues. It has hosted vocational discernment retreats for Hope College students, and has developed a series of late-night “Soup and Substance” study breaks, where faculty and staff speakers address students’ questions about calling and vocation. The project also offers monetary support for students considering graduate work in theology or religion, and has awarded grant funding to several faculty members who proposed new internship opportunities for students.

The project takes its inspiration from Frederick Buechner’s definition of vocation as the place where “your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.” The project helps students recognize that the sheer joy they find in certain activities may be at least one part of God’s call upon their lives. Their challenge is to match these joys with the world’s needs.

This understanding of vocation is rooted in the historic Christian faith; but Hope has a long tradition of showing hospitality and respect to all members of the community, and the theological exploration of vocation can be undertaken from a variety of perspectives. And while the CrossRoads Project does provide funding for students preparing for church leadership, the use of the word vocation should not be understood only in its narrow sense of a call to ordained ministry. There are many ways to live out one’s calling: through service, friendship, scholarship, and parenting, as well as through one’s profession. Vocation includes career-related issues, but it also reaches further, shaping a person’s entire life.

Every activity of the CrossRoads Project ties into at least one of the **program’s four main emphases**:

- First, the project **encourages students and faculty to explore the liberal arts as a shared vocation** that enables them to discern what gives them their deepest joys as

human beings who are created in the image of God.

- Second, it **helps students to consider how their future work in a specialized field can meet the world's most pressing needs.**
- Third, the project **strengthens the college's partnership with Hope's parent denomination**, the [Reformed Church in America](#) — and **with the wider Christian community** — in identifying and nurturing leaders for the Church.
- And finally, it **encourages faculty and staff to discover deeper and wider understandings of their vocation** as teacher-scholars.

The CrossRoads Project is directed by [Dr. David Cunningham](#), who joined Hope College in August of 2003 and also serves as Professor of [Religion](#). An advisory committee made up of seven faculty members oversees the project, meeting monthly with Dr. Cunningham to discuss project initiatives. [Other CrossRoads staff members](#) include Shelly Arnold, administrative assistant, and students Bethanie Bomers, Jamie Previch, and Meghan Wind. The project's office is located in Van Zoeren Hall, just off the reception area of the Department of Economics, Management and Accounting.

The CrossRoads Project is one of 88 Programs for the Theological Exploration of Vocation funded by the Lilly Endowment at colleges and universities across the country. Please visit the project's [website](#) and the [Lilly national site](#).

From the Spring 2004 issue of the CrossRoads Project newsletter, "Signal".

To request a copy of the complete issue, please contact the CrossRoads office at CrossRoads@hope.edu or 616.395.7320.

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Faculty Kudos

Read what students have to say about Hope College faculty!

"It is a very difficult task for me to narrow it down to the one faculty person that most influenced me while I was at Hope. Four names immediately come to mind: [Dr. Marc Baer](#), [Dr. Jeff Tyler](#), [Dr. Joel Toppen](#), and [Dr. David Ryden](#). All four of these men had a part in the person I became while at Hope College. I can honestly say that I would not be who I am today, nor would my experience at Hope been as positive, if it had not been for these professors. The political science department as a whole had a tremendous impact on my life. Dr. Ryden and Dr. Toppen, specifically, provided me with constant encouragement, support, wise teachings, intellectual challenges, and inspiration. The lessons I learned from them extend far beyond the classrooms of Hope. I will carry their teachings with me for the rest of my life."

"I first met [Dr. Risley](#) when I was her teaching assistant my junior year. I noticed right away her obvious love and devotion for teaching and her constant patience and willingness to help all of her students learn. What makes Dr. Risley special is her effort and hard work she puts into teaching. This was especially obvious when I had her as a professor my senior year. She was constantly coming up with creative ways to teach us microbiology even when it meant putting together theatre performances of a virus attack, making kits for us to model DNA, letting us invent independent research projects involving the bacteria on my pet dog, and having us keep a journal of current news of biological events. Dr. Risley's love and motivation for teaching is very obvious in the classroom and was appreciated by all of us. Thanks Dr. Risley!"

