

HOUGHTON

fall/winter 2010

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HOUGHTON COLLEGE

VOLUME 85, NO. 2 | FALL/WINTER 2010

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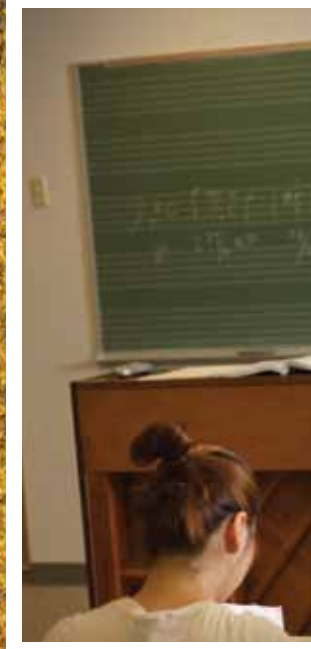
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Corrections

We make every effort to ensure that information presented within this publication is accurate and timely. The following notes are corrections for the Houghton magazine published in summer 2010.

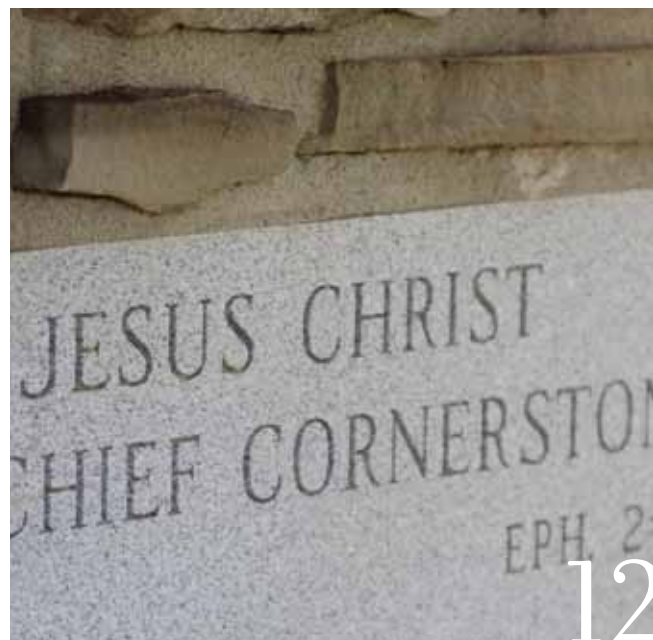
Beverly Crawford '78 was incorrectly identified as **Beverly Poe '78** (page 37).

Kristin Buteyn was a bridesmaid (not maid of honor) in the wedding of **Kaylan Reynolds '09** and **John Buteyn '08**. **Maggie Reynolds** was the maid of honor.

Wendy Atkins '76 was incorrectly identified as a member of the class of 1974 (page 37).



06



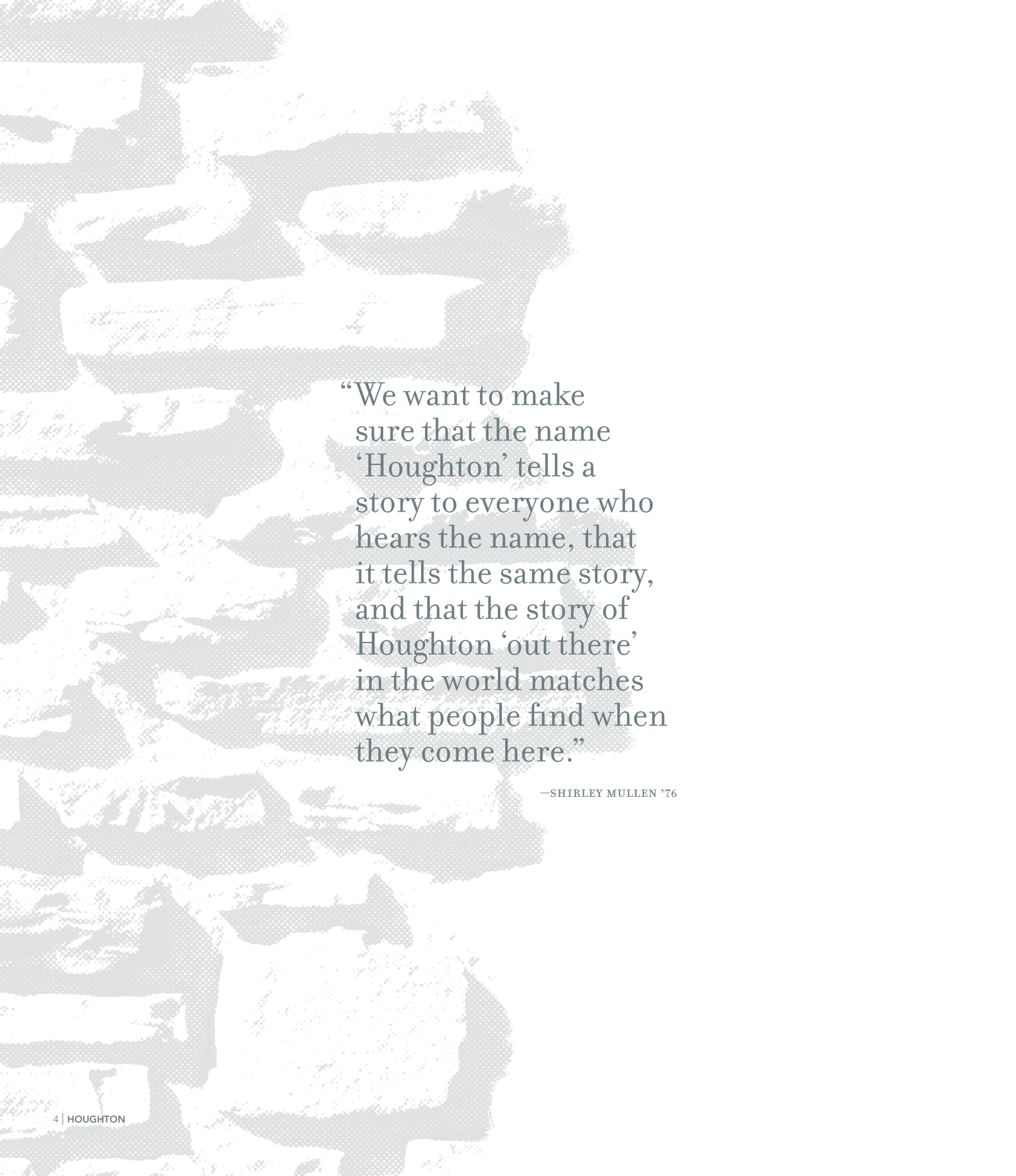
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“We want to make sure that the name ‘Houghton’ tells a story to everyone who hears the name, that it tells the same story, and that the story of Houghton ‘out there’ in the world matches what people find when they come here.”

—SHIRLEY MULLEN '76

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Shirley A. Mullen '76, President

The word 'brand' used to evoke images of cowboys, hot irons, cattle and roundups. It was the mark by which ranchers knew which animals belonged to them. The process of 'branding' was simple and straightforward. It was a matter of rounding up the cattle, building a fire, heating the iron and marking each animal one by one until the whole herd bore the same mark.

Today, 'brand' more likely evokes notions of one's favorite make of blue jeans or choice of morning coffee. We 'brand' products. Those products then 'own' us. We belong to them rather than their belonging to us. Today's 'branding' process is anything but simple and straightforward.

This is especially true when it comes to a college. How do we 'mark' a college in such a way that makes it distinct, that sets it apart, that makes it recognizable and valued by everyone who hears the name? It is not like fashioning a logo onto the end of a branding iron.

Rather, a college 'brand' is, in some sense, an identity that is given to us. The identity of 'Houghton' is whatever it evokes in people's minds when they see the name. If nothing comes to mind, then Houghton remains 'unbranded.' The story of Houghton remains untold. In recent months, we have been giving considerable attention to the task of strengthening Houghton's story to external audiences. We want to make sure that the name 'Houghton' tells a story to everyone who hears the name, that it tells the same story, and that the story of Houghton 'out there' in the world matches what people find when they come here.

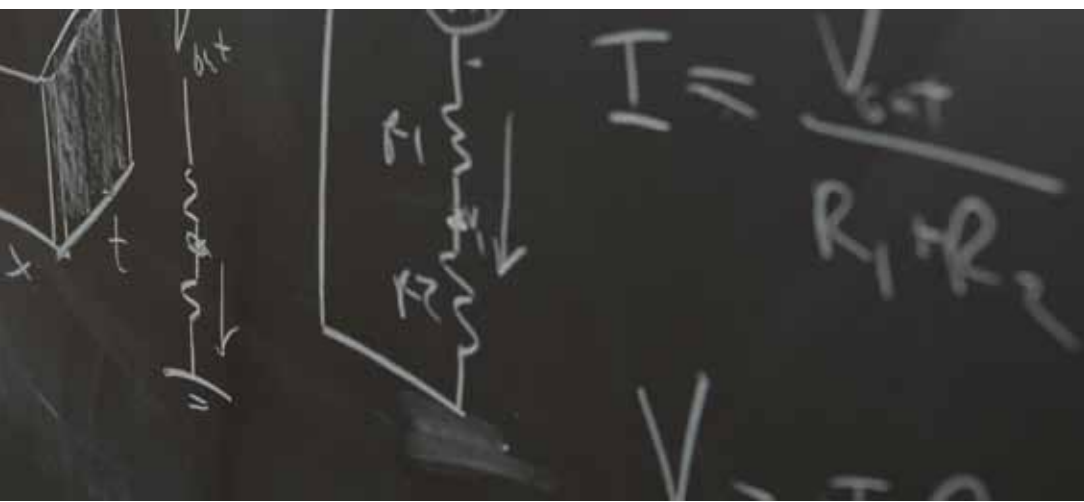
The real test of identifying Houghton is whether it matches with the mark that this place has left on each of our alumni. Does it fit with 'your Houghton'? What story does your life tell about Houghton? For no matter what we do to mark or label Houghton, in the end, you are Houghton's 'brand.' You are the best telling of Houghton's story—and the telling of that story that people will believe—no matter what we say.

We hope that we are telling the Houghton story in a way that you recognize it as your own. Share your story at www.houghton.edu/purpleandgold.

Shirley A. Mullen '76

Shirley A. Mullen
President





Defining Houghton

A Story in Four Parts

Janelle Asplund, Ologie

Try this thought experiment: describe Houghton College in a single sentence; moreover, try to go beyond just the facts about Houghton (“a Christian liberal arts college in Western New York”) to get at what makes this school special.

If you had a little trouble, likely you didn’t lack for what to say, but how to say it — especially in a succinct sentence.

The college’s mission statement is one place to start. It’s a concise description of Houghton and is embodied on campus every day and in each person. Often, people who visit immediately sense the community and commitment that characterizes the college. But what about those who don’t know Houghton, for whom travel to campus might not be feasible? How does Houghton convey and describe how it fulfills its mission?

For the past six months, Houghton has also been trying to hone in on these answers so that the college can reach a wider audience of prospective students who stand to benefit from all that a Houghton education offers.

BE YOURSELF

Before beginning this project, the college made a major decision. The college chose not to shape its message/offer around aspirational language meant to chase after the needs and wants of an ever-changing marketplace. Rather, Houghton opted to define itself in terms of its values, strengths, and outcomes — what might be called a story-based approach. True to its genuine, open character, the school chose to communicate authentically and honestly, trusting that the right students would be attracted to its unique perspective.

To get an objective point of view on how best to articulate and communicate its identity, Houghton partnered with Ologie, an independent consulting firm.



