

EXPTORATION

MILLIKIN

MILLIKIN MAGAZINE

- 2** PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE
- 4** MILLIKIN NEWS
- 7** MILLIKIN ALUMNI TOUR
- 10** THINGS WE LOVE WOMEN IN ATHLETICS
- 14** ATHLETICS FACILITY
- 16** NURSING SIMULATION LAB
- 18** DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP IN A GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT
- 21** INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS RUBEN REAL DEL SARTE & JELLE BERKHOUT
- 24** ALUMNI PROFILE MATT GUFFEY
- 26** ALUMNI PROFILE AMY WILLIAMS SCHWEIZER
- 28** FACULTY SPOTLIGHT DR. YUHAN "JANE" HUA
- 30** FEATURE HOME AWAY FROM HOME
- 32** CLASS NOTES
- 35** MILLIKIN MEMORIALS



STAY **CONNECTED** GET **INVOLVED** GIVE **BACK**

millikin.edu/alumni

Phone: 217.424.6383

alumnews@millikin.edu
millikinfund@millikin.edu

FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS:


Millikin Magazine
Millikin University
1184 West Main Street
Decatur, Illinois 62522-2084

 **Facebook**
facebook.com/millikinalumni

 **Twitter**
twitter.com/MillikinU

 **Instagram**
instagram.com/millikinalumni

 **YouTube**
youtube.com/MillikinUniversity

 **LinkedIn**
linkedin.com/school/Millikin-University

 **TikTok**
[@MillikinU](https://tiktok.com/@MillikinU)

The mission of Millikin Magazine is to engage alumni, friends, parents and other constituents in the life of the University, to communicate the high quality of Millikin Performance Learning and to reflect the University's mission and values.

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT: DR. JAMES M. REYNOLDS
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ALUMNI & DEVELOPMENT: GINA BIANCHI, CLASS OF 1993
VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE & BUSINESS AFFAIRS: RUBY JAMES
VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS: RAPHAELLA PRANGE
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: DR. CRAIG WHITE
CHIEF OF STAFF/BOARD SECRETARY: MARILYN DAVIS, B.S. CLASS OF 2000 & MBA CLASS OF 2011
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS: KYLEE RONEY
ART DIRECTOR: MICHAEL RAUCH
UNIVERSITY PHOTOGRAPHER/VIDEOGRAPHER: RICHARD NDEMBE
UNIVERSITY WRITER: KENDALL TRUMP, CLASS OF 2013
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST: JEREMY COULTER, CLASS OF 2000
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST: SYDNEY GYURAN, CLASS OF 2019
CONTRIBUTORS: ALYSE KNUST; KAELA WILLIAMS; DANE LISSER

It is the policy of Millikin University to afford equal opportunity for all persons without distinction or discrimination based on race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, disability, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or age. Opinions expressed in these pages are those of the individuals and do not necessarily reflect the official views of the University.

Millikin Magazine is produced by the Millikin University Marketing & Media Relations Office.

©2022 Millikin University.

Dr. James M. Reynolds

President, Millikin University

“

“Our future continues to be one where we accept that the world grows smaller because of our efforts to interconnect and search for ways to take advantage of our diverse and distinct campus.”

– President Jim Reynolds

”



Dear Millikin alumni and friends:

As I write this letter, we are well into the countdown toward the end of the academic year. This is a time for celebrations and gatherings to note the accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff over the course of the past two semesters. The work and accomplishments of every one of our campus constituents continues to inspire me and offer me a chance to reflect on just how important Millikin is to their success.

In this edition of Millikin Magazine, you will see stories and columns that highlight our global reach as a University. Each year, Millikin is proud to welcome approximately 15% of our student body from countries of origin across the world. These students come from many different cultures and offer insight into our common humanity.

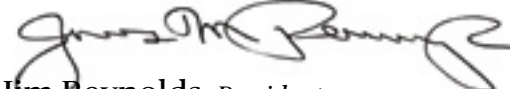
Regardless of their native language or cultural heritage, we see ourselves within them and their experiences. Sometimes they are anxious about what the future holds. Other times, they are looking for ways to connect with others, desiring a sense of belonging. Millikin provides a safe harbor for many of these students as we fully appreciate their willingness to share their worldview and to collaborate to find our collective strength in a diverse world while serving as role models for diplomacy. Our campus is better because of their spirit and contributions.

Millikin is also fortunate to be part of several higher education consortiums that support study abroad experiences for our student body. Every year, several of our students take the opportunity to find a temporary home at a university outside of the United States where they not only study but immerse themselves in different cultures and begin to understand the qualities they share with the people they meet and learn alongside.

As you read this edition of Millikin Magazine, it is my hope that you are impacted by the stories of success, which span the gamut from student experiences to faculty scholarship, and realize that our University continues to offer an unparalleled experience for those who have chosen to be part of it. Our future continues to be one where we accept that the world grows smaller because of our efforts to interconnect and search for ways to take advantage of our diverse and distinct campus.

As always, I'm grateful for the support you have provided to Millikin during the past year and look forward to building on that support in the future.

With respect for you all,


Jim Reynolds, President



Millikin alumna Emma Prendergast, Class of 2014, was named one of 22 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellows for 2022.

MILLIKIN PHILOSOPHY GRADUATE AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS FELLOWSHIP

The Newcombe Fellowship, funded by the Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation, is the largest and most prestigious award for Ph.D. candidates in the humanities and social sciences addressing questions of ethical and religious values in interesting, original or significant ways. As a Fellow, Prendergast received a 12-month award of \$30,000 to support the final year of her dissertation writing.

Currently a doctoral student in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Prendergast is studying moral and political philosophy. Her research and teaching interests include feminist philosophy, philosophy of social science and philosophy of education.

Trustee Emeritus Lisa Holder White Becomes First Black Woman to Serve on Illinois Supreme Court

Appellate Court Judge and Millikin University Trustee Emeritus Lisa Holder White was appointed to replace Justice Rita B. Garman on the Illinois Supreme Court. Justice Holder White, whose term is effective July 8, 2022, through Dec. 2, 2024, will be the first Black woman to serve on the Illinois Supreme Court.

Justice Lisa Holder White began her career as an Assistant State's Attorney for Macon County before going into private practice while also serving as an Assistant Public Defender for Macon County. In 2001, Justice Holder White was sworn in as an Associate Judge in the Sixth Judicial Circuit, the first Black Judge in the circuit. Judge Holder White was sworn in on Jan. 14, 2013, as the first Black Justice on the Illinois Appellate Court, Fourth District. In 2014, she was elected to the Illinois Appellate Court, Fourth District.

She previously served on the boards of the Decatur Public Schools Foundation, the Mid-Illinois Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Community Foundation of Macon County and Millikin University. Judge Holder White is married to James White, Class of 1985.



Hollis Prize 20th Anniversary Celebrates Musical Excellence & Kaeuper Hall

The Hollis Prize competition showcases and celebrates the best of the best among instrumentalists and vocal performers in Millikin University's School of Music. The 2022 competition, held on April 23 at Kaeuper Hall, marked the 20th anniversary of the prestigious honor giving spectators a special opportunity to witness the excellence of the School of Music and its students.

This year's competition was the first to be held in person since April 2019 and featured finalists Cecilia Antonelle (vocalist), Max DiPasquale (saxophone) and Hannah Markun (trumpet). Following a standout performance featuring musical selections from French, American and Canadian composers, Max DiPasquale won the 2022 Hollis Prize.

The event also served as the conclusion of the Kaeuper Hall renovation kickstart challenge. Two years ago, Kimm Hollis, a 1972 graduate of Millikin University, committed \$100,000 to kickstart the renovation of Kaeuper Hall. To date, an additional \$20,000 has been donated toward installing state-of-the-art technology.