I had [Dr. Gibbs](#) for Cultural Heritage II in [Vienna Summer School](#). What I was most impressed with was her love for the history and places she talked about. Her lectures were filled with emotion and personal notes, and this made us all understand and relate to the material we were discussing. She also took the time to plan several field trips, all which were places we had made reference to in lecture. Thanks for a great three weeks Dr. Gibbs!

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Hope College Parents' Council

Hope College acknowledges that the parents of our students make a significant commitment to the College from the moment their students enroll. Through the Hope College Parents' Council, the College reaches out to parents who wish to be closely engaged in the life of Hope College through contributions of time, effort, and financial support. The Parents' Council supports the College by enhancing lines of communication between the College, parents, and families, and by promoting parental involvement in the Hope community.

Current Parents' Council Members:

Lonson and Mary Barr - Grand Rapids, MI
Katherine '05

Marjorie Bramley - Winnetka, IL
David '04; Elizabeth '06, Katherine '08

Michael and Mary Dykema - Holland, MI
Shannon '04; Mark '07

Keith and Carole March - West Lafayette, IN
Lauren '06; Claire '08

Mark and Michele Pageau - Lombard, IL
Brian '03; Kate '07

Eric and Libby Peterson - Bay Village, OH
Laura '07

Jack and Mary Poll - Grandville, MI
Stephanie '07

Christopher and Cindy Short - Evanston, IL
Cletus '04; Chelsea '07

Ken and Marijane VanDerWende - Midland, MI
Kimberly VanDerWende '01Kieft; Matt '05

Gary and Darcy Wolfson - Bloomfield Hills, MI
Jordan '06

The Council will be holding its first meeting in early June. Watch for additional information later this summer regarding the Parents' Council on the Parents' Place website and in the August issue of *news from Hope College*.

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Hope Summer Repertory Theatre

[Hope Summer Repertory Theatre](#) (HSRT) opens its 33rd season of professional theatre filled with contemporary and legendary classics.

This season's schedule includes performances of the following:

- "Bye Bye Birdie" - telling the story of 50s rock star Conrad Birdie and his trek into everyday American life



- "Art" - the 1998 Tony-award winning comedy
- George Bernard Shaw's "Arms and the Man"
- "G.I. Jive" - an original musical based on one of HSRT's popular cabaret shows
- "Rounding Third" - a fun look at the trials and tribulations of Little League Baseball coaching
- "All Night Diner" - a popular cabaret show

Prices range from \$8 to \$25 for musicals, and from \$8 to \$18 for plays. Season coupons, ranging from \$42 to \$60, are also available. [Click here](#) for performance dates.

The box office is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays. On performance dates, the box office will be open through intermission. The box office is located in the DeWitt Center. For tickets or information call the box office at (616) 395-7890 or visit the [HSRT website](#).

[HSRT's Children's Performance Troupe](#) will also present two fun plays this season, bringing the joy of theatre to audiences of all ages.

- "Sideways Stories from Wayside School"
June 23-August 13
From the book by Louis Sachar
- "The Stinky Cheese Man"
July 14-August 13
From the book by Jon Scieszka

We invite you to come to campus this summer to enjoy any of these fine performances!

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News You Can Use



hope college today

Although it's summer, there is still a lot of activity at the College!

Watch the construction of the [DeVos Fieldhouse](#) and the [Martha Miller Center for Global Communication](#), two of the primary components of the [Legacies](#) campaign.

Visit "[Hope College Today](#)" regularly to keep up-to-date with campus and community news including:

- Hope College Headlines and Press Releases
- Upcoming Events and Performances
- Campus Construction Project Updates

"[Hope College Today](#)" is maintained by the Office of Public and Community Relations. Information is updated daily!