HOUGHTON COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Houghton College provides an academically challenging, Christ-centered education in the liberal arts and sciences to students from diverse traditions and economic backgrounds and equips them to lead and labor as scholar-servants in a changing world.

Ologie talked with administrators, faculty, staff, current students, and alumni, asking each person how he or she would describe the assets of the college.

The answers were varied, but consistent. No one feature rose above the others, but the same responses came back time and again. Houghton stands out for its strong academics, especially in the sciences, education, and music; a Christian commitment that includes dialogue and questioning as the path to conviction; service opportunities that go hand in hand with career preparation; and a caring, close-knit community that extends to alumni, retired faculty, church members, and beyond.

BE PRECISE

Houghton has so much to offer, so many ways that it carries out its mission, and so many alumni who represent the best of a Houghton education.

In terms of telling its story, Houghton's strengths can also be, paradoxically, its weakness: with such a rich array of things to say, where do you start? (Remember that thought experiment at the beginning of this article?) How do you give your audience the right information at the right time? How do you make sure they keep listening? Perhaps most important of all, how do you stay true to a cherished, historic mission while expanding your appeal?

To answer these questions, the project team decided upon some key steps:

- The college can better highlight its academic strengths to attract high-achieving students. Houghton has expert faculty, rigorous programs, and hands-on learning opportunities — but they aren't coming across enough.
- Houghton must define what it means by 'Christian.' To combat any misperceptions and set appropriate expectations for incoming students and their families, the college needs to explain how faith informs what it does.
- The college should extend the warm, community-focused feeling of the Houghton experience beyond campus so that it's palpable in all communications.
- Houghton needs to show how its graduates positively impact the world, in ways great and small. Because the college's goal is to help students be of service, then it must show how it achieves that goal.

Not coincidentally, these goals aligned with Houghton's biggest strengths: academics, faith, experience, and impact.



BE COOPERATIVE

With a good grasp on what Houghton should be communicating, the team turned its attention to how. After all, a story is so much more than its parts — it has to build and resolve in a satisfying way.

When describing the college, both faculty and students commented on the rigors of a Houghton education. Building on a liberal arts foundation, Houghton demands a lot of its students, insisting that they become critical thinkers and cogent communicators. Through demanding coursework, experiential learning, service opportunities, internships, and travel abroad, students graduate well-informed and well-prepared for graduate school and career.

Nearly all interviewees cited the spirit of dialogue and exploration that characterizes the school's Christian perspective. For Houghton, 'Christian' means always staying grounded in Scripture but never being afraid to ask tough questions. Faculty consider it their responsibility to encourage and support students as they tackle spiritual issues; students feel that, by questioning, their beliefs both expand and crystallize.

Students also described that they felt safe to push their limits because of Houghton's particular environment. These explorations take place in a community characterized by mutual support. Respect for other perspectives, appreciation of difference, compassion for everyone — those are the values and behaviors that students experience and absorb while at Houghton.

Likewise, those are the values that students carry with them when they graduate. Students leave Houghton with a clearer understanding of and commitment to their convictions. Their education prepares them for a career undertaken in God's service, whether in accounting or veterinary medicine. They see themselves as part of a community that extends well beyond the boundaries of campus to include the entire world.

BE BALANCED

As the project progressed, it became strikingly clear that Houghton's identity was cumulative — a story in four parts. Academics, faith, experience, and impact all inform and affect each other, such that without one, the others

would not be as strong. They could not be organized by order of importance because each was as important as the other.

In the end, the answer of how to tell Houghton's story is balance: an intentional integration and interaction of four essential elements. Houghton's uniqueness is its irreducibility. It's stronger as a whole than any one of its parts — much like all those who have gone and will go to this wonderfully-varied, one-of-a-kind college.

As Houghton College looks to the future, we know we have a compelling story to tell. Actually, we have many stories to tell — of changed lives, of service given, of excellence in the arts, medicine, music, the sciences, of impact on the church and the world. The essence of Houghton, we know, is not just one thing. However, with this communication and brand work, we believe that message can be more powerfully and intentionally delivered, so that those who do not know the Houghton story will be intrigued to learn more, to ask their own questions and to be encouraged to find answers as generations of students and alumni have themselves been able to do for more than 125 years.

◀ **This painted wooden hand** is from the Houghton archives. It used to sit atop a local church to remind everyone who saw it to keep looking up to God.



Renewed purpose, renewed style

With a refreshed sense of purpose, Houghton also updated its look and sound. New admission communications draw on the school's long history, incorporating archival materials, while a proprietary photo library features images of current students. A fresh color palette adds depth and vibrancy to the school's beloved purple and gold.

Likewise, a new logo came out of this process. While Houghton has had a number of different logos in the past, this new version is built to last. The 'H' design was inspired by the four pillars in front of Wesley Chapel. It also represents the four elements that constitute Houghton's offer, making it both meaningful and distinctly ours.



Equipping Teachers for Transformative Learning and Service

Cathy Freytag, professor of education and education department chair

Recently, I had the opportunity to meet with a team of administrators to discuss the ways in which we might communicate to the world ‘Who is Houghton?’ We discussed the Houghton offer as it relates to faith, academics, experience and impact. As I participated in this dialogue, I thought to myself, “This fits perfectly with what is happening in the teacher education program at Houghton!”

The mission of the Houghton College teacher education program¹ is to equip teachers for transformative learning and service. To realize the accomplishment of this mission, students enrolled in the various education majors focus on eight program goals which challenge them to articulate and demonstrate their abilities as competent scholars, reflective teachers, and caring servants.

While undergraduate education students have ample opportunities to develop their competent scholarship, reflective teaching, and caring service during their time at Houghton, our alumni also show compelling evidence of the transformational learning and service that we seek to develop in our graduates. Our alumni are our trophies; the scholarly, reflective, caring work that they demonstrate in the classroom daily is the best evidence of what the Houghton College teacher education program truly seeks to produce.

COMPETENT SCHOLARSHIP

To be an effective teacher, a thorough understanding of the content one is to teach is essential. One of the hallmarks of teacher preparation at Houghton is our commitment to preparing educators who possess both depth and breadth of their content area as well as a rich preparation across a range of integrated liberal arts disciplines; however, content preparation alone is not sufficient. One aspiring to become a teacher must also demonstrate facility with a wide array of intellectual tools of the liberal arts and have the ability to foster the development of such skills in students. Teachers prepared at Houghton College are not merely possessors of information; they are probing problem solvers, imaginative thinkers, curious creators, and resourceful researchers who are able to instill these qualities in their students as well. Our graduates communicate deep content knowledge to their students every day while equipping them to become independent thinkers and learners who can take ownership of their educational journeys.

Joshua Hazelton '05 (Adolescent Education/Biology, middle/high school science teacher, Belfast Central School, N.Y.) Josh has put his competent scholarship, reflective teaching, and caring service to work by developing a comprehensive aquaponics project that enables his students to understand the benefits of producing food in sustainable ways. As a part

of this innovative project, students in Josh’s environmental science class are growing lettuce to serve in the school cafeteria. Josh says, “In environmental science, sustainability is a key theme, but rarely are students presented with a chance to incorporate sustainability into their own lives. Students read about sustainable technology in books and articles, but often they don’t internalize the learning. I believe the best way to learn and enact change is through personal experience.”

REFLECTIVE TEACHING

While it is possible to receive pedagogical training in a number of different educational contexts, one of the distinctive features of teacher preparation at Houghton College is the shared emphasis on deep scholarly preparation and the development of responsive, effective, differentiated instructional and assessment practices that speak to the diverse needs of every learner. Education students at Houghton have the ability to take their content expertise and translate it into meaningful learning experiences that can be received and understood by the wide-ranging student populations they will serve. This is because they understand the various continua of human development, recognize what is unique in each of the students they serve, and create instructional environments that are responsive to the needs of each learner.

Mindy Swancott '09 (Adolescent Education/Mathematics, middle/high school mathematics teacher, Lima Christian School, N.Y.) Mindy credits her Houghton education with helping her to think critically and reflectively about her teaching practice from day to day. She is not content to get by with teaching lessons that are simply 'good enough'; she strives to honor God and serve her students well by being thoughtful and proactive about her pedagogy on a daily basis. "Houghton prepared me to be a reflective teacher by instilling in me the desire to never settle for second best in my instruction. Every day I know that I could have taught my lesson better and consider how I can help the students understand the concept more the next day and refine my original teaching for the next year. By knowing that I will never do anything perfectly, I am always ready to critique myself so that I can improve in the future."

CARING SERVICE

Our students exemplify caring service in many ways. Whether it is taking one's scholarship seriously, developing responsive instructional practices, collaborating with a range of stakeholders, knowing and responding to the cultural and learning difference that each learner brings to the classroom, or fostering a lifelong commitment to learning, teachers prepared at Houghton College demonstrate their care and commitment to their students and the profession by holding a high standard for themselves. Yet above all, Houghton graduates are committed to knowing each one of their students individually and to investing all that they have to give in order to fulfill their vocation as educators charged with shaping the future.

Melissa Doyon '08 (Inclusive Childhood Education, 3rd/4th grade teacher, Caspian Academy, Asia) Melissa is shaping the future one child at a time. As a teacher in central Asia, Melissa has the opportunity to invest in the lives of students from around the globe. "The Houghton College teacher education program challenged me to view my students first and foremost as God's very special creation. I was encouraged to really know my students as uniquely-gifted individuals. This has enabled me to invest more deeply and significantly in the lives of my students both in and outside of the classroom. I am able to celebrate their successes and encourage them during their difficulties both in school and in their lives. Houghton narrowed my view of teaching from teaching to the class as a whole to teaching this unique and specially-gifted student to the best of my ability."

A FACULTY PERSPECTIVE

I often have opportunities to visit with colleagues on other Christian and secular college campuses, and it is always a joy and a privilege for me to share with others what is so meaningful about teaching in the education department at Houghton. It's not merely the mission that makes our program distinctive; it's the people who own the mission and live it out daily. The faculty, students and graduates of the Houghton College teacher education program are a community of learners who are dedicated to the advancement of serious scholarship, the development of forward-thinking pedagogical practice, and the enlargement of caring and responsive education around the globe. Having the opportunity to work, learn, and live alongside such competent scholars, reflective teachers and caring servants is what drew me to Houghton – and it's what keeps me here!

⁹The Houghton College teacher education program includes six different majors that lead to New York State teacher certification: Adolescence Education (grades 7-12, in one of the following content areas: augmented history, biology, chemistry, English, mathematics, physics, or Spanish), Inclusive Childhood Education (leading to dual certification in Childhood Education grades 1-6, and Students with Disabilities grades 1-6), Music Education (PreK-12), Physical Education (PreK-12), Physical Health Education (dual certificates in PE and Health grades PreK-12), and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (PreK-12).

The Houghton College teacher education program prepares teachers who are competent scholars, reflective teachers, and caring servants. They are teachers who:

- 1. Demonstrate** a breadth and depth of subject matter knowledge and facility with the intellectual tools of the liberal arts.
- 2. Articulate** a personal philosophy of education based on their knowledge of the cultural, historical, philosophical, and psychological foundations of education that inform and give coherence to their teaching.
- 3. Understand** and foster students' cognitive, psychological, social and moral development.
- 4. Integrate** the knowledge and intellectual tools of the liberal arts with pedagogical knowledge to create instruction and assessment practices that acknowledge, address, and value the varied learning needs of diverse students in responsive and nurturing learning environments.
- 5. Work** in partnership with students, educational professionals, parents and community members to foster students' learning and development.
- 6. Respect** cultural diversity in the school context and develop culturally-relevant learning communities that strengthen students' sense of self and promote community development.
- 7. Develop** and critique educational thought and practice in light of Christian faith and demonstrate ethical and moral integrity in their personal and professional behavior.
- 8. Demonstrate** the desire and means to pursue lifelong growth as learners and educators.