MU Graduate Wins NextGen National Vocal Competition

Millikin University graduate Audrianna Bartholomew, Class of 2021, took top honors at the 2022 NextGen National Competition: Finding the Voices of Tomorrow, presented by The American Pops Orchestra (APO).

Final round performances were held at the David Rubenstein Atrium at Lincoln Center in New York City. Bartholomew was one of 10 contestants to be selected as a finalist (including two alternates) following the semifinal event of the competition that was shared with the public through a private broadcast.

NextGen is a vocal competition created by APO and Music Director Luke Frazier with the purpose of identifying young aspiring vocalists from across the United States and providing them the opportunity to work with and learn from industry professionals, as well as to perform live with an orchestra. As the first-place female winner, Bartholomew receives \$2,000 as well as a paid performance opportunity during APO's 2022-23 season.

Millikin College of Fine Arts Launches Millikin Community Arts Academy

In March 2022, Millikin University's College of Fine Arts launched the Millikin Community Arts Academy (MCAA), an outgrowth of the Preparatory Program in the School of Music, to expand programming for children and adults in the Decatur (Ill.) area and surrounding communities with dance, visual arts, technology, theatre and additional music opportunities.

The mission of the Millikin Community Arts Academy is to foster an appreciation of and participation in the Arts while instilling a lifelong love and enjoyment of the Arts. Among the programming the Millikin Community Arts Academy offers are quality music lessons taught by highly trained faculty and upper-level Millikin students in their areas of expertise.

The Academy's opportunities have expanded to include not only music lessons but programs such as the Millikin Children's Choir, First Gig, Rock University, Millikin University Community Cello Choir, Decatur Youth Symphony Orchestra, Music and Movement, Group Guitar and Ukulele classes and Summer Camps.



New School of Art & Creative Media Takes Flight

Millikin University is launching a new School of Art and Creative Media that will provide shared resources for artists, makers, storytellers and leaders who wish to enrich the world with their creativity.

Beginning in the fall 2022 semester, the School of Art and Creative Media will unite the strengths of Millikin's Art Department with those of the rapidly expanding Arts Technology and Administration program to integrate innovative scholarship and artistic practice being performed by students and faculty.

"The new School of Art and Creative Media provides exciting new opportunities to fully embrace and expand upon the multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary art, scholarship and teaching that have become a hallmark of our arts programs," said Millikin University Provost Mary Black.

arts
Millikin Community
Arts Academy



Nurse Anesthetist Graduates Create "Study Guide" Podcast

It was during the middle of their first year in Millikin University's Doctor of Nursing Practice Nurse Anesthetist program that Tanner Hulin and Cole Dill became study partners. Dill, who had an hour-long commute to campus, and Hulin, who had a 30-minute commute to campus, would have countless narrative discussions over the phone during their commutes to talk about upcoming tests and topics for that day.

Dill and Hulin started recording their conversations which further developed into what is now the Student Nurse Anesthesia podcast. The Student Nurse Anesthesia podcast is a series of episodes created to help students pass their tests and review for boards. Hulin and Dill designed the episodes to be short and to the point. Currently, the podcast reaches all 50 states and 110 countries and subscribers can listen to recordings on specific topics by looking through the library. The podcast is available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts and Google Podcasts.

MILLIKIN ALUMNI TOUR

The Alumni Tour offers an opportunity for Millikin community members across the country to meet current staff, hear updates about their alma mater and get to know fellow alumni in their area.

We hope you can join us!



Join us for an upcoming event:

- August 4
Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.
- September 20
Kansas City, Kan.
- September 22
Omaha, Neb.
- November 3
Denver, Colo.
- November 29
Peoria, Ill.
- December 1
Champaign-Urbana, Ill.

- December 6
Bloomington-Normal, Ill.
- December 8
Decatur, Ill.
- December 13
Springfield, Ill.
- January 17
Hilton Head, S.C.
- January 19
Atlanta, Ga.
- June 15
Washington, D.C.

*All events begin at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.
Invitations forthcoming.*

CONNECT

CHECK FOR ADDITIONAL EVENTS IN YOUR REGION

millikin.edu/alumni-tour

A Top Fulbright Producer

This past spring, Millikin University was named one of the top 10 producers of Fulbright U.S. Scholars for bachelor's institutions for 2021-22. Each year, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) announces the top producing institutions for the Fulbright Program, the U.S. government's flagship international educational exchange program.

Two scholars from Millikin University were awarded Fulbright awards for 2021-22 – more than any other bachelor's institution in Illinois.

Millikin faculty members Dr. Mirela Tanta, associate professor of art history, and Dr. Mark Tonelli, assistant professor of applied guitar and coordinator of the Guitar Studies Program, were awarded Fulbright Scholar fellowships to Romania and Brazil, respectively, and in recent years, Millikin faculty have won Fulbright fellowships to Japan, Germany and Latvia.



IN THE NEWS



A portrait of President Emeritus Dr. Patrick White, painted by his daughter, Molly White, was unveiled during Commencement weekend.

“Be inspired once again to perform your life ... a life in which you will do good, do smart, do justice, do love, do the right thing and carry Millikin forward with you proudly into the larger world.”

- Pat White, *President Emeritus*

IN THE NEWS



DR. PATRICK WHITE RETURNS TO THE BIG BLUE



In an emotional reunion, Millikin University welcomed back President Emeritus Dr. Patrick E. White to deliver the keynote address at Spring Commencement in May 2022. White served as the 15th president of Millikin beginning in October 2013 after joining Millikin as interim president in July 2013. He retired as president of Millikin on June 30, 2020.

Under Dr. White's leadership, Millikin was revitalized and reimagined through a commitment to Millikin's signature Performance Learning and a new energy for growth in academic and athletic programs, student body and campus facilities. In 2015, under Dr. White's guidance, Millikin completed its "Transform MU" capital

campaign, exceeding its \$85 million goal by over \$10 million. This successful initiative led to the design and construction of innovative, transformative facilities, including the Workman Family Softball Field, the University Commons, the Workman Family Baseball Field and the Center for Theatre & Dance.

Prior to his speaking engagement, White was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters for his impressive record of leadership. Addressing the Class of 2022, White said, "Be inspired once again to perform your life ... a life in which you will do good, do smart, do justice, do love, do the right thing and carry Millikin forward with you proudly into the larger world."

WOMEN IN ATHLETICS AT MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY

50 YEARS WORTH CELEBRATING

The weekend celebrating 50 years of women in athletics at Millikin University was full of events that allowed women who “wore the blue” to reunite, reminisce and honor the trailblazing efforts of the women who made their experiences possible. Events kicked off on Friday, May 13, with screening of “The Last Gold,” a film telling the story of the 1978 U.S. Olympic women’s swim team, of which Marcia Morey, Class of 1978, was a member. That same evening, a social hour was also held for reunion attendees to meet fellow athletes, both old and new.

On Saturday, May 14, each of Millikin’s ten women’s athletic teams hosted reunion events to celebrate the coaches and athletes of past and present. A special lettering luncheon was held in the University Commons to honor alumni who participated in sports before Title IX and women’s varsity sports. Coach Lori Kerans, Class of 1985, said the event was truly powerful, with several alumni in attendance. “Presenting varsity Ms to those who had the athletic passion and prowess but did not have the opportunities to compete was so empowering.”

The weekend’s main event, a Women in Athletics Gala Celebration, took place on Saturday evening at the Decatur Conference Center & Hotel and featured a social hour, silent auction and athletics museum. Attendees gathered to view the 2005 NCAA Division III Women’s Basketball Championship trophy, along with exhibits of historic memorabilia, photos, uniforms and much more, with tables dedicated to each of Millikin’s women’s athletic programs. “Walking through the museum was

like journeying through history,” said Kerans. A timeline of notable events in Millikin’s history served as the museum’s backdrop.