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Parents' Advice Invited

Parents of incoming students appreciate the advice of "experienced parents." We would be grateful for information from you on what new college parents should expect, what challenges you might have faced as a parent, and what you did right (or wrong) as your student began his or her college experience. We would appreciate receiving your responses by completing the following sentences (or other gems of advice):

- "Every Hope parent should know..."
- "Every Hope parent should have..."
- "Every Hope parent should be..."

We invite you to e-mail your responses to parents@hope.edu. Responses will be posted on [Parents' Place](#) for parents of this year's new incoming students.

Thank you for any help and advice you can provide!

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Patrons for the Arts



Hope College has a long and celebrated history of providing a significant cultural dimension to the lives of its students. Evidence of artistic excellence abounds at Hope. For example, Hope is the only private, four-year liberal arts college in the United States with national accreditation in [art](#), [dance](#), [music](#) and [theatre](#).

Patrons for the Arts encourage and support the fine and performing arts by providing additional funds which enable Hope to expand the quality and quantity of artistic offerings to both students and community members. In recognition of their support and commitment to the arts programs at the College, Patrons are invited to attend special receptions and presentations by students and guest artists.

Becoming a Patron for the Arts allows parents, alumni, and friends of the College to specifically support the fine and performing arts. Join others who value a dynamic arts program on the campus and in the Holland community. For additional information about how to become a Patron, please call (616) 395-7775 or email lowe@hope.edu.

Keep up-to-date with the [Hope College Arts scene](#) via e-mail. To subscribe to this free service, send your name and e-mail address to Arts Coordinator, Derek Emerson (arts@hope.edu).

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Summer Camps at Hope College



From basketball to chemistry, football to the fine arts, there's sure to be something for everyone through Hope College Summer Camps!

The goal in each of the Hope College Summer Camps is to develop skills, build character, and have fun! Over 4700 participants attend the various camps, many of which are facilitated by Hope College professors, coaches, or other staff members.

To learn more about Hope College Summer Camps, including registration information, dates, and cost, visit the [Summer Camps home page](#).

Don't miss out on the opportunity for an enriching and rewarding summer experience!

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Summer Reading Suggestions

There are a number of books available that discuss college life and the various roles parents may play during their student's college years. Here are few that come recommended by parent relations professionals nationwide --- consider adding one to your summer reading list!

Books may be purchased through Amazon.com by clicking on the title.

- ["Colleges That Change Lives"](#)

Loren Pope

Pope's book profiles forty colleges, including Hope College, providing essential information on the schools he has chosen and their ability to develop potential, values, initiative, and risk-taking in a wide range of students.

[Click here](#) for the companion website to this book.

- ["Don't Tell Me What to Do, Just Send Money : The Essential Parenting Guide to the College Years"](#)

Helen E. Johnson and Christine Schelhas-Miller

"With a down-to-earth tone and clear insight into the minds of both parents and college students, this is an easy-to-read book that manages to handle difficult topics without preaching or downplaying important events. Ultimately, this book aims to help parents and their nearly adult children make the transition to a new kind of relationship, ideally one that is open and mutually respectful. With careful reading and consideration, the suggestions presented will help create a handy road map to lead you through the twists and turns of parenting your college student."

- ["Letting Go"](#)

Karen Levin-Coburn

"This best selling guide, read by hundreds of thousands of parents over the past decade, is now better than ever, newly revised and completely updated. Based on real-life experience and recommended by colleges and universities around the country, *Letting Go* offers compassionate, practical, and up-to-the-minute information to help parents with the emotional and social changes of the college years."

"Sending a child off to college can be jolting as well as joyous. *Letting Go* offers a treasury of insights into this rite of passage rooted not in psychological jargon but in experience and common sense."

- ["When Your Kid Goes to College: A Parent's Survival Guide"](#)

Carol Barkin

"You've taught them how to do their laundry, bought them a year's supply of toothpaste and shampoo, and lectured them on the do's and don't's of life beyond your home. The time has come for your child to leave for college -- but are you prepared to say goodbye?"