Built on the Rock

MATTHEW 7:24-27
LUKE 6:46-49

Adapted from a sermon given by Külli Tõniste, assistant professor of New Testament

The parable of the two builders is the final part of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in which our Lord challenged His disciples to live in a certain way. Everyone who heard this parable almost assuredly would have nodded in agreement with Jesus' assessment of the builders. One was wise, the other foolish; however, to merely nod agreement was to miss the point. Jesus' greater point was that those who are wise act on the knowledge they have, while those who do not act are foolish.

He taught them to deal with anger; to deal with lust in their hearts; how not to hate their enemies but to love and pray for them; to not judge others; not to worry needlessly but to trust in God; to pray and fast in a way that the Father in heaven would reward; to give in secret to those who are in need; and not to focus on building up wealth on earth but in heaven. All of these teachings, if followed, build your life

on a firm foundation from which it can face any storm. Those who live their lives in such a way are wisely building their spiritual houses on the firm rock of Christ while those who do not are foolishly building their houses on sand.

Jesus presented his teaching as absolutes - as the only wise way. He also demanded action. Jesus' brother James writes in his epistle: "But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. Those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act - they will be blessed in their doing" (James 1:22-24). Hearers will forget! Doers who act on the knowledge benefit and are blessed! Jesus' desire was to invite and challenge the wondering crowds to become His true disciples who follow His word. He was satisfied with nothing less but a full commitment for discipleship - faith that is lived in action. He was hoping to prepare their lives so that they could stand solid before God.

It always strikes me that Jesus is so uncompromising in his final call for application! Notice that it was an either/or proposition. You were either wise if you followed Jesus' teachings or foolish if you did not. There was no middle ground. He was not saying that 'I have my truth - you have yours,' or 'Let us consider all different points of view,' or 'Let us weigh the pros and cons of building on rock versus building on sand.' Jesus is declaring that choosing to follow His teachings is the only wise course to take; all other choices are foolish. You are building on either rock or sand.

The text leads us to believe that the builders in Jesus' parable shared some things in common. Both want to build a good house; both will eventually have to live in their homes; both have equal skills; both know where it is good to build a house and where it is not good to build a house. The wise builder did not build on the rock by pure chance; the foolish builder did not make his mistake merely because he did not know what he was risking. Difference is not in the basis of knowledge but in choice of action. One made a wise choice while the other made a foolish choice.

People go ahead and build their lives on the sand for a variety of reasons:

They do not believe anything bad will happen to THEM. They think they will beat the odds. Jesus even said, "Do not worry needlessly." So, they go ahead and build on the sand anyway.



“We are built on the rock of Christ’s teaching; this is both a legacy from our forerunners and inspiration and hope for us now.”

They see others building on sand. Foolishness multiplied can sometimes start looking like wisdom! People who build on sand think that ‘everyone is doing this.’ So, they go ahead and build on sand anyway.

Sand is cheap! Some people always want a shortcut. Sand is cheap land. If you have to invest less into the land, you have more money left to build your dream house. People fail to take the effort and invest properly so they go ahead and build on sand anyway.

Whatever the reason, whatever the excuse, eventually there are consequences for building lives on sand.

People who lead their lives built on sand are not prepared when the storms of life come - and they will come. Notice in the parable that even the house built on the rock had storms come against it. Indeed, the house built on the rock had just as many storms come against it as the house built on the sand. We are told of both houses, “The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house...,” yet one stood and the other fell. Storms will come - both to those who build their lives on the rock of Jesus’ teachings and those who build their lives on the sand of everything else.

Everyone faces a severe storm at some point in life. It can be the storm of divorce, the storm of serious illness, financial ruin, the loss of a job,

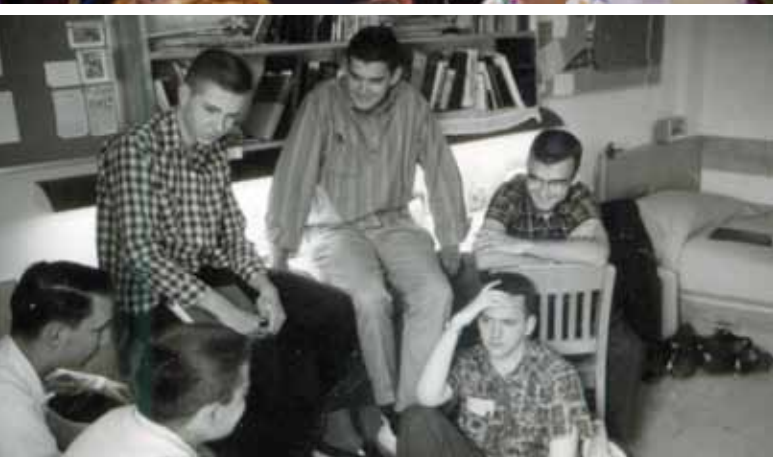
or an unexpected death in the family. Whatever it is, everyone eventually faces storms. It’s just a part of life. Sometimes we see these storms coming; sometimes they catch us unaware. Either way, the storms will come. If I had to describe our current time with a single word, I think that ‘stormy’ would describe it fairly well. Economic recovery is not happening, unemployment is on the rise, and prospects of the future are described by ‘deflation’ and possible ‘hyper-inflation.’ We already see signs of our social fabric deteriorating; the values of honor and shame compromised; governmental corruption revealed; dishonest business schemes unveiled. Many foundations are already being tested. Some suffer rightly because of the impact of their own choices; others suffer innocently because of others’ mistakes. In our personal lives and here institutionally, we need to be prepared for the storm; it is critical that we do not focus on the walls or windows or cosmetic repairs, but we need to dig deep and fortify our core foundation.

We fortify our foundation when we keep our eyes on Christ and teach our students His values; when we gather for prayer for our students, our colleagues, our leaders; by deep holy living which shines as a greater light than any words we preach; by keeping love and spirit of peace and unity among us; when we remind each other about the true priorities; by taking care of our colleagues by sharing burdens and working

together; when we show the world around us that we care about them; when we strive to make a difference in the lives of our students and inspire them to build their lives on the rock of Christ and not the sand of this world.

The hard part is that the foundation is a fairly invisible part of the house. This makes us feel that we can postpone the task. When you are at work on the foundation, do not get discouraged by ungratefulness! When you see people working on the foundation, please encourage them. When you are investing your time and effort, know that our Father who sees in secret will reward you. It is the invisible things that matter most. What strikes me most in this parable is the utter waste of effort and disregard by the foolish builder for the family who lives inside. Both builders built a good house, but the poor judgment leads to terrible loss and danger.

Building on the rock is heavy lifting; nevertheless, Jesus demanded this from his disciples. In fact, he showed that it is foolish and dangerous to do otherwise. We are called to build according to his instructions. At Houghton, we have been entrusted with a beautiful college; we are celebrating 127 years of Christian liberal arts education. We are built on the rock of Christ’s teaching; this is both a legacy from our forerunners and inspiration and hope for us now.



SHENAWANA HALL

50 the first years

Tim Nichols '81, assistant professor of education
Shenawana Resident Director 1981-1983

For the first 75 years or so, Houghton College did not provide any housing for men. Women lived in Gaoyadeo and East (Gillette) and the men lived in various faculty/staff homes in the community. Thus the campus zeitgeist made a remarkable shift in 1960 when Shenawana Hall, known as 'The House of Brave Men,' opened for occupancy. (Other versions of the building's origin exist; one resident notes the apocryphal scripture citation: "And on the eighth day, God created Shen.") The venerable fortress of tradition, masculinity and cinder block was very much a product of its Cold War inception, containing a bomb shelter in the basement and featuring construction and aesthetics that appear impervious to a thermonuclear detonation. Residents long joked that, were New York State to be hit with an atomic blast, only cockroaches and Shenawana Hall would remain.

The building name hearkens back to 1782 when Allegany County pioneer, Moses Van Campen, survived running the gauntlet at the old Council House across the Genesee River. The Senecas, who until moments before had been planning to beat him to death, quickly came to admire his bravery and physical dexterity and filled the air with loud and merry cries of “Shenawana!” meaning ‘Brave Man... Good Fellow!’ and released him instead.

Perhaps the spirit of that ancient day lives on, as Shenawana has remained a noisy place which celebrates fellowship and raucous activity with a great deal of merriment as 50 classes of Houghton men have moved through its hallways on their strange and wonderful journey from adolescence to adulthood.

Shenawana has, of course, always been more than a place to sleep and throw sweat socks into the corner. It has been a place to explore what it means to live out Psalm 133:1 (“Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity”), to establish lifelong friendships, to argue about politics and theology, to have fun and blow off steam, and to form one’s identity in the context of Christian community.

Beyond the lively pranks, laughter, and fellowship, residents have treasured memories of interpersonal and spiritual growth, and a deepened understanding of what it means to be a ‘man of God.’

Joel Tom Tate '95 is a four-year man who stayed on as resident director (today’s notorious and beloved ‘Shen Bloc,’ a raucous and wildly costumed cheering section which has become a favorite campus tradition at Highlander events, got its start during the Tate years). Joel reflects:

“Well, the Shenawana of my experience was a spiritually-edifying place where the misfits fit just fine, thank you very much. It was the sort of place where an introvert like me could end up with such a strong desire for community that he would go on living in residence halls for seven years after graduating. I can, to this day, close my eyes and hear the sound of gathering footsteps somewhere in the building, the sound of feet padding urgently, many more feet joining. That sound might mean that Kevin had finally asked that girl on a date and was in need of some fulsome congratulating or it might mean that some elaborate prank had just entered its mysterious phase three. Shenawana is to robust camaraderie what the county fair is to strange smells. Of course, Shenawana is also to strange smells what the county fair is. The fraternity one finds in Shenawana might be notable for its vigor, but it’s remarkable for the way in which it strengthens the devotion and deepens the faith of those who participate in it.”

In surveying Shenawana residents over the years, various thoughts and favorite memories surfaced:

The Shenanagus Ceremony...the guy who tapped into the P.A. system and broadcast haunted house noises in the middle of the night for weeks before he was caught...the science majors pouring butyric acid into the heater and the smell was so bad we all had to sleep in Gao that night...Shena-wa-na-na, the Shenawana chorus line, and Otis Day & the Knights performances in SPOT...the pet snake that

escaped and still has NEVER been found... crawling in the Rec Room windows after curfew...M*A*S*H Club...the Accumulated Garbage Soccer Team...‘pennyning’ people in their rooms...40 guys sharing two phones in the noisy middle of the hallway...using hairdryers to blow baby powder under the doors...enlisting Jamie Weiner for pranks because he was the only guy thin enough to crawl between the openings in the back of the dressers...your hair freezing on the way down to campus on cold winter mornings...Shen Bloc cheers (including the ‘Date Me’ cheer that actually worked) and the time the college bussed the whole Shen Bloc to the Roberts game where Roberts students STOLE the mullet wig from us...‘Orange Time’... the Few, the Proud, ‘The Glass Palace Elite’ including the highlight of getting the CLEW speaker to come to the Glass Palace to play Super Smash Brothers with us... Racky-Ball... 14 of us guys getting our RA’s Jeep unstuck from the Genesee River and all triumphantly riding in it back to campus...and the great Shen Bathroom Bandit of 2004: a fugitive STILL on the run...

(Author’s note: This entire paragraph was NOT approved by the Office of Student Life.)

Beyond the lively pranks, laughter, and fellowship, residents have treasured memories of interpersonal and spiritual growth, and a deepened understanding of what it means to be a ‘man of God.’ Another former resident turned resident director, Pete Hutchison '04, sums up the Shenawana experience in six words: “Honor... Chivalry...Armed With Truth...Brotherhood.”