In attendance were more than 230 Millikin University alumni, athletes, family and friends. Millikin President Dr. Jim Reynolds and his wife, Sue, along with Millikin Presidents Emeriti Dr. Patrick White and Doug Zemke, Class of 1966, also attended the evening’s celebration and were impressed by the event’s success. “You should all be so proud of how you represented our best vision of what Millikin University has accomplished and our best imagination of what Millikin can become,” Dr. White remarked.

The Gala Celebration kicked off with a welcome from Gina Bianchi, Class of 1993, vice president of Alumni & Development and former softball player, and an invocation by Pastor Marge Overlot. Throughout the evening, a decorated lineup of extraordinary women addressed the audience, including Dr. Elaine Miller, Class of 1959 and former Women’s Athletic Association (WAA) Girl of the Year, and Ariel Robinson, Class of 2013, record-holding track and field athlete and Millikin University admission counselor.

Other acclaimed speakers were women’s basketball standouts and Athletic Hall of Famers Angela Beck, Class of 1979, and Julie Roe Lach, Class

of 1997, as well as former coach Linda Slagell. Student speakers included Brigid Duesterhaus, Class of 2022 (triathlon and swimming) and Aubrey Staton, Class of 2022 (basketball). The documentary “50 Years Worth Celebrating” which recounts the first 50 years of women’s athletics at Millikin, created by Richard Ndembe, Millikin University videographer, also premiered during the Gala. Former Big Blue athletes enjoyed reuniting with old teammates and connecting with other women over the shared spirit of Millikin and sports. “Seeing some of my volleyball and basketball teammates who I haven’t seen in 40 years was priceless,” said Terry Jones Kawczynski, Class of 1985.

1917 Dorothy McClure Invitational Tournament

1920 Women's Athletic Association (WAA)

1959 Dr. Elaine Miller WAA Girl of the Year

1970 BASKETBALL

1972 Title IX signed

1975 TENNIS

1975 VOLLEYBALL

1976 TRACK & FIELD

1975 SWIMMING

1981 NCAA recognizes Women's Athletics

1982 SOFTBALL

1982 CROSS COUNTRY

1986 CCIW recognizes Women's Athletics

1996 SOCCER

1996 GOLF

2005 Basketball wins National Championship

2010 Volleyball wins CCIW Regular Season Championship

2018 TRIATHLON

2022 Softball wins CCIW Regular Season Championship

Congress Criticized Big Education Bill Is Signed by Nixon



The evening's events culminated with the reveal of a well-kept secret as Linda Slagell announced to Coach Lori Kerans that the basketball court inside Griswold Physical Education Center would be named the "Lori Kerans Court," in her honor.

The dedication is meant to signify and commemorate the exceptional legacy that Coach Kerans has created at Millikin, as well as her illustrious career that has spanned more than forty years. For more details on Coach Kerans's career, see the official commemorative program for 50 Years of Women in Athletics at Millikin University.

A silent auction, which showcased the creative talents of Millikin alumni and friends, was held in conjunction with the evening's event and raised more than \$3,500 to benefit the Women in Athletics fund, which supports and promotes equity for present and future Big Blue student-athletes.

Coach Kerans was overcome by the once-in-a-lifetime celebration and wanted to thank all of the Millikin University staff, alumni, friends and family who were involved in organizing the event and who attended. "The Celebration focused on honoring pioneering, trailblazing spirit and encouraging attendees to connect and reconnect around shared Millikin experiences of the first 50 years of Women in Athletics!

"I truly cannot wait to see what women who 'wear the blue' will do in the next 50 years!"

Onto the next 50 years!

View the official commemorative program and documentary at

millikin.edu/women-athletics.

SUPPORT

TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO KERANS COURT OR THE WOMEN IN ATHLETICS FUND, VISIT

bit.ly/keranscourt.



PROGRESS



Millikin University plans \$6.7 Million Facility for Student-Athletes

The Millikin University Board of Trustees, on May 20, 2022, approved construction plans for a new campus facility to support student-athletes at Millikin University. Construction is scheduled to begin once fundraising for the project is completed.

The estimated \$6.7 million building will be located at the current site of the Old Gym on Millikin University's campus, which will be razed to allow for new construction. The architectural partner for the project is Decatur (Ill.) firm BLDD.

SUPPORT

LEARN MORE AT

millikin.edu/locker-room-expansion



The 10,870 square foot facility will include:

- Weight room/performance center
- 120 lockers, with the ability to be divided into two 60-locker spaces
- Training and team meeting rooms for multipurpose use and game-day athletic training needs
- Facility built to accommodate student-athletes from all sports

PROGRESS

The new athletic facility will feature 120 lockers and the ability to convert into two separate locker rooms with 60-locker spaces. This project serves as the first phase of Millikin University's Athletic Facilities Expansion and Renovation capital initiative.

"This initiative continues Millikin's forward-thinking momentum and adds to the outstanding physical transformation we have seen on campus over the last few years, including the Workman Family Baseball Field and the Center for Theatre & Dance," said Millikin President Dr. Jim Reynolds. "Millikin Athletics programs serve as a great source of pride for the University, the surrounding communities and beyond. The support we have seen from alumni and friends of the University for this initiative not only shapes the future of Millikin Athletics, but will benefit the University's enrollment efforts and the entire community."

Millikin Director of Athletics Dr. Craig White added, "There is no doubt that additional locker room space is needed for our athletic programs to continue to grow and thrive. The construction of this new facility will solve several existing issues while also allowing Millikin to host College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin (CCIW) and NCAA competitions."

The new athletic facility will alleviate congestion in the Griswold Physical Education Center, while meeting the needs of student-athletes from all sports at Millikin.

"Facilities are an important part of Division III athletics. Competing on an athletic team is a passion for many students in higher education throughout the country," said White. "Millikin is fortunate to be a part of one of the most respected Division III conferences in the country with membership in the CCIW. The improvements to athletic facilities will allow Millikin Athletics to experience facilities equal to that of other members in this great conference, which will be more attractive to both incoming and current students and ultimately lead to more success on the field and in the classroom."

The project is made possible from fundraising gifts, including generous leading gifts from David and Debbie Rathje and the Perryman Family. To date, more than \$5 million has been raised toward the \$6.7 million goal.

David Rathje, Class of 1958, is founder and chairman of Rathje Enterprises Inc., d/b/a Bodine Electric of Decatur, which also includes The Kelly Group. The companies employ more than 1,400 workers. Rathje purchased the existing Bodine Electric in 1965 and has since grown the company to have divisions in electrical contracting, electrical wholesale, electro-mechanical repair, electrical service and communications in Decatur, Champaign and Danville, Ill. During the 1980s, Rathje founded The Kelly Group, a Midwest company specializing in general contracting, contract maintenance and heavy and precision metal fabrication, with offices in Decatur, Lafayette, Ind., West Memphis, Ark., and Reserve, La.