Written by a mother who survived the perils of packing her own child off to school, *When Your Kid Goes to College* provides supportive, reassuring, and helpful tips for handling this inevitable but difficult separation.

- ["You're On Your Own \(But I'm Here If You Need Me\)"](#)

Marjorie Savage

University of Minnesota Parent Program Director Marjorie Savage offers realistic advice for parents of college students. This one-of-a-kind-guide provides anecdotes and suggestions from experienced parents and college staffs all over the country. The book addresses issues such as why students complain about the food but still manage to gain fifteen pounds their first year, how to teach basic financial responsibility, and what to do when a child comes home with a nose ring. Learn strategies and tips for creating a loving, supportive partnership responsive to the needs of both parents and students.

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Upcoming Events for Hope Parents & Families

Listed below are several events which are open to all Hope parents and families. Please feel free to contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations for additional information -- we hope you'll join us for the fun!

"Do Dogs Know Calculus" - Faculty Presentation and Picnic

Thursday, June 10 - 6pm

Margaret Drake Elliott Park, Muskegon MI

(at Beach Street & the Muskegon Channel, at the north end of Pere Marquette Park)

The Alumni Office brings the classroom to you on the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan! Professor Tim Pennings of the Department of Mathematics and his dog Elvis will demonstrate that dogs in fact do know calculus.

Cost - \$5 per adult or \$10 per family

Please RSVP by Thursday, June 3 by calling the Alumni Office at 616-395-7250.

In case of rain or inclement weather, those who have registered in advance will be notified of the cancellation.

[Event Flyer and Registration Form in PDF Format](#)

(requires Adobe Acrobat Reader - [download it here free of charge](#))

"Nine and Dine" - Athletics Update with Ray Smith

June 26th, 2004

Denver, CO

[Event Flyer and Registration Form in PDF Format](#)

(requires Adobe Acrobat Reader - [download it here free of charge](#))

Summer Send-Off Picnics

Alumni, parents and friends are invited to this unique opportunity to meet incoming Hope students and parents. Take time to share your memories of Hope and help these new members of the Hope family feel right at home. Picnics will be held at the following locations - watch for an invitation mid-June.

Kalamazoo Area:

Tuesday, July 20th (evening picnic, 7 to 9pm)
Milham Park, 400 E. Kilgore, Kalamazoo, MI
Phone: 269-337-8191

Grand Rapids Area:

Sunday, July 25 (afternoon picnic, 1 to 3pm)
[Creekside Park](#), 1035 68th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI
Phone: 616-366-PARK

Southeastern Michigan:

Tuesday, July 27th (evening picnic, 7 to 9pm)
[Maybury State Park](#), 20145 Beck Road, Northville, MI
Phone: 248-349-8390

**Splendors of China's Forbidden City:
The Glorious Reign of Emperor Quianlong**

Private Exhibit Showing and Lecture
Saturday, July 31 - 5:30pm to 8:30pm
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL

[Splendors of China's Forbidden City: The Glorious Reign of Emperor Quianlong](#)

Buffet reception with exhibit remarks by Dr. Gloria Tseng of the Hope College History Department. Space is limited for this event. Response required by July 9.

[Event Flyer](#) and [Registration Form](#) in PDF Format
(requires Adobe Acrobat Reader - [download it here free of charge](#))

Whitecaps Baseball Outing

Wednesday, August 11
Grand Rapids, MI

Additional details will be posted soon!

Homecoming Weekend 2004

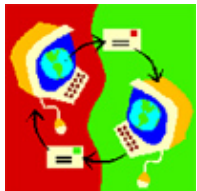
Friday-Sunday, October 8-10

Parents' Weekend 2004

Friday-Sunday, November 5-7

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The information you provide will be added to our parent email distribution list and used only for the purpose of facilitating communication between Hope College and parents.

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