Perhaps the last word should go to Jonathan Davidson '05 who served as assistant resident director: “Shenawana means that all the guys who live states apart and rarely see each other still can’t stop talking about that glorious dorm years later.”

Happy Birthday, House of Brave Men.

A portrait of a young man with light brown hair, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. He is wearing a light-colored, open-front shirt with a dark, patterned yoke and white laces. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green foliage and vibrant red autumn leaves.

Houghton as a Home

Scott MacBeth '10

Houghton has become a home for me in many ways. As a first-year student, I was blown away by the number of young Christians who hungered and thirsted for a genuine faith. Living in Shenawana, I was constantly challenged to live a more Godly life. Never had I experienced a brotherhood of Christian men; I found that in Shen. Brotherly bonds formed in the dorm still hold me accountable to live a more Godly life to this day. Beyond the dorms there were opportunities to put my faith into practice, serving musically in Mercy Seat or in the community through Youth for Christ.

Sophomore year enabled me to learn what it meant to be a servant-athlete as I participated in the men's basketball program where Christian values were upheld, a contrast to my high school basketball experience where no such values were respected.

As a Spanish major I was required to travel abroad for an academic semester in a Spanish-speaking country, so during the spring of my junior year I flew to Medellin, Colombia. The next four months would by far be the most interesting and challenging of my life. Living in an environment vastly different from what I was used to quickly drew me out of my comfort zone. Being a six-foot, white-skinned, blonde-haired American in a crowd of five-foot, dark-skinned, dark-haired Colombians didn't exactly allow me to blend in. I do not consider myself one who loves attention so standing out all day every day quickly became a mental battle.

My experience in Colombia taught me much about the hurting world that Christ calls us to; a world where injustice, inequality, and brokenness seem to be winning the battle. It is to this frontier that we are called to be ministers.

The transition back to the United States was a difficult one. Along with culture shock came daunting ethical questions about poverty and wealth that presented themselves starkly as I left a broken home in Colombia where having a full meal was a blessing from God and landed in the U.S. where spending money on unnecessary things is culturally acceptable. As I debriefed

“No matter where I have gone or what has happened to me, the encouragement and support I find here in Houghton from this community of saints inspires me to continue fighting the good fight of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

and spent time wrestling with seemingly impossible-to-answer issues, relationships I had built with teachers at Houghton were essential. One particular teacher spent the whole day driving me around in her car as we battled back and forth about justice issues.

The summer that followed my experience in Colombia proved to be very challenging as my family began to face health concerns. I experienced a rare autoimmune disorder called Ankylosing Spondylitis which basically meant that healthy cells in my back and feet were being attacked by a very confused immune system. My mother was also diagnosed with colon cancer. A new set of questions about health began to plague my mind as I reflected on the condition of my family. I was dissatisfied with the doctor's prognosis of my own disease – that it had no cause and no cure and could be subdued only by frightening and costly medications. After some bad experiences with the prescribed medications, I began desperately searching for answers from God and His Word. I was led down a path towards nutrition. I heard God's call into advanced nutrition and while it confused me, I decided to change all my courses going into my senior year and concentrate on the sciences.

Since I responded to that call, God has been faithful in providing for me every step of the way. I never enjoyed chemistry and I didn't receive college credit for my high school AP Biology course, yet I find myself not only enjoying my studies now but doing better than I expected. By God's grace he has taught me to make nutritional changes that have helped me control my condition without having to rely on medications.

After a Mayterm spent in Ecuador with [Professor Ndunge Kiiti '88](#) studying foundations of community health development, I now dream of studying nutrition and medicinal plants within the context of indigenous groups in Latin America. My prayer is that God can use the skills and experiences He's given me to find useful medicines in nature to help sick people fighting diseases like cancer. At the same time, I am challenged to be a light and a witness to these groups that have yet to experience our Savior's saving grace.

Houghton has been a home for me in many ways. No matter where I have gone or what has happened to me, the encouragement and support I find here in Houghton from this community of saints inspires me to continue fighting the good fight of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Homecoming & family weekend

Oct. 1-3, 2010

A brisk fall day welcomed alumni, family and friends back to campus as part of the Homecoming & Family Weekend 2010 festivities.

The weekend began with the Founders' Day Convocation, featuring speaker **Richard J. Mouw '61**. Dr. Mouw has served as president of Fuller Theological Seminary since 1993, after having served the seminary for four years as provost and senior vice president. During the Founders' Day Convocation, **Dr. Joseph Hupp '79** was honored as the Houghton College Alumnus of the Year. Dr. Hupp currently holds the title of Morrison Professor of Chemistry at Northwestern University. He also holds an appointment as a senior science fellow in the Materials Science Division at Argonne National Lab. Friday evening ended with a College Choir performance and celebration on the quad.

On Saturday morning, more than 150 runners took part in the inaugural 5K Fun Run around the Houghton campus. After this refreshing start to the morning, many on campus enjoyed a pancake breakfast and chat with **President Shirley A. Mullen '76**. This was followed by a fall festival on the quad – complete with bounce houses, face painting, games, cotton candy, apple cider and a dunk tank.

The college also marked the beginning of construction on the Paine Science Center and thanked donors whose gifts funded the first phase of a crucial project that will have an immediate benefit to the college's continued commitment to excellence in the sciences. This approximately 18,000 sq. ft. enhancement of the Paine Science Center will significantly impact the teaching of the sciences at Houghton. It will create additional spaces for collaborative research through the transformation of traditional classrooms into spaces designed for new teaching pedagogies that utilize integrated labs and lectures. Additional space will also be created for the study of biology, biochemistry, math, computer science and physics, among many other improvements. Work will be underway in the spring of 2011 and be completed in time for the start of classes in the fall.

Additional highlights of the weekend included a tailgate party and BBQ prior to the start of the athletic contests, trail rides and a homecoming dinner.

The Houghton community welcomed the families of current students to enjoy an autumn weekend at the college. Additional Family Weekend activities included a golf scramble, Sunday morning breakfast and a special Sunday morning worship service.

1 Coach E. Douglas Burke was also recognized for his notable achievements, dedication to sportsmanship, and loyal years as Houghton's head soccer coach, director of athletics and professor of physical education during a commemorative reception for former Houghton varsity athletes. **2** The 2010 Hall of Honor induction class included **Roger Rozendal** and **Jamie Wellington '95**, both inducted at Homecoming. **3 David White '79**, member of the Houghton College Board of Trustees, assists with the Paine Science Center demolition.



JAY BRIGGS '90

Daniel Noyes '93, executive director of alumni relations

“I interact with Afghans every day. They are amazing people. They are physically and mentally tough. Every day I’m amazed at something I see here.”

Afghanistan has been the staging ground for fighting, whether civil war or invading forces, since the late 70’s. It borders India, China, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and several former republics of the Soviet Union. Opinions about international relations with Afghanistan, and specifically the role of the United States in Afghanistan’s government and politics, vary widely and can elicit a strong emotional response from politicians and citizens alike.

For the last eight months, Afghanistan has also been a ‘home away from home’ for Houghton alumnus Jay Briggs ‘90. While his classmates celebrated their 20th reunion, Briggs, a lieutenant colonel in the Army National Guard, was spending time with the Panjshir people in the Hindu Kush. His experiences illustrate the complexity of both the individuals and cultures at the center of the fighting, and the way he talks about them reflects both a deep thoughtfulness and a hint of a playful spirit – also evident during his time as a Houghton student. He credits Houghton with challenging him to view situations from a variety of perspectives, and while Briggs accomplishes military objectives, he is learning firsthand about the culture, history, and people of this war-torn region.

Most days involve a great deal of interaction with his Afghan hosts and include green chai tea and rice, enjoyed just outside the base with local residents. Simple acts like eating together help bridge a cultural gap further complicated by language differences.

“I interact with Afghans every day. They are amazing people. They are physically and mentally tough. Every day I’m amazed at something I see here. Since none of us know conversational Dari, we are tethered to interpreters. Our mission will flourish or falter based on how well they do. Think of the subtle ways we use English to praise, admonish, question, etc. I feel cheated not knowing Dari better. For thousands of years Afghans have perfected their language to communicate and entertain. When most of the country is illiterate, the spoken language is crucial for them. They use storytelling to convey their rich history. The Afghan National Army colonel I mentor has spent 20 minutes telling us a war stories about the Jihad or fighting the Taliban, complete with wild gesticulation and riveting facial expressions. During a natural break in conversation, the interpreter will say, ‘They were surrounded by 25 Russians and they escaped.’ I could throw up when that happens,” says Briggs.

Home for Briggs is a four-acre forward operating base with about 50 other U.S. military personnel, 10 civilians from a variety of government agencies, and 40 Mujadeen guards. He leads an eight-person team responsible for mentoring Afghan security forces, including the Afghan National Army (ANA), the Afghan National Police (ANP) and the National Directorate of Security (NDS), at an Operational Coordination Center. His team also travels throughout the province with an Afghan-led mobile training team.

Religion is a topic of great importance and intensity in Afghanistan, particularly as the team travels, and Briggs has dealt with the reality of being a Christian in an Islamic nation as well as the challenges posed by clashing sects of the same religion. One particular challenge is policing traffic from one region to another. Briggs recalls that, “A group of mullahs (religious teachers) met in a mosque with the provincial Chief of Police. They all agreed to have the ANP and the Mullahs search vehicles entering Panjshir from Kabul. They don’t want prostitutes, hashish, and alcohol coming into the province. Panjshir is more conservative than Kabul. Many Kabul females do not cover their heads. Picture yourself trying to get out of Kabul’s smog and stench to enjoy Jum’aa (Friday) in the Panjshir Mountains. How would you feel when a group of self-righteous men stop you and ask you about contraband and why your wife does not have a burkha or head scarf on? Now picture yourself a struggling entrepreneur in Panjshir who needs Kabul tourists to buy food from your roadside kabob stand. How would you feel about the mullahs harassing your potential customers? These benign acts of ignorance can spark larger problems.”



“I ask the Houghton community to look past the headlines and the 10-second blurbs they see on the 24-hour news outlets. Look objectively at what we are trying to do, how we are doing, and what the end state should look like.”

While he works with Afghan forces to work through these problems, he is also aware of the polarizing nature of U.S. involvement in this war. “Every day, I see great Americans separated from their family members doing their very best to better a country that has become ravaged by 30 consecutive years of war. I ask the Houghton community to look past the headlines and the 10-second blurbs they see on the 24-hour news outlets. Look objectively at what we are trying to do, how we are doing, and what the end state should look like. Hey, if you don’t like what we are doing, vote. I’m quick to lament about stupid political decisions, waste, fraud, and abuse. How much blood and treasure will be dumped here? As in our government, there are honest, hard-working Afghans who are trying to make a difference,” he states.

While these issues are constantly present and pressing, Briggs remains introspective about his time spent in Afghanistan. He remarks that, “My rich experiences with the Afghans here will make an indelible mark on my life. My journey will end in November. I’m truly fortunate that my family and friends have been so supportive of this deployment. I have not seen them for eight months. I am anticipating it will be difficult to see all the excess ‘stuff.’ It will also be strange to return to a country that does not have the outward appearances of being at war.”



VIRGINIA (DWORKIN '75) STONE

Daniel Noyes '93, executive director of alumni relations



At Houghton, we often tell current and prospective students that a liberal arts education prepares them not just for a job but for an entire career. Virginia (Dworkin '75) Stone is living proof of this strong liberal arts foundation.

When you meet Virginia, it quickly becomes apparent that her love of adventure along with a slightly restless spirit have enabled her to enjoy every transition in her fascinating career, and you get the strong sense that there are more adventures to come.