A faithful Big Blue supporter, Rathje has contributed to Millikin's "Advancing the Vision" and

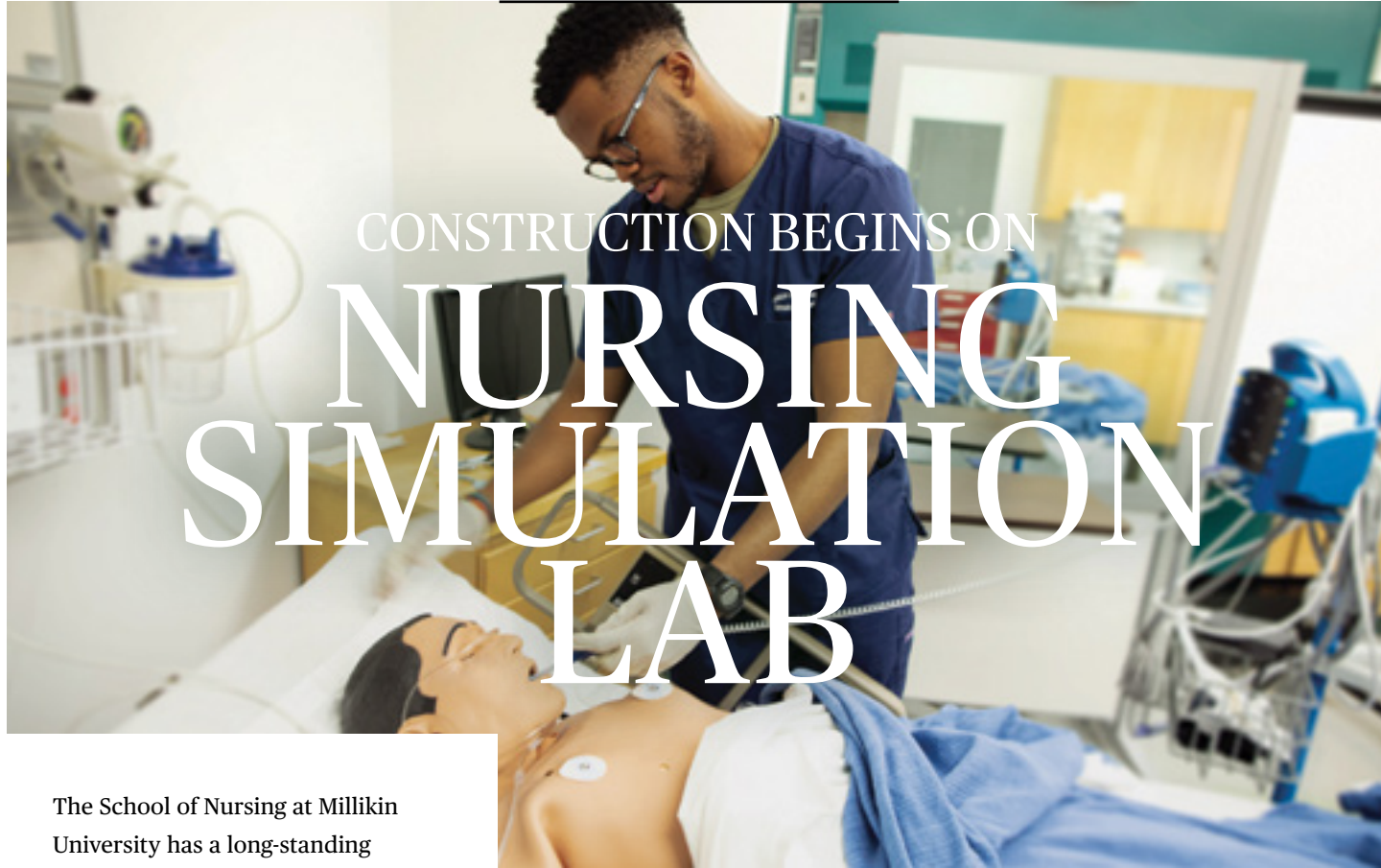
"Transform MU" capital campaigns. He has established an endowed scholarship and has also made leadership-level contributions to the University Commons building project and several memorials. He has earned recognition on the Wall of Philanthropy for his lifetime giving.

James "Jim" Perryman, Class of 1983, and Frank Perryman, Class of 1987, were both involved in Big Blue athletics as football and track and field athletes. Jim was inducted into Millikin's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1994 for his accomplishments and contributions to the Big Blue football program.

"The Perrymans are very proud of being part of the new weight and locker room facility," commented Jim Perryman. "Millikin's football program gave me the opportunity to play in the NFL." Following his college football career, Jim played in the NFL in 1985 for the Buffalo Bills and in 1987 for the Indianapolis Colts.

Jim and Frank Perryman are owners of their family's metal supply company, Perryman Company, located in Houston, Pa. Founded in 1988, the company has grown into a global leader in titanium product manufacturing. As proud alumni, Jim and Frank have remained connected to their alma mater, supplying titanium face masks for the Big Blue football team's helmets. "We are happy to give back to the Millikin football program," they remarked.

The gift made by the Perryman Family will support the naming of the Perryman Family/Carl Poelker Weight Room inside the new facility, which will accommodate student-athletes from all sports at Millikin.



CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON NURSING SIMULATION LAB

The School of Nursing at Millikin University has a long-standing reputation for excellence in nursing education. Since its inception nearly 40 years ago, the School of Nursing has continued this tradition of excellence, despite never having its own designated space within the University. Currently, nursing faculty offices and learning labs are spread throughout four areas in two different buildings on campus, and the program lacks a simulation lab.

In efforts to continue the tradition of exceeding best standards of practice in nursing education and to attract exceptional students and faculty, Millikin is undergoing a multi-phase project to upgrade and enhance School of Nursing facilities and equipment. “Further enhancement of our facilities will not only allow students to be exposed to a realistic, innovative pedagogy that is now being recognized as highly valuable but will also contribute to their ability to take part and excel in

Performance Learning, a hallmark of Millikin University,” remarked Dr. Pam Lindsey, retired dean of the College of Professional Studies.

The first phase of the project is student-focused and meant to provide spaces for students to study and practice their skills. To this end, a nursing simulation laboratory will be constructed within the first floor of West Towne Square. The second phase of the project will add offices to the second floor of West Towne Square, while the third phase will outfit the second floor of Millikin Institute with two classrooms and various offices. The result of these projects will create a centralized location on Millikin’s campus for the School of Nursing, which will both provide a home for the program and facilitate improved collaboration among nursing students and faculty.

Millikin recently received a federal grant for \$2 million toward the project, which is estimated to cost a total of \$4 million. Within the total project cost is \$200,000 of endowed maintenance to provide continued support of the space following the project’s completion. The federal funds will be used to construct the simulation laboratory, which will include various modern spaces for simulating obstetrics and pediatrics, medical offices, health assessments and several other disciplines.

The simulation laboratory will allow nursing students to practice skills such as administering injections, checking vital signs and monitoring blood pressure in a dedicated, state-of-the-art laboratory. Additionally, the facility will feature a control room with technology to run simulations and communicate with participants.



The realistic, hands-on experiences that will become accessible with these facilities are essential to nursing students as simulation techniques have been utilized in nursing education for decades. With the rapid evolution of technology in the medical field, nursing students will benefit immensely by working directly with different technologies through the simulation lab.

“Simulation is optimally used for low-frequency, high-risk situations, as clinical judgment is particularly important when patients are in potentially life-threatening situations,”

Lindsey explained. “As educators, we need to be able to replicate these situations via simulation in a way that allows for the development of skills in our students.”

Construction on the project and renovation of West Towne Square are planned to begin this summer, with BLDD (Decatur, Ill.) acting as the University’s architectural partner. Millikin will continue fundraising efforts for the remaining \$2 million needed to complete phases two and three of the School of Nursing project.

SUPPORT

NAMING
OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND/OR TO MAKE A GIFT
PLEASE CONTACT
DAN BAKER AT**

drbaker@millikin.edu or
217.424.3757

Democratic Citizenship in a Global Environment



As a main tenet in Millikin University's mission statement, the global environment is alive and well among the campus community.

Over the past decade, the presence and impact of international students at Millikin has grown steadily and exponentially. In 2015, there were 38 international students enrolled at Millikin, a number that increased to 115 during the 2022 academic year. These 115 students represent 30 countries across the globe, including diverse regions such as Burundi, Mexico, Pakistan, Serbia and Vietnam. This drastic growth has been facilitated and supported by Millikin's Center for International Education (CIE).

Headed by Briana Stephens Quintenz and established in the early 2000s, the CIE has been successful in its mission, which according to Stephens Quintenz, is to "help Millikin meet its goal of internationalizing campus and providing support and resources for inbound international students and outbound study abroad students."

Whether a local student dreams of traveling to a different city or country to study abroad, or an international student aims to study in the United States, Millikin has programs and staff to support them in their pursuits. From assisting foreign students in obtaining their visas, arranging travel and helping them adjust to life in the U.S., the CIE strives to ensure that no student feels lost in their unique study abroad experience.

Stephens Quintenz, director of the CIE, remarked that the entire Millikin community benefits from the experiences and perspectives of visiting students. "It's not every day that you get to live on a campus with more than 30 countries represented. Many of our U.S.-based students have very little travel experience and our international students give them the

opportunities to meet and work with people from other countries in their classes and athletic teams," she described, mentioning that the benefits are mutual for students from around the world. "Our international students get the benefit of learning about U.S. life and culture and improving their English abilities."

Each year, the CIE arranges an array of events that serve to help international students acclimate to campus and to teach local students about global perspectives. Among these events is an International Student Speaker event that provides the opportunity for students to present about the culture, history, food and language of their home countries. Ange Nice Ineza of Rwanda shared several traditions with the audience of both local classmates and fellow study-abroad students. Her presentation included important history and the symbolism of her country's dress and dance traditions, along with the similarities and differences between Rwanda and Burundi, the country from which Chris Marie Barambona is visiting Millikin.

Presenters from the April 8, 2022, International Student Speaker event.



Javiera Malik, Pakistan



Citlalli Solano, Mexico



Nam Luu, Vietnam



Chris Marie Barambona, Burundi



Ilse Zuniga, Mexico



Ana Vidric, Serbia

FEATURE

In their mission to create a global classroom for every student, Millikin's CIE also hosts a special international orientation each semester, partners with the International Student Organization (ISO) to host Thanksgiving Dinner and organizes a week dedicated to international education. Millikin's efforts to support international students and to transform the University into a destination for students hoping to travel to the U.S. have paid dividends, with international enrollment growing each semester.

While Millikin's campus hosts an ever-expanding population of students from around the world, the programs supporting U.S.-based students who choose to study abroad are also thriving. Millikin offers more than 15 study abroad programs to students hoping to travel and expand their global perspectives. Just as the CIE supports inbound students, the staff also help outbound students every step of the way.

"We meet with our study abroad students to help them choose a program that fits their major and we help them access scholarship funds," Stephens Quintenz explained. After selecting the right destination and program, the CIE also helps students book travel,

secure housing, register for classes and learn what to expect while living in another country.

With both semester-long exchange and short-term travel programs, any student can take part in global travel and study opportunities, regardless of how long they want to live abroad. Students who aren't ready to live abroad for an entire semester can take part in summer or winter term immersion trips alongside their Millikin professors.

Haley Hogenkamp, Class of 2017, studied abroad in Geneva, Switzerland during the fall 2015 semester. As a Long-Vanderburg Scholar, she earned a scholarship to study abroad during her junior year allowing her to travel and

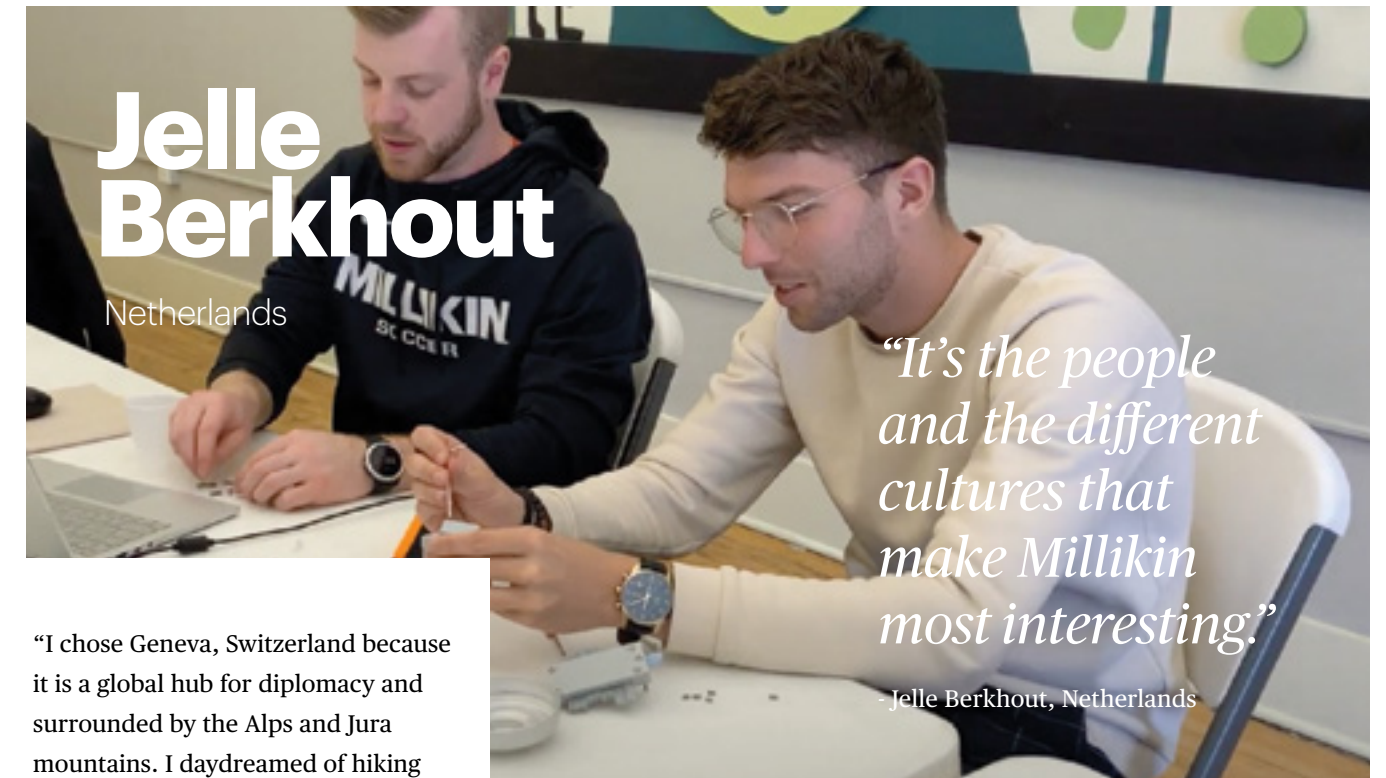
earn credits toward her business management degree while taking electives such as world religions and visual culture. Hogenkamp said the CIE made the entire process smooth and simple for her.

"When I first contemplated studying abroad, I felt exceptionally intimidated. I could barely conceive what it would mean to move to a new country, from obtaining a visa to moving far away from family and friends," she recalled. The CIE faculty helped her learn about the partner schools and programs available so she could choose a city and program that satisfied her desire to travel and suited her academic goals.



"I believe choosing to study abroad is the true adventure, regardless of the destination."

- Haley Hogenkamp, Class of 2017



Jelle Berkhout
Netherlands

"It's the people and the different cultures that make Millikin most interesting."

- Jelle Berkhout, Netherlands

"I chose Geneva, Switzerland because it is a global hub for diplomacy and surrounded by the Alps and Jura mountains. I daydreamed of hiking in the Alps and hearing people speak languages from every corner of the world." After she arrived in Geneva, she enrolled in Webster University and lived out her daydreams of traveling, hiking, forming lasting friendships with people from across the globe and most importantly, expanding her worldview.