She came to Houghton in 1971 to study vocal music, a gift she had been using since she was four. Her dad had supported her in her career choice to perform and teach on the college level and Gloria McMaster, Virginia's voice teacher at Houghton, encouraged her to pursue a graduate degree in music. After graduation, she traveled with Professor Basney's group "The Baroque Nonet" as a vocalist and accompanist and then continued her studies at Cleveland Institute of Music, a national level performance school.

Virginia performed in the Cleveland area for a time. Her dream was to move to New York City and audition but she instead took a management trainee position in a Cleveland department store before working for her father's company, U.S. Steel Supply. This experience plus the one in retail helped her realize she "really hated business," but her job with U.S. Steel took her to Birmingham, Ala. where she pursued another childhood dream.

"I dreamed of getting a pilot's license as early as six," Virginia says. With this dream still alive, she accepted a job with a small commuter airline loading airplanes and then moved to a job with a fixed-base operator behind the counter. "I started taking lessons at the Bessemer, Ala. airport using a plane borrowed from an acquaintance in Civil Air Patrol; I went on to multi-engine/commercial, sharing a plane with another student. I built time by flying with different corporate pilots and finally got my full-time job with McGriff, Seibels and Williams Insurance in Birmingham." She flew with this company for four years before moving to Des Moines where she flew charters part time.

From music to flying to meteorology, she credits Houghton with giving her the discipline to accomplish all that she has so far and for laying a strong foundation for her educational pursuits since college.

“Looking back, I have no regrets as to how things worked out since it has been an interesting ride and I figure I am where God put me.”

In 1997, she realized that “all of my takeoffs and landings matched, and I was tired of getting up at four a.m.!” She walked away from flying, but not before another long-time interest was awakened - meteorology. She says, “There is something about watching the sun come up from 16,000 feet and seeing remarkable weather which is really enjoyable as long as it is not trying to kill you.” Stone recognized that a career in weather combined aspects of musical performance and of her flying experience. “Flying got me interested in meteorology, and I took a college course in aviation weather as part of my ground school while working on my private license. After I ‘retired’ from flying, I realized the old performance bug had never died, and I started working part time as an editor and prompter operator for the ABC affiliate in Des Moines. I spoke to the chief meteorologist about how I could get into on-camera TV weather, and he suggested I take the Mississippi State distance learning course in broadcast meteorology. I enrolled and began interning with him, hoping that I would be hired on air. I also interned a couple of months at the NBC affiliate in Tampa. During that time, management at the station in Des Moines changed so I never did go to work for them. I have had a couple of full-time job offers in cities out of Iowa, but I married an Iowan who did not want to leave Iowa, so I did not take either position. In 2006 I took a three-month fill-in position with Lakeland News in Bemidji, Minn. while their weathercaster went on maternity leave. I liked Bemidji so much that I told the news director I would fill in whenever I could, so I have been doing that off and on since.”

From music to flying to meteorology, she credits Houghton with giving her the discipline to accomplish all that she has so far and for laying a strong foundation for her educational pursuits since college, including her time at the Cleveland Institute. She sums up quite simply her life so far: “Looking back, I have no regrets as to how things worked out since it has been an interesting ride and I figure I am where God put me.” Even as she continues to work in this new field of meteorology, she is not done with her explorations. Houghton did not have an equestrian program when Virginia started at the college, so she left that interest behind in the fall of 1971. It has since resurfaced in her life, and she is pursuing it with characteristic zeal. She has “... just started riding again and hope to be showing by next summer, but I am sticking to saddle seat and Western - no more jumping!”

We would love to hear your career story since you left Houghton. Please consider sharing it with us at community.houghton.edu/alumnicareerstories.



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FACULTY ACCOLADES

Daniel Bowman Jr., assistant professor of writing, joined the English and writing faculty for the 2010-2011 school year. Prior to this appointment, Bowman worked as a senior instructional designer at Element K in Rochester, N.Y., where he wrote print training and e-learning materials for clients such as Microsoft, IBM, Cisco Systems, Harvard Business School, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the National Education Association. Bowman's specialties include business and technical writing, writing for new media, and emerging technology. He received his Bachelor of Arts from Roberts Wesleyan College, his Master of Arts from University of Cincinnati, and will be receiving his Master of Fine Arts from Seattle Pacific University in 2011.

Jan (Thomassian '91) Buckwalter, assistant professor of education, presented findings of her dissertation research "Emergent Writing: Bilingual Preschoolers' Early Acquisition of Written Chinese" at the Teachers College, Columbia University Roundtable in Second Language Studies, in early October 2010.

Brian Casey, assistant professor of orchestral studies and horn, harmonized, arranged, and engraved all the music for the musical *Sweet Dreams: The Biblical Story of Naomi and Ruth* that premiered in Kansas City, Mo. last December. In addition, Casey attended the Northeast Conducting Symposium at Ithaca College in June/July 2010, and served as pit conductor for the musical *The Sound of Music*, staged by the Town Theatre of Short Tract, N.Y. in Fillmore, N.Y. in July 2010. For the third summer in a row, Casey was also busy conducting the Rushford Concert Band in Rushford, N.Y., presenting weekly concerts on the bandstand for two months each year. Concluding the summer, he performed a three-week run of the professional production of *Into the Woods* in Olean, N.Y. as a part of the Twin Tiers Theater Festival.

Cathy Freytag, associate dean for education and physical education, has co-edited a monograph entitled "Duets and Dialogues: Voices on Inclusive Practices in Our

Schools," a publication of the Task Force for Quality Inclusive Schooling. **1**

Dave Huth '95, assistant professor of visual communication and media arts, and **Kaylan (Reynolds '09) Buteyn** collaborated on an exhibit presented at the Fountain Arts Center in Belmont, N.Y. "Relatives" opened on September 24, 2010, and was a visual commentary on how biology and aesthetics share a common thread and shape our relationship with other animals. It featured the video explorations of Huth and the photography of Buteyn. Appearing in both formats were friends, family, pets, and other animals, including reptiles, amphibians, and fowl from the collection of the Buffalo Audubon Society. **2**

Sandy Johnson '99, athletic trainer/physical education instructor, was awarded the 2010 Howard A. Smith Outstanding Volunteer Instructor Award for Allegany County at the annual meeting of the American Red Cross Southwestern New York Chapter.

Alyn Kay, assistant professor of education, earned the distinguished Educational Psychology Dissertation of the Year Award from Texas A&M University for her dissertation entitled "Mothers' Perceptions of Community Integration Opportunities for Their Children with Disabilities in Qatar."

Timothy Nichols '81, interim assistant professor of education, was recently published in the American Association for Employment in Education's Job Search Handbook (2011). His article "The Search for a Teaching Position Begins TODAY!" brings together his expertise in the areas of career services and teacher education.

Christopher Nafziger '02, field director of Wilderness Adventures, has been invited to present at the 38th International Association for Experiential Education Conference in November 2010 in Las Vegas, Nev. His workshop is entitled "Burnout! How Should Managers Respond to Field Instructor Burnout?"

Donna Hornibrook, former Houghton College field hockey coach (1995-2003), was inducted into the Prince Edward Island (PEI) Sports Hall of Fame on Friday, August 6th at the Silver Fox Curling and Yacht Club in Summerside. Currently, Hornibrook is the coach at Cornell and has led the Big Red to the most successful stint in program history.

Cory Renbarger, assistant professor of voice, is the newest faculty member of the Greatbatch School of Music, Houghton College. A national semifinalist for the Metropolitan Opera National Council in 2008 and Shreveport Opera Singer of the Year in 2005, Renbarger brings extensive performing experience from around the U.S. Known as 'The Voice of the Wild,' Renbarger was the official national anthem singer for the NHL Minnesota Wild team. Renbarger completed his undergraduate education at Concordia College and received a master's degree in voice at

Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. This past summer, he earned a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in voice from the University of Minnesota. He and his wife, Amanda, live in Fillmore, N.Y. with their daughter, Bella **3**

Kurt Vandock, assistant professor of biology, joined the science faculty in July 2010. He brings with him a background in biochemistry and cell biology of parasites and invertebrates. Vandock completed his undergraduate education at Bowling Green State University (BGSU), where he became involved in research early on. He continued there for his doctorate and has published several papers in academic journals. Vandock has a passion and talent for teaching; last year he was one of three selected out of 750 graduate teaching assistants for BGSU's 'Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award' for the 2009-2010 academic year. He and his wife, Jami, live in Houghton. **4**

Christopher Wells '05, assistant professor of physics, joined the faculty in the summer of 2010. Wells' training is in particle theory, specifically in the relationship between particle physics and cosmology. He has spent the last five years at Johns Hopkins University, where he received a doctorate in theoretical physics. During graduate school, Wells worked as an adjunct professor at the College of Notre Dame, a small Catholic college for women in Maryland, where he taught college physics and astronomy. He has also worked as a consultant for the Maryland Science Center, where he developed a planetarium show entitled "Dark Matters," dealing with the Dark Matter problem in cosmology. This show is being reformatted by Kodak for distribution to planetariums across the country with funding from the National Science Foundation. The Wells family lives in Houghton and includes wife Rachel, daughter Iris, and two pugs.

BOOKSHELF

Houghton College alumni have published their writings and research on a myriad of topics in a variety of media. If you have had some of your work published, please contact the Marketing & Communications Office so that we can celebrate your achievements with you.

PUBLICATIONS BY HOUGHTON ALUMNI

Morris A. Inch '49. *The Enigma of Justice*
Wipf & Stock, 2010

Marilyn (Johnson '57) Driscoll. *Devotions For Caregivers: A Monthly Supply of Prayers*
Paulist Press, 2006

Margaret M. (Cohon '57) Smith. *A Spiritual Journey: an Autobiography*
AuthorHouse, 2009

William H. Griffith '61. *Tears More Than a Parting Prayer: Lessons in Care Giving for the Dying*
Judson, 2004

William H. Griffith '61. *Tears in a Bottle: Learning How to Grieve Well*
Xulon Press, 2010

Don Schott '63. *PROBLEMS...SOLVED: The Bizarre Adventures of an Environmental Sherlock Holmes*
Self-published

Ed Scutt '65. *Tough Millenium: Poems*
Xlibris, 2010

John S. and Suzanne (Osterhout '68) Babbit, '68. *The Postcard History of Steuben County*
Arcadia Publishing, 2010

Marilyn (Gauger '71) Gregory. *Warming Trends*
Crossbooks Publishing, 2010

Kris (Paroline '90) Cavanaugh. *Stuck to C.E.O.*
Shift Inc., 2010

Thomas Noyes '92. *Behold Faith and Other Stories*
Dufour, 2003

Thomas Noyes '92. *Spooky Action at a Distance and Other Stories*
Dufour, 2008

Matthew Roth '92. *Bird Silence: Poems*
The Woodley Press (Washburn University), 2009

Heidi (Oberholtzer '96) Lee. "Critical Thinking or Just Critical?: Reintroducing Humility to the Literature Classroom."
Christian Scholar's Review, Summer 2010, Volume XXXIX: 4

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Dear Houghton alumni,

My name is Eric Ramoth, and I am currently serving as Alumni Association President. I have served on the Alumni Board since 2002 and am both honored and excited about my new role. To tell you just a few things about myself, my wife **Beth (Arneson)** is from the class of 1995 and we have three children (ages 10, 8 and 5) who have long been planning on being alumni themselves. We currently live in East Fallowfield, Pa.

The Houghton College Alumni Association represents more than 20,000 Houghton alumni who live in every state in the U.S. and in more than 66 countries around the world. We have members who have passed the century mark, and we have members who have just graduated from Houghton. One of the goals of the Alumni Board is to find ways to bring these alumni back into meaningful connection to Houghton and with each other.

One example of these efforts to reconnect Houghton alumni with their alma mater is through a Vocational Journey event. Each

semester, we work with a different academic department to link current students with alumni who followed similar fields of study. Our Vocational Journey events serve as a time for alumni to tell the story of their careers thus far and for students to ask questions about their career paths, challenges, and lessons learned. The lives of both alumni and students have been enriched by this program.

The Vocational Journey program is not the only opportunity that alumni have to help current students. This can also be done by registering with the Career Services Office to become an alumni mentor to a current student. You can register online at www.myinterfase.com/houghton/mentor/home.aspx. Whether you have time to be contacted once a month or multiple times, this new program will allow you to help current Houghton students within your current schedule.

As I mentioned before, we have alumni all over the world. If you are interested in hosting an

alumni event in your home, you can contact the Alumni Relations Office at alumni@houghton.edu and they can help you through the planning process. Whether you want to plan a game night, a family barbecue, or a simple time of food and fellowship, they can help you arrange a great time of meeting and sharing with other alumni. If you are already getting together with other Houghton alumni, the Alumni Relations Office would love to hear about that as well.

We are always interested in hearing your ideas on how we can make the Houghton Alumni Association a family that reflects all the best aspects of the Houghton community we experienced as students. Please contact Alumni Relations with any suggestions.

In Him,

Eric Ramoth '91
Alumni Association President

Mark your calendar for class reunions and Homecoming in 2011



MAY 6-8

50-YEAR REUNION FOR THE CLASS OF 1961

- Pray, laugh, sing and dine with your Houghton classmates
- Re-acquaint yourself with Houghton's beautiful campus
- Hear the college choir and attend the Baccalaureate service as honored guests
- March with your class in the Commencement ceremony as Golden Highlanders

OCTOBER 8-9

HOMECOMING AND REUNIONS FOR ALL OTHER CLASSES

If your graduating class year ends in '1' or '6' be sure to return for an opportunity to spend time with your classmates.

- Special recognition for the 25th reunion class from 1986
- Enjoy all the excitement of Homecoming combined with an opportunity to catch up with classmates and their families.

No matter your class year, we hope you will join us. Whether you run in the 5K, get a team together for our golf scramble, take part in the festival on the quad, join the Houghton choir for one more song in Wesley Chapel, or participate in any of the other Homecoming festivities, we know that you will have a great time back at Houghton!

Contact us at alumni@houghton.edu to help invite classmates and plan the reunion for your class.

Houghton College welcomes all submissions to Alumni News & Notes. Due to space limitations, not all news items or photographs may be published and the college reserves the right to edit submissions for space and content. You can send updates via e-mail to magazine@houghton.edu, or by regular mail to the Marketing & Communications Office, One Willard Avenue, Houghton, NY 14744-0128. When sending in photos for publication please submit digitally in the highest resolution image available (at least 4" x 6" or a minimum resolution of 300 dpi). Thank you for keeping in touch with your alma mater!

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

UWC

Shirley L. (Wensel) Ragsdale, 72, passed away at home in Spring Township, Pa. on July 2, 2010. Shirley graduated from the Easton Hospital School of Nursing in 1960 and worked in several hospitals throughout her life. She and her husband, **Dr. John P. Ragsdale**, served as missionaries in Zambia, Africa, where she operated a clinic at the David Livingstone Teachers College. She was director of nursing at Muhlenburg Medical Center in Bethlehem, Pa., when she retired in 1983. In 1996, she began working with Dr. Ronald Emkey in osteoporosis research. Shirley was a member of First Evangelical Congregational Church in Reading, Pa., where her husband is a part-time pastor. Survivors include her husband; two daughters, **Wendy S. (Michael) Leamon**, and **Crystal G. Alba**; two brothers, **David (Linda) Wensel**, and **Richard Wensel**; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

BBI

Nellie A. Smith, 80, passed away on January 25, 2010 at Sunrise Nursing Home in Oswego, N.Y. She was a member of Oswego Bible Baptist Church and Emmanuelle Baptist Church in Ft. Meyers, Fla. She is survived by three sisters, **Daisy Penfield**, **Ruth Larson** and **Gertrude Leopard**; a brother, **William Smith**; and several nieces and nephews.

1937

Marguerite J. (Warner) Clarkson, 94, died Wednesday, December 9, 2009, at home in Belfast, N.Y. after a lengthy illness. She earned a master's degree from Carnegie Tech in Pittsburgh, Pa. She then went on to receive her library degree and was a school librarian at Gaskell Junior High School in Niagara Falls until she retired in 1972. Marguerite enjoyed reading, walking, traveling, playing the organ, and listening to music. She was preceded in death by her husband, **John Clarkson**, who died in 1986. Surviving are a daughter, **Dorothy J. Clarkson '80**; a sister, **Dorothy Curcio '37**; and several nieces and nephews.

1938

June (Gibbs) Wolfe, 94, died peacefully in her sleep on Thursday, July 15, 2010 in Houston, Texas. Devoted to the Lord, her husband, and three sons, June also played the organ and actively participated in the life of the church. Her hobbies included crossword puzzles, crocheting, painting, and music. Friends say she possessed a true devotion to the New York Yankees. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Gordon**; her mother, **Opal (Smith '15) Gibbs**; and her sister, **Elsie Miksche '36**. Mrs. Wolfe is survived by her sons, **Maurice G. Wolfe**, **Raymond (Phyllis Nassetty '62) Wolfe '63**, and **David G. (Florence Baker '68) Wolfe '68**; her sister, **Grace Sweek**; a sister-in-law, **Betty (Nelson '50) Crowell '47**; seven grandchildren, including **Brent Wolfe '96**; twelve great-grandchildren; and a nephew, **Stephen Crowell '94**.

1939

Mabel (Hess) Grosvenor died on April 11, 2010. Survivors include her husband, the **Reverend Dr. William Grosvenor '39**; daughters, **Sharon Cresse**, **Ellen Jukes**, and **Carolyn Maftciu**; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. Mabel was a lifelong learner, and her passions included reading and travel.

1941

Virginia E. Dash, 91, died Friday, July 2, 2010 at the Batavia Nursing Home. She taught English for many years and was the chairperson of the English department at Batavia High School when she retired in 1972. Virginia was very generous to many charitable organizations during her lifetime and leaves no living relatives.

Ruth W. Elmer, 91, passed away on May 25, 2010 at the Lynchburg Health and Rehab Center in Lynchburg, Va. Ruth received her Bachelor of Education degree from Genesee State Teachers College in 1943. She was a member of the Forest Road United Methodist Church and spent most of her life as a church musician—a role she enjoyed well into her 80's. Surviving are a son, **Stephen Elmer**; two grandchildren; three nieces; and a nephew.

1946

Edwin Karl Mehne, 87, died on July 1, 2010. Dr. Mehne was a graduate of Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia. He was also a diplomat of the American Board of Surgery and Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He served many years on the Navajo Reservation at Sage Memorial Hospital, as well as serving

in Ganado, Ariz., at a Presbyterian mission. Later, he practiced in Rochester, N.Y. and was an associate professor of surgery at the University of Rochester. He retired in 1989 as the chief of surgery at the Gallup Indian Medical Center in New Mexico. Mehne volunteered his time in church activities and local organizations such as Healthcare for the Homeless and traveled on several short term mission trips. He also enjoyed walking the trails on the Sandia Mountains. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, [Natalie \(Hazelwood\) '49](#); a son, David Mehne; a daughter, Connie Johnson; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

1948

[Jane W. \(Hogben\) Ireland](#) passed away on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, at The Connecticut Hospice in Branford, Conn. Jane earned her graduate degree from Saint Joseph College in West Hartford, Conn., and was a special education teacher for the Vernon Board of Education prior to her retirement in 1984. She was preceded in death by her husband, [Reverend Truman O. '48](#). Survivors include a son, David P. Ireland; and a daughter, Carole D. Ireland.



ARVILLA BAILEY
(MCCALLUM)
MCKENZIE

MAY 16, 2010

[Arvilla Bailey \(McCallum\) McKenzie](#), 83, passed away on Sunday, May 16, 2010 in Lynden, Wash. She graduated from Idaho State University in 1977 with a teaching degree in English. Throughout her life, Arvilla enjoyed playing the piano and viola as well as writing poetry and sacred songs, often volunteering her time and talent to churches and nursing homes. She was also a student of theology, Latin, Greek, and French. She is survived by five children, Arvilla Ruth McKenzie, Howard Raymond McKenzie, Miriam Annette Fox, Esther Sharon Whitehead, and Willis John McKenzie; her brother, Charles Jacob McCallum; a nephew, [Wes \(Patricia Adels\) '75](#) McCallum '75; and 10 grandchildren.

1950

[Frederick G. Bedford](#) passed away on Thursday, August 5, 2010 at his home in Dayton, Tenn. Fred served his country during World War II with the U.S. Army in the European Theatre. He received his master's degree from Middlebury College in Vermont and taught French and Spanish at high schools in Houghton N.Y. and Hornell, N.Y., as well as teaching at Bryan College in Dayton, Tenn. He was a member of the Morgantown Baptist Church in Dayton, Tenn. and the Hillside Baptist Church in Hornell, N.Y., where he had served as trustee, deacon, and Sunday school teacher. Fred was preceded in death by his first wife, Barbara. He is survived by his wife, Mayme; sons, Tom Bedford and Frank Sheddan; daughter, Barbara Posey; seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

1951

[Lloyd A. Phillips](#), 82, died unexpectedly on Saturday, May 1, 2010 at his daughter's home. Reverend Phillips graduated from Calvary Seminary in Grand Rapids, Mich., and went on to pastor several United Methodist churches in Michigan and New York. He retired from Wesley United Methodist Church in Niles,



MILDRED VANDERVEEN

Longtime friend of Houghton College, Mildred Estelle VanderVeen, died on August 31, 2010 in Houghton, N.Y. She was 96.

Millie, as she was referred to by family and friends, was witty, young at heart, and adventurous. She "exhibited a zest for life experiences," wrote son-in-law [Dean Liddick '60](#) in a tribute dedicated to 'Mom V.' Some of those experiences included "riding an elephant in India, surveying Western New York from a hot air balloon on her 80th birthday, and taking the top bunk on a cross-Canada train trip" when she was 85. "She was an amazing lady," said great-granddaughter Courtney Danner.

Though she knew much sorrow in her life, "she allowed God to use early sadness and loss to produce warmth, affirmation, generosity and graciousness," commented Liddick. Mildred extended that generosity to Houghton College in 1985 when she established the Gerald and Mildred VanderVeen Endowed Scholarship in honor of her late husband. The scholarship has since provided financial assistance to more than 45 business administration students studying at Houghton College.

Though her health declined in recent years, Millie was generous of spirit. "Even when she was in horrible pain and couldn't sleep, she would pray for other people," remarked Courtney. Liddick remarked that, "We thank God for her sterling example, selfless love, and fervent prayers embracing and enriching all of our lives."

Survivors include her daughter, [Carmen \(Dean '60\) Liddick '60](#); two grandchildren, [Casda \(Nathan '89\) Danner '88](#) and [Mitchell \(Karen Weaver '91\) Liddick](#); as well as 10 great-grandchildren.

HAROLD MCNIEL

Harold McNiel, longtime faculty member of the music department at Houghton College, passed away on Thursday, July 15, 2010. He was 76.

McNiel had a simple philosophy of life: "Try to find the Lord's plan and try to serve Him in that calling." In 1958, Harold answered that call by coming to teach at Houghton College.

For more than 40 years, McNiel's work left an enormous impact on the music department, his fellow faculty members, and students.