"I believe choosing to study abroad is the true adventure, regardless of the destination," she said. "The decision to study abroad in pursuit of a global perspective, to practice open-mindedness and to leave familiarity is one of courage and humility. That act, in and of itself, is more valuable than any experience that a specific destination could bring."

The footprint of Millikin University and its students can be found in 40 countries across the globe and counting.

Where will Millikin University take you?

BIG BLUE SEMESTER ABROAD

While several Millikin students choose among one of the 15+ study abroad programs available each semester, the University also serves as a destination for international students to live and learn.

Millikin collaborates with more than 40 partner universities across the globe to facilitate student exchange programs. This past academic year, two such students who chose to travel to Decatur and attend Millikin University were Ruben Real del Sarte and Jelle Berkhout, both of the Netherlands.

Though they were only at Millikin for a single semester for their respective exchange programs, both Ruben and Jelle made the most of their time in the U.S. and as Millikin students. They also brought their unique experiences and talents, offering local students a chance to view global perspectives.

SUPPORT

TO SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES FOR MILLIKIN STUDENTS, VISIT

bit.ly/giveCIE

Ruben Real del Sarte

Netherlands

“

“I had an incredible experience and want others like me to have that same experience at Millikin.”

- Ruben Real del Sarte

”



BIG BLUE SEMESTER ABROAD

International Student Spotlight: Ruben Real del Sarte and Jelle Berkhout

Back in Enschede, the Netherlands, Jelle Berkhout is majoring in commercial economics, which relates closely to an entrepreneurship major at Millikin. Berkhout ended up choosing Millikin for his spring 2022 semester because his school, Hogeschool Saxion, holds partnerships with five different schools, including Millikin. “The reason for me to study abroad was to work with other students from many different countries and to learn about their way of thinking,” Berkhout explained. “International education broadens my perspective of life and stimulates new ideas. You meet an incredible number of people and build a larger network all over the world.”

The classes and lessons within Millikin’s Tabor School of Business provided Berkhout with the foundation, network and influence to further build his own business. “It’s the people and the different cultures that make Millikin most interesting. People always manage to inspire me,” he said.

While working within the Innovation Lab course through Millikin’s Center for Entrepreneurship, Berkhout experienced the start-to-finish process of creating, fabricating and marketing a product along with the design thinking mindset that will help him better understand his customers’ needs.

“I’ve been working on my own business helping companies with marketing and I have four clients so far. After graduation, I’d like to work on my own vision and build my business,” Berkhout said. Looking back on his semester abroad, Berkhout said his experience in the U.S. and at Millikin was positive. Activities he especially enjoyed included participating in campus life, orientation week and a trip to Indianapolis to watch an NBA game. “Millikin is a special university. You can make many wonderful memories here.”

Ruben Real del Sarte spent his fall 2021 semester at Millikin as part of his school’s international exchange program. Back in France where he attends European Business School Paris, Ruben is studying marketing while also balancing a career as a professional race car driver. While he already has many global experiences under his belt, Ruben was eager to study abroad for reasons aside from racing. “My school suggested Millikin and when I saw it, I was really motivated to attend my fall semester at this beautiful university,” he remarked.

By studying in the U.S., Ruben’s goal was to get a broader view of the global business landscape and experience unique aspects of the U.S. market.

“I really wanted to gain more experience in marketing while being here, along with taking courses about people, performance and customer discovery.”

During the months he spent as a Millikin student, Ruben experienced common obstacles for international students studying abroad, such as integrating with the culture along with obstacles related to pursuing his racing career. However, he said that Millikin’s supportive network of faculty and the Center for International Education ensured that his experiences inside and outside of the classroom were fulfilling. “The way Millikin helps its students and supports them has been great for me,” Ruben said.

During his 2021 racing season, Ruben added a Millikin University decal to his car to show his Big Blue pride and promote Millikin. “I had an incredible experience and want others like me to have that same experience at Millikin,” he concluded.

Class of 2000

Matt Guffey

President of UPS Global Strategy

Millikin University
Board of Trustees Member



“As I think about my role today at UPS, at a company with over 500,000 employees, I go back to the concepts that were instilled in me at Millikin. How Millikin developed me as a person and the character of who I am – how I am able to bring that same framework for success to my work today.”

Matthew Guffey, Class of 2000, has spent the past two decades climbing the ranks of one of the premier companies in the world. UPS is both a global shipping leader and a universally trusted brand. Since the advent of COVID-19, the company and its employees have shown just how essential their services are to the customers they serve.

Currently President of UPS Global Strategy, Guffey has excelled at every level of the company – from starting as a marketing specialist for UPS’s South Illinois District, to his current role, which required “agile thinking” to meet the staggering uptick in customer demand caused by the global pandemic.

Guffey’s continued success comes from his dedication to servant leadership and an unflagging desire to invest in the people around him – to bolster their ability to meet, and exceed, their own potential for greatness. These professional and personal tenets were the same ones he found in practice, day in and day out, while studying at Millikin.

“My professors at Millikin weren’t just investing in you from an academic perspective, they were investing in you personally, in ways that were really

DELIVERING WHAT MATTERS

UPS President Matthew Guffey uses his Millikin foundation to build excellence worldwide

setting the stage for you and what you were going to do throughout your career. Professors like Rick Bibb pushed me to really think about, ‘Okay, how do you push the limits of the assignment and really think about your work creatively?’ That innovative thinking really set the stage as I started at UPS early in my career.”

Guffey started out at UPS making use of his degree in marketing, but quickly realized that there was more to being a great marketer than a winning concept. As he learned at Millikin, he also needed to understand how the application of his concept affected its real-world success.

“You think it’s a great idea on paper – but this is where that experience in application at Millikin comes in. I realized, look, I can be a great marketer, but I also have to be able to put this in front of a customer. Understand the sales side of it. Be in front of the customer with a customer-first mindset.”

He applied that mindset to his global work for UPS as well, when he traveled to the UK to head up marketing for the United Kingdom, Ireland and the Nordics.

“The UK, the Nordics and Ireland – although close in proximity, they’re very different cultures. I went over

there with the mindset of listening with the intent to understand, not the intent to respond. There’s a big difference.”

Guffey spent the first several months in his role doing just that, listening to the members of his team to understand their cultural differences, their diverse strengths and the ways their unique perspectives could be used to build better business strategies. This approach brought real-world results, as his UK, Ireland and Nordic teams were some of the best-performing he’s ever managed.

“It’s because you pull the best of those cultures out and are able to really recognize and celebrate the perspective that everyone came from. Which leads to the other piece that is super important to me, this whole concept of servant leadership. It’s about asking, ‘How do you out-serve your people? How do you support your people in their growth, in their decision-making, while also challenging them?’”

Guffey’s servant leadership has taken many forms, including a hands-on experience that brought him shoulder-to-shoulder with frontline UPS employees.

“Three years ago, even as a president in our business, I went down and loaded packages for 22 days at one of our operations during peak season.

Because they needed support. I took 170 people with me. From two in the morning until three in the afternoon, we loaded and unloaded packages so we could get them out to customers during Christmas season.”

For Guffey, the best part of his job is being able to promote his colleagues because of their hard work and success. He is a big believer in both an ironclad work ethic and the daily determination “to be great at what you do.” It’s this belief that keeps Guffey, as a leader, so invested in people.

“If I can identify the greatness in people, and allow them to see the greatness in themselves, they will do things – whether it’s getting a business result, creating a new process – they never thought they could do.”

As Guffey continues to steer UPS’s strategies into the future – building on the company’s focus on a customer-first business, a top-notch workforce and decisions driven by innovation – his perspective on the foundation that Millikin gave him remains at his core.

“When I think about my time at Millikin, I always reflect back to say, ‘If I could do it all over again, would I choose Millikin?’ The answer is yes.”