During his time at Houghton, McNiel founded the wind ensemble, brought jazz to Houghton audiences, and taught nearly every class offered in the music program. He was a brass player, conductor, singer, lecturer, professor and adjudicator. He co-founded the New York State Intercollegiate Band and taught for 12 years at the Csehy Summer School of Music, serving two years as a dean. In 1994, he was designated Houghton's Mabel Barnum Davidson Professor of Fine Arts. "It was Harold who had the dream in the late 80's of graduate education in music at Houghton," said Robert Galloway, professor of piano and music history. In 2003, a year after McNiel's retirement, the Greatbatch School of Music held its first graduate class.

On a personal level, McNiel was known for his encouragement. Jean Reigles, professor of voice, credits him for keeping her on track with her doctoral dissertation. "He would ask me about it regularly and gently remind me that I needed to keep at it," she remembers. "It was Harold who pushed me to start playing (the tuba) again," says Bob Danner, emeritus vice president for student life. Both fondly remember good times and deep discussions with McNiel during the lunch hour at Big Al's.

Harold McNiel followed God's call more than 40 years ago and, as a result, shaped the current success of music making at Houghton College. As the music program continues to grow, the excellence and encouragement that Harold provided for many years will be greatly missed. "He was faithful, serving steadfastly and steadily," says Ben King, associate dean for music. "He was a rock of continuity to a proud past and serves as a reminder of our ongoing responsibility toward the future."

McNiel is survived by his wife, Carol; four daughters, Edith McNiel, Julie (Daniel '82) McCollister '78, Sue McNiel '84, and Laura McNiel '86; and a son, Richard McNiel '89.



Ind. in 1991. After his retirement, he published several books and received numerous distinguished honors, including a special resolution from the Ingham County Board of Commissioners for help in making Ingham County a better place to live and work for people of diverse ethnicities. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean; and his son, David L. Phillips. He is survived by his children, Dr. John Lloyd Phillips and Linda M. Baker; four grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; and six step-great-grandchildren.

1952

Bruce K. Waltke has recently been appointed distinguished professor of Old Testament at Knox Theological Seminary.

1953

Virgil Cruz, 80, passed away on May 23, 2010, in the town of Castricum, the Netherlands. He and his wife had been living there since his retirement in 1996. Virgil graduated from Pittsburgh Seminary in 1956 and was the first black pastor in the old United Presbyterian Church to lead an all-white congregation. He went on to earn his doctorate from The Free University in Amsterdam, the Netherlands in 1973. During his career, he taught at Dubuque Theological Seminary, Western Theological Seminary, and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. He is survived by his wife, Margot; his children, Miguel and Isabel; and his grandson, Santiago.

1954

Duncan McIntosh has been invited to speak at the Green Lake Chautauqua, held at the Green Lake Conference Center in Green Lake, Wis. He will be joining guests such as Richard Foster, founder of RENOVARE, and former NBC writer and correspondent Ray Cullin as well as other musicians, pastors, and authors. Dr. McIntosh is pastor of the First Baptist Church

of Silver Spring, Md., and formally held the positions of director of the American Baptist Department of Evangelism and director of the doctoral program for Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

1955

Gerry and Emma (Pollock '55) Pollock celebrated their 56th wedding on September 11, 2010. Next year will mark, according to Gerry, "sixty years since the path of a freshman boy from Brooklyn named Pollock and the path of a freshman girl from Mannsville named Pollock first crossed paths at Houghton College, and that has made all the difference." They are proud to report that three of their four children graduated from Houghton and married Houghton grads: Susan (Chris '77) May '77; Heidi (Mark '81) Versland '82; and Christopher (Chrissie Lamos '92) Pollock '92.

1957

Clark E. Gilmour, 84, died suddenly on February 25, 2010 at his home with his wife, Mildred (Wright '55), by his side. He had served as a pastor in both Western New York and North Central New York United Methodist Conferences, retiring in 1987. He is survived by his wife of 60 years; a son, Mark Gilmour; two daughters, Jane-Ann Baker and Lorrie Canciller; and six grandchildren.

1960

Roy Pierce went home to be with the Lord on January, 14, 2010, after a lengthy illness. He was employed by Xerox Corporation for 35 years, and earned two patents during his career. At his retirement, Roy held the position of director of global standards and policy development. He was known as an outstanding Bible teacher and taught a neighborhood teen Bible study as well as Sunday school for over 30 years. He was preceded in death by his 18-year-old granddaughter. Survivors include

his wife, [Barbara \(Vaughan '60\)](#); two daughters; and three grandchildren.

[Stanley Sandler](#) presented a paper on the CIA and the Korean War at the Harry Truman Presidential Library on June 17 during the Library's 60th Anniversary commemoration of the Korean War. Dr. Sandler's paper was based upon recently-declassified Korean War documents and was carried by CNN.

1962

[W. Mark Oyer](#) passed away Thursday, April 29 at the Absolut of Allegany after a long illness. Mr. Oyer was a member of the New York State Teachers Association and had attended the Five Mile Baptist Church in Allegany. He enjoyed reading, exercising, being outdoors, and riding snowmobiles and ATV's. He is survived by his wife, [Suzanne \(Traylor '62\)](#); two children, Seth Oyer and Amy Oyer; a sister, [Carol Adamszczak '64](#); two grandchildren; one nephew; and two nieces.

1963

[Sue Ellen Porter](#), 68, died on May 17, 2010 at her home. She attended Fuller Theological Seminary and was ordained a Presbyterian minister in June of 1975. Susan also attended the University of Maryland. She enjoyed playing music and folk dancing with her husband, languages, traveling, and photographing wild animals. Survivors include her husband, David Bogdanoff; her mother; one sister, Lyn Carman; and several nieces and nephews.

1964

[John Dieter Bowman](#) passed away in June 2010 while vacationing with his wife in Germany. John did his master's studies at University of North Carolina at Greensboro and earned a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral conducting from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. His teaching career encompassed Southern Pilgrim

College in North Carolina, Owosso College/John Wesley College in Michigan, and 27 years at George Fox University in Newberg, Ore. He also served as minister of music in various denominations during his entire career. John retired from teaching in 2006 and enjoyed refurbishing homes for rental in Yamhill County, Ore. and facilitating travel groups to Europe. He is survived by his wife, Shari; daughter, Anne Marie Bracco; a brother, Luke; and two grandchildren.

1968

[Gloria M. \(Day\) Lewis](#) died of cancer on June 25, 2010. She taught music at Marion College (Indiana Wesleyan University) in the early seventies and then became a music teacher for Tripoli Community Schools in Tripoli, Iowa. Gloria is survived by her husband, John; and two daughters, Carmen and Julia Lewis.

1973

[Col. John W. Bullock](#) was recently named the American Academy of Physician Assistants' 2010 Federal Services Physician Assistant of the Year. Col. Bullock was honored for his groundbreaking work on behalf of physician assistants. His decisions on policy, clinical research, and acquisition have helped enable the medical workforce both at home and overseas to provide quality, effective, and accessible care in all kinds of environments. Bullock currently serves as the program director for translational medicine at the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), Force Health Protection and Readiness Programs. He is the first to hold a new role designed to provide guidance for the military health system's \$1.2 billion medical research and development activities. **1**



KATHRYN FRENCH WADDELL

[Kathryn \(French '77\) Waddell](#) passed away on February 9, 2010, after a five-year battle with ovarian cancer. She was 55 years old.

After graduating from college, Kathryn attended Boston University Medical School and then spent her career at the University of Washington working to improve the services offered on behalf of quality health care. She began as manager of Occupational Therapy and Therapeutic Recreation, then served as director of finance and administration in Health Sciences Administration, eventually being promoted to executive director of Health Sciences Administration. She also held a clinical associate professor position in the School of Medicine. "With Kathryn, what you saw was what you got," said husband [Darrell Waddell '77](#). "She was upbeat, had an amazing sense of humor and was able to put work and life into perspective. There was never a dull day in Health Sciences, and Kathryn always had an iron in the fire but was able to deal with those fires."

No matter what she was doing, Kathryn "lived her life authentically and intensely," remembers friend and classmate [President Shirley Mullen '76](#). "In class, out of class, it didn't matter—you had the sense that Kathryn saw the world as a place crammed full of the most *interesting* things," said long-time friend [Kathleen \(Confer '78\) Boone](#). [Valerie \(Rudd '78\) Schermerhorn](#), also a friend and classmate of Kathryn, recalled, "If you've ever hiked the woods and heard a waterfall before you came upon it, then you know what I mean when I say I heard Kathryn before I met her. Her laughter had a way of entering spaces before her."

Kathryn is survived by her husband, Darrell; and one daughter, Alison.



June 5, 2010 was a day of joyous celebration as friends, family, current and former students, faculty, and community members gathered to share in the marriage of Houghton College President **Dr. Shirley A. Mullen '76** and **Dr. Paul R. Mills '61**. "Their long and separate paths have come together in this surprising gift of grace," said father of the bride, Dr. Larry Mullen, during the ceremony.

"The surprising grace of God can happen at any point of our lives—especially when we least expect it," said President Mullen of this new chapter in their lives. "Our wedding was an opportunity to encourage others and to celebrate the good things God has done for us."

The ceremony itself was designed to reflect the couple's shared commitment to family, friends, church and college. Parents, longtime friends, grandsons, siblings, current students, and faculty members all had a role to play—whether it was reading Scripture, playing music, officiating the ceremony, or standing up with the bride and the groom.

President Mullen and Dr. Mills hope that the union of their two life journeys will help serve this community more effectively. "We want our marriage to honor those things that have been a part of our individual callings and now will be a part of our shared calling," said Mullen. As a part of their gift registry, the couple invited guests to join

them in supporting a project to create a library at the Wesleyan Primary School in Gbendembu, Sierra Leone. "We hope to provide furniture and books for their library space as a gift of gratitude as we begin our lives together," wrote Mullen in a letter to guests. More than \$7,000 was raised for Sierra Leone.



1975

Frank Billman and 13 team members brought "Life in the Spirit Seminar," "Lord Teach Us to Pray Seminar," and "Worship in Spirit and Truth Seminar" to the Gbarnga School of Theology in Liberia, West Africa in May of 2010. Frank serves half time as director of church relations at Aldersgate Renewal Ministries in Goodlettsville and half time as pastor of Forest Grove United Methodist Church in Joelton, Tenn. **2**

1978

Jan Weber earned her Master of Arts in educational technology from New Jersey City University. She teaches concurrent college business and economics courses at Sussex County Technical School in Sparta, N.J., and has been a member of American Mensa since 2006. She and her four children live in Stillwater, N.J. **1**



1980

Daniel Bagley has recently been promoted to vice president of product safety at Colgate-Palmolive Company. In his new role, Dan will be leading Colgate's Global Product Safety and

Vigilance groups, as well as Technology Statistics and the Technology Information Center. Most recently, he held the position of worldwide director for Product Safety and Dermal Clinical Research. He also played a key role in developing and executing strategy for global regulatory approval for products, including Colgate Total and Colgate Sensitive Pro-Relief toothpastes. Bagley recently celebrated 25 years at Colgate-Palmolive.

Eric Nelson is the director of choral studies at Emory University, where he teaches graduate choral conducting and choral literature. His 40-voice concert choir is considered to be one of the finest collegiate choirs in the country and has recently been named to perform at the ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) National Conference in Chicago, Ill. in March of 2011. Dr. Nelson is also the artistic director of the Atlanta Sacred Chorale, a 55-voice adult chamber choir specializing in sacred a cappella repertoire, and the minister of music at the historic 2nd-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta. In addition, he conducts Emory's 180-voice university chorus.

1986

Sisters **Barb (Kinney '86) Hull** and **Angela (Kinney '87) McBrearty** both received their Doctor of Musical Arts from the Eastman School of Music this past spring.

Joseph Jennings has been elected district superintendent by the conference of the Western New York District of the Wesleyan Church. Dr. Jennings has been senior pastor of Christ Wesleyan Church in Winston-Salem, N.C. since 1992, as well as serving as adjunct faculty for the College of Adult and Professional Studies at Indiana Wesleyan University. He is married to **Maribeth (Danner '86) Jennings**, and has three children: Jesse, **Hannah '13**, and Ben. The Jennings family will be relocating to Western New York in January.

Ron Kerr and **Wendy (Hitch '84)** were married in September 2002. In May of 2008, they adopted Peter (born in 2000), Madeline (born in 2001), and Amelia (born in 2002).

David Mee has been named associate provost and dean of enrollment services at Belmont University in

Nashville, Tenn. Mee previously served as the director of enrollment solutions and Senior Consultant at Performa Higher Education, as well as vice president for enrollment management at Milligan College in Johnson City, Tenn. He and his wife, **Laura (Mercadante '95)**, live in Tennessee with their two daughters, Jillian and Olivia.

1987

Shari (Krissel) Gilford received her third kidney transplant in March 2006, enabling her and her husband David to take a one-month vision trip to north India in 2007. They will be returning there to work for one year with an organization that plants churches, runs community development projects, operates a children's home, and does vocational training for pastors. Previously, she worked as a graphic designer for the Renal Support Network. **3**

Donna (Nasca) Hallenbeck and her husband, John, are pleased to welcome a son into their family.

Matthew John Hallenbeck was born on April 2, 2009. He joins 9-year-old sister Katie and 3-year-old sisters Sarah and Julie. The Hallenbecks live in Charlotte, N.C., where Donna is a homemaker and John is a civil engineer with Penta Engineering. **4**

Philip Silvey was recently named associate professor of music education at the Eastman School of Music.

1988

Pam (Lewis) Osterhus and her husband, **Brian '89**, enjoyed a mini Houghton reunion at Camp Spofford in Spofford, N.H. this summer. Several friends from the class of 1988 reconnected on Facebook to plan the event. Alumni in attendance were **Dwight Sherland**, **Craig and Dionne (Chandler) Hammond**, and **Jeff and Olivia (Cromwell) Kibbie**. **5**

1991

Michael Garver and **Yvonne Lowne '90** enjoyed a mini Houghton reunion this summer in Beijing, China. Both friends happened to hear of each

other's presence in China and made arrangements to get together and catch up on the last 20 years. Michael's wife, **Kim (Lyons '90)**, and Lowne were roommates as students at Houghton. **6**

1992

Thomas Noyes, associate professor of English and creative writing at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, recently won the college's 2010 Council of Fellows Excellence in Teaching Award. Noyes teaches in the college's Bachelor of Fine Arts in creative writing degree program and is consulting editor for Lake Effect, its literary journal. Tom and his wife, **AJ (Clemens '93) Noyes**, live in Erie, Pa. with their two children, Josie and Wyatt.

1993

Wyatt Clemens Noyes was born to **AJ (Clemens)** and **Tom Noyes '92** on September 30, 2010. He joins 10-year-old big sister Josie.

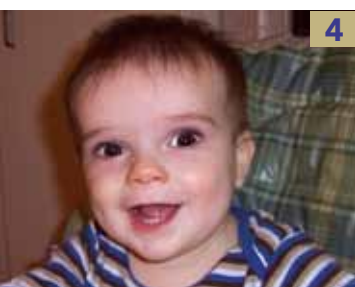
1998

Marie Bialy has been appointed director of medical management in the Quality Health Care Management department of Fidelis Care, New York State's Catholic health plan. Bialy holds a master's degree in business management and strategic leadership from Roberts Wesleyan College, a bachelor's degree in business management from Houghton's P.A.C.E Program, and an associate's degree in applied science, nursing from Alfred State College.

Lara (Lundgren) Schuler and her husband, Greg, welcomed the arrival of their son, Larson Gregory on November 5, 2009. He joins brothers Ian and Gregory, Jr. Proud grandparents are **Lawrence Lundgren** and **Deborah Mott-Lundgren**, both of the class of 1973. The Schuler family lives in Rochester, N.Y. **7**

2000

Allison (Adams) El Koubi plans to run the Chicago Marathon in honor of her grandfather's life and for the



purpose of raising awareness about Teach For America (TFA). Currently she is serving as a middle school principal in the same Louisiana community where she first began to teach with TFA in 2000.

Matthew and Cynthia (Patronski '98) Lustig welcomed Aniela Rose to their family on May 3, 2010. She joins six-year-old sister Grace Kathryn. **8**

Scott A. Mills graduated from New York Chiropractic College with his Doctor of Chiropractic degree on April 3, 2010. In addition to family and friends, Houghton grads in attendance at the ceremony were **C. Robert Luckey '00** and his wife **Melissa (Smith '01)**, as well as current Houghton librarian and cousin of Mills, **Brad Wilber '91**. Scott and his wife, Caitlyn, have relocated to western Pennsylvania where he plans to open a family practice. **9**

2001

Jeremy Martin and his wife, Tia, welcomed their first daughter, Gianna Elizabeth Martin, on July 21, 2010. Jeremy is a doctoral

student in the Higher Education Administration Educational Policy, Planning, and Leadership Program College at The College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

Wendy (Rader) married Marcelo Lima on July 18, 2009 in Matthews, N.C. Sister of the bride, **Brooke (Rader '03) Rockey**, was the matron of honor. Other alumni in attendance were **Nicole (Chapple '01) Coen**, **Kerry (Moon '01) Dellea**, **Melissa Stafford '01**, and **Ryan Rockey '03**. **10**

Craig and Julie (Hampson) Teitsma are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Madison Marie Teitsma, born March 9, 2010. **11**

2002

Michelle Fiebelkorn was recently promoted to director of purchasing for Kaleida Health, the largest healthcare facility in Western New York. Fiebelkorn is a graduate of Houghton's P.A.C.E. program and is a Certified Professional Purchasing Manager (CPPM) from the National Association of Purchasing Managers.

Seth B. Grebbien and **Jeana Rosati** were married on April 25, 2010 at Fort Hunter Park in Harrisburg, Pa. The couple now resides in New Cumberland, Pa. **12**

Samantha Lioi graduated from Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Ind. on May 22, 2010. She received a Master of Divinity degree with a concentration in theological studies. **13**

2003

Angela (Layne) married **Matt Meabon '04** in August of 2004. The Meabons have three children: Ella, Noah and Leah. **14**

2004

Heidi Christine Walters was born to **Tammy (Swinborne) Walters** and her husband, Clark, on November 28, 2009. Grandma **Edna (Fox '71) Swinborne** is delighted to share her birthday with the new baby.

Zoey Anne Clem was born to **Dianna (Harter) Clem** and her husband, **David '05**, on August 15, 2010. **15**

2005

On June 19, 2010, **Charla Joy Bradley** was married to **Matthew Williams** from Shropshire, England. She was married by her father, **Reverend Jack Bradley '76**, and her grandfather, **Reverend Ken Snider**. Her sister, **Janna Bradley '07**, was the maid of honor. Charla was attended by a number of Houghton alumni: **Jennifer (Lundy '06) Ruiz**, **Nick Ruiz '06**, **Abigail Hunt '06**, **Leah (Marshall '06) Knowles**, **Ryan Knowles '07**, **Sara Pompper '06**, **Christine (LaCroix '06) Moore**, **Chris Moore '06**, and **Kasey Ochiltree '06**. A number of guests from the U.K. also attended the wedding. **16**

Kristin Marie Buteyn and **Brent Michael Musick '04** were united in marriage on July 10th, 2010 at the Crosswinds Wesleyan Church in Canandaigua, N.Y. The maid of honor was sister of the bride, **Emily Buteyn '11**. Bridesmaids included Houghton graduates **Kaylan (Reynolds '09) Buteyn** and **Melissa (Musick '98) McGrath**. Alumni groomsmen were **John Buteyn '08** and **Andrew**



McGrath '98. The couple resides in Victor, N.Y., where Kristin works as a receptionist for Storybook Farms Veterinary Hospital, and Brent is employed at Crane Elementary School in the Rush-Henrietta School District as a consultant teacher. **17**

Matthew and Rachel (Spurrier '05) Burden announce the birth of their son, Josiah Stephen, born December 29, 2009. The Burdens now live in Calais, Maine, where Matt is serving as the pastor of the Second Baptist Church. **18**

Don Schuessler was named Outstanding Young Choral Director of the Year for 2010 from the New York Chapter of the American Choral Director's Association (NY/ACDA). Schuessler received his Master of Music in choral conducting in 2007 from the Greatbatch School of Music, Houghton College, and currently teaches music at Camillus Middle School.

Deanna (Ragonesi) Scott and her husband, Alexander '06, are excited to announce the arrival of Alexander David Scott III, born on Good Friday 2010 (April 2). Grandparents Brenda (Reber '80) and Dr. David Ragonesi '80 brought Easter dinner to the hospital to celebrate with all the members of the happy family. **19**

2008

Kirby Runyon and Jennifer (Economopoulos '09) were married on May 22, 2010 at Trinity Evangelical Congregational Church in Boyertown, Pa. Both are in graduate school in Philadelphia, Pa. for planetary science and physician assistantship studies, respectively.

Bethany Kowalczyk married Christopher Cruikshank '09 on April 30, 2010 in Erie, Pa. Several Houghton friends were members of the bridal party: Kaylin Bull '11,

maid of honor; Matt Cruikshank '02, best man; Sarah (Bridges '01) Cruikshank, Janelle (Cruikshank '05) Canfield, Jessica (Stack '06) Read, Ashley LaBoda '08 and Stacey (Litz '09) Cook, bridesmaids; and Bryan Kowalczyk '95, Daniel Kowalczyk '05, Brendan McKirchy '09, Joshua Gottron '09, Gregory Dabb '09, groomsmen. Don '77 and Karen (Schmidt '78) Cruikshank are the father and mother of the groom. More than 20 alumni were in attendance, as well as some college faculty and staff. **20**

Jessica (Mullen) and Peter Romance II were united in marriage on June 26, 2010 at the Houghton Wesleyan Church in Houghton, N.Y. A reception on the quad followed the ceremony. Jessica is the daughter of James '86 and Darice (Beardsley '86) Mullen. Serving in the wedding party were maid of honor, Victoria Mullen '14; and groomsmen, Jason Fisher '08. **21**

2010

Melinda (Pomeroy) married Eric Elwell on May 29, 2010. Several alumni attended or participated in the ceremony, including Mary Carey '49, Amy (Konz '83) Brautigam, Darcey (Strain '03) Elwell, Eurisca (Hippolyte '03) Chandler, Onyedika (Priscilla) Ozodo '10, Emily Tullar '10, Constance Foster '10, Patrick Barringer '05 (best man), Pastor Robert Childs '53 (Scripture reader), and Dorothy (Ames '55) Tullar (music). More than 20 current Houghton students were on hand to celebrate with the couple. Currently, Mindie is working in Student Administrative Services at Corning Community College, and Eric is a helicopter inspector at Sikorsky Hawkworks. The Elwells live in Elmira Heights, N.Y. **22**



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By giving to the Houghton College Student Scholarship Fund, you make a difference both locally and globally. As an international student, I am so grateful for the financial support that has allowed me to attend Houghton and experience great change in my life. I've learned we are all brothers and sisters in Christ; that everyone can be a blessing by investing time and love; and that when we meet the needs of others, God meets our needs as well. I came to Houghton to complete my degree but have found the experience to be so much more.

—MENG-FEI LI '11, COMMUNICATION MAJOR