Class of 2004

Amy Williams Schweizer

Founder and Director of Tiny Troops Soccer

Amy Williams Schweizer, Class of 2004, came to Millikin as a talented athlete and strong believer in hard work. She excelled as part of Millikin’s women’s soccer team, making team captain and earning all-conference honors.

Her experiences on the field, along with the hands-on education she received as a Tabor School of Business student, gave her the tools she needed to “accomplish big things” after graduation – whether that was playing in the United Soccer Leagues for the Cincinnati Ladyhawks, or serving military families as founder and director of her current company, Tiny Troops Soccer. Prior to starting her own company, however, her path in life took an unexpected detour after a chance meeting at a job fair.

“After getting my master’s degree, I met my husband. He is a Marine, and he was on recruiting duty in Danville, Illinois. Our tables at the job fair happened to be next to each other. That kicked off a whole lifetime that I was not expecting, changing the trajectory of my career and what I thought it was going to be.”



CREATING GLOBAL COMMUNITIES

Amy Williams Schweizer’s Tiny Troops Soccer is supporting military families around the world

With a master’s degree in sports management, Schweizer planned to work for a professional sports team. As a military spouse, she quickly realized that the demands of military life would complicate those career plans. Military spouses have the highest unemployment rate in the country, despite the fact that many hold advanced degrees and have wide-ranging professional experiences. This lack of “fulfilling employment” is a byproduct of military families being required to regularly relocate for deployments. Schweizer and her family, currently in North Carolina, have lived in Hawaii, California and Okinawa, Japan.

“Being a military spouse really forced me to get outside my comfort zone. It’s not the same as growing up in your hometown with the same people and the same teammates that you’ve had your whole life. You meet new people every two to three years and have to really create that community. You have to be comfortable being uncomfortable.”

Finding herself forced to adjust, like the military families around her, to living outside of her comfort zone, she put her business savvy and competitive spirit to work to find a solution that would help not only herself but her community. Stationed in Japan, she founded Tiny Troops Soccer, a developmental program for kids ages two through five that introduces them to soccer.

Schweizer’s company filled an immediate need, allowing military families to find a camaraderie and connection often missing in their day-to-day lives while also teaching children gross motor skills, socialization, communication and physical fitness. As Tiny Troops Soccer expanded across the globe, families found that this sense of community could travel – rolling registration periods allowed families to remain in the program even during a new deployment.

“When I watched my own children go through the emotions that come along with deployments, my thoughts quickly focused on how I could ease this burden for military families back on the home front, especially the young children.”

Tiny Troops Soccer has employed more than 150 military spouses and dependents while serving over 15,000 military and nonmilitary children in Japan, Guam and the United States. Schweizer also mentors fellow military spouses, encouraging and equipping them to find meaningful ways to utilize their professional skills.

As Schweizer looks to the future, her goals include expanding her soccer programming to serve every U.S. military base, while also increasing access for nonmilitary families.

“Our kids have all these emotions, but aren’t always able to articulate them. You know, ‘I’m sad because mommy’s gone,’ or ‘I’m angry because dad is so far away,’ or ‘Why doesn’t my grammy live near me anymore?’ It’s our responsibility to provide this opportunity that not only enhances their physical health, but also directly impacts them mentally and emotionally. There’s really nothing like being part of a team.”



CULTIVATING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

How Millikin Professor Dr. Yuhan “Jane” Hua is building successful experiences in the classroom



Above the Decatur Area Arts Council in downtown Decatur, Ill., lies an open-floor workspace where Millikin University students spend countless hours during the spring semester learning how to start a business. Inside the space, the Thinkwell Makerspace, students are building their visions – products of their own invention for a course called Innovation Lab.

A typical day in the Innovation Lab begins with the students presenting updates to their faculty advisor, Dr. Yuhan “Jane” Hua, on the progress of their product, business plan developments and market research. The students are then back to work using computer software and 3D printing technology to build prototypes of their products that maybe one day could be useful to consumers and help solve problems.

The Innovation Lab course is a direct representation of the Millikin Performance Learning academic experience, but it also represents the teaching styles of Dr. Hua and her enthusiasm for entrepreneurship.

A native of China, Dr. Hua joined the Millikin faculty in 2018, and serves as an assistant professor of business and entrepreneurship in the Tabor School of Business. She earned her Ph.D.

“If you want to get a product off the ground, you need to take action, speak to the right audience, and accept the fact that there will be failures and pivots.”

from the University of Louisville, and received her master’s and MBA from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

What initially attracted Dr. Hua to Millikin University was the community support the University’s Center for Entrepreneurship shows for students as they work to build their own ventures. “The classroom experiences are important, but what’s unique is the small community where the students can learn from each other,” she says.

Students in Dr. Hua’s courses are witnesses to the excitement and passion she brings to the classroom, especially when unique ideas and projects start to grow.

“Teaching is very rewarding for me and makes my life more meaningful,” she says. “I think good teaching can inspire and motivate students to learn by themselves.”

The concept of entrepreneurship has evolved so much over time that new entrepreneurs and influential startups are being created every day. Entrepreneurship has traditionally been defined as the process of designing, launching and running a new business, which typically begins as a small business, offering a product or service. More and more, Dr. Hua is seeing younger generations of students taking their visions and developing them into marketable business ideas.

Dr. Hua is also constantly keeping up with the latest trends of the entrepreneurship world, but she believes it’s important for her students to get out of their comfort zone if they want to launch a business.

“If you want to get a product off the ground, you need to take action, speak to the right audience and accept the fact that there will be failures and pivots,” Dr. Hua said. “It’s important to try to find out what your consumers want. So many students have the ideas with all the assumptions ... but you have to validate those assumptions.”

Since she began teaching at Millikin, Dr. Hua has made it a priority to integrate new cases, inventions, technologies, strategies and market tactics into her courses. She spends time and energy exploring new things happening around the world and mixes them into her teachings.

One of those mixtures is the partnership she established with Decatur’s Thinkwell Makerspace Industries for the Innovation Lab course. Dr. Hua’s work gives students a chance to understand the crucial component of Millikin’s hands-on approach to education, Performance Learning, and learn the fundamental process of building a product from the ground up.

“The interaction I have with my students is the best part of my job,” she says. “I don’t have any limitations when it comes to my courses. For example, in the Innovation Lab, I’m able to show students how a supplier works in a team environment. It’s great to get rewarding feedback from your students.”

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Big Blue host families share the journey of Millikin international students

In 2019, on a whim, I signed up to be a friendship family for one of Millikin University's international students.

That September, the Center for International Education matched my family (me, my husband and our one-year-old son) to two interested students: Binny Tamang from Nepal and Gaelle Kinja from Congo. Both had just arrived in the country for the first time.

Our first visit felt a bit like a blind date, filled with stilted conversation and awkward silences as we started

to find common ground. But babies are universal, and we soon fell into easy company laughing at our budding toddler and talking about the family that each of the students left behind when they came to study at Millikin.

It has been three years since those first meetings, and while a lot of life has happened in the intervening time, Binny and Gaelle (B&G) have become an integral part of our family's life.

Together, we have celebrated holidays and birthdays, introduced traditions (why do we carve pumpkins?), shared many meals, acquainted them with some of our extended family and attended campus events.



We have taken them to doctor's appointments, given driving lessons, comforted them after the loss of loved ones and endured pandemic restrictions together. Those pandemic days were especially difficult for our international students as campus went entirely remote, most domestic students vacated campus and all meals had to be taken to go. A bright spot in late 2021 came when they helped us welcome a new baby to our family.

I am in awe of B&G. It is hard to fathom the bravery it takes for any young person to completely uproot themselves from everything

and everyone they know for an opportunity to study at a university in the United States. Most, including our two, will go the entire four years of college without once going back to their home country or seeing their families in person.

That is why, when I tell people we are a host family and they inevitably say, "Oh, how lucky for those students to have you," I correct them. We are lucky to have them. To witness their courage and growth, and celebrate their successes. They have made our family richer, and we are honored to have played a small role in their lives while they attend the Big Blue.

Binny graduated in May (yay!), and soon will be moving across the country to attend graduate school. Thank goodness we have one more year with Gaelle before she, too, becomes an alumna and moves on. Our family will miss them, but I am comforted by the fact that we will remain in touch. And, of course, the start of each academic year will bring a new incoming class of international students seeking local friendship. At our house, we are more than happy to oblige.

CONNECT

IF YOU LIVE IN CENTRAL ILLINOIS AND WOULD LIKE TO LEARN ABOUT BECOMING AN INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP FAMILY, PLEASE EMAIL

alumnews@millikin.edu



1984

Jennifer Johnson Higginbotham,

Class of 1984, St. Louis, Mo., was promoted to chief program officer at Independence Center in St. Louis.

1998

Melissa Ventrone,

Class of 1998, Lake Zurich, Ill., was named one of Crain's Chicago 2021 Notable Gen X Leaders in Accounting, Consulting and Law. Melissa is a partner at Clark Hill PLC.

1999

John Martin Green,

Class of 1999, was promoted to wastewater treatment plant operator at Steamboat Springs in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

2003

Lucas Martell,

Class of 2003, is the executive producer and head of studio for his company, Mighty Coconut, which creates animation and video games, including the hit Oculus title "Walkabout Mini Golf."



Lucas at the 2019 premiere of "Spies in Disguise."



Alex Leong, Class of 2004

2004

Alex Leong,

Class of 2004, Chicago, Ill., is a trombonist who recently worked with Nashville singer/songwriter Mike Maimone on his new album, "Broke, Not Broken." He also recorded with blues singer Liz Mandeville and indie rocker William Steffey.

2004

Jeremy Mosier,

Class of 2004, was named Blackhawk Area Assistant Principal of the Year. Mosier is assistant principal at Geneseo High School, Geneseo, Ill.



Paul Scherschel, Class of 2004

2004

Paul Scherschel,

Class of 2004, was promoted to director of development for major gifts at William Peace University in Raleigh, N.C., where Paul and his wife, Kira Scherschel, also Class of 2004, recently relocated. Kira accepted a sixth grade teaching position in Cary, N.C. After getting settled, they took their children, Jonah and Josie, to see Santa in downtown Raleigh.

2008

Victoria Marie Mellen,

Class of 2008, welcomed a daughter, Michelle Brooke Mellen, on November 5, 2021.

2009

Danielle Ford Fields,

Class of 2009, completed a Doctor of Education with Trevecca Nazarene University. Danielle's dissertation was titled, "The Relationship Between Stress and Self-Efficacy in Primary Caregivers of Children Diagnosed with Autism."

2010

Kelli Miller Porter,

Class of 2010, St. Charles, Ill., started a new position as brand manager and content production at Grainger.

Audrey Spelde,

Class of 2010, recently graduated from George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences in Washington, D.C. Spelde graduated in the top 10% of her class and was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha. Currently, Audrey is an NIH T32 research fellow completing her post-doctoral research while working as an attending anesthesiologist at the University of Pennsylvania. Audrey married Michael Ibrahim in August of 2021.

2011

Darrin Weber,

Class of 2011, was recognized in fall 2021 with an Edward R. Murrow Award for outstanding achievements in electronic journalism by the Radio Television Digital News Association. An assistant professor of mathematics at University of Evansville, Darrin collaborated with colleagues on a seven-month research and reporting project to find stories of the coronavirus pandemic in seven Midwestern states. "COVID Between the Coasts" is ongoing, adding data-driven reporting on the pandemic for the historical record.

2012

Stacey Weidner Bassetti,

Class of 2012, married Jorge Bassetti on September 25, 2021.



Stacey Weidner Bassetti, Class of 2012

2012

Kathleen Kirchner,

Class of 2012, started a new position as a social worker at St. Louis Children's Hospital in St. Louis, Mo.



2015

Victoria “Vicky” Vargus Weber,

Class of 2015, a Latinx award-winning author and educator, wrote the children’s book, “Mirabel’s Discovery: Disney Encanto.”

2017

Jenna Eaker Krigbaum,

Class of 2017, married Kaleb Krigbaum on November 5, 2021. Jenna was promoted to executive account manager at Paylocity in Schaumburg, Ill.

2019

Breanna Beck Kirby,

Class of 2019, New Berlin, Ill., welcomed a daughter, Annalise Sue Kirby, in September 2021.

2021

Audri Bartholomew,

Class of 2021, was awarded First Place Female of the 2022 NextGen National Competition held on March 20, 2022.

2013

Jamie Kowalczyk Southall,

Class of 2013, Decatur, married Jarron Southall on November 6, 2021.

2013

Ariel Robinson,

Class of 2013, of Decatur, Ill., recently accepted a position at Millikin University as a senior admission counselor.

2021

Jaylen Davis,

Class of 2021, accepted a job as director of choirs at MacArthur High School and Stephen Decatur Middle School in Decatur, Ill.



Jaylen Davis, playing through choral repertoire in preparation to teach his first high school choir as a full-time choir director at MacArthur High School.

**CLASS NOTES SUBMITTED
AUG. 30, 2021-APRIL 30, 2022**

SHARE YOUR NEWS
ONLINE AT

millikin.edu/alumni

FACULTY, STAFF & FRIENDS MEMORIALS

Doris Devore, Zion, Ill., October 12, 2021.

Kevin Graham, Class of 1976, Decatur, February 4, 2022.

Patrick Lindsey, Danvers, Ill., March 18, 2022.

Miley Palmer, Decatur, January 24, 2022.

Larry Stapleton, Associate Professor Emeritus of Business/Management, Champaign, Ill., March 15, 2022.

ALUMNI & FRIENDS MEMORIALS

Coy Graham, Class of 1943, St. Louis, Mo., March 24, 2020.

Kathleen Cline Pettyjohn, Class of 1945, Springfield, Ill., December 18, 2021.

Clarence “Bob” Branson, Class of 1946, Henderson, N.C., September 18, 2021.

Grace Bence Febus, Class of 1947, Medina, Ohio, February 4, 2021.

Helen Rush Hutchison, Class of 1947, Scottsdale, Ariz., October 7, 2021.

Juanita Watt Lawson, Class of 1947, Sparks, Nev., September 11, 2021.

Phyllis Robinson Seaman, Class of 1947, Cape Coral, Fla., October 29, 2021.

Gladys Howett Cranston, Class of 1948, La Mesa, Calif., September 28, 2021.

Wilma Bertinetti, Class of 1950, Carlinville, Ill., January 11, 2022.

D. Richard Cole, Class of 1950, El Paso, Texas, January 15, 2022.

H. Eugene Febus, Class of 1950, Medina, Ohio, October 8, 2021.

Donald Graham, Class of 1950, Decatur, January 17, 2022.

Martha Kester, Class of 1950, Monroe, N.J., June 2, 2021.

Elmer Kostenski, Class of 1950, Decatur, January 28, 2022.

Alice Jones Lambrick, Class of 1950, Decatur, January 31, 2022.

Charles Lugo, Class of 1950, Quincy, Ill., December 3, 2021.

Ronald Mulholland, Class of 1950, Scottsdale, Ariz., September 18, 2021.

Ruth Finke Opperman, Class of 1950, Lincoln, Ill., October 16, 2021.

Gwendolyn Newbould Peiper, Class of 1950, Kirkwood, Mo., October 30, 2021.

Robert Waddell, Class of 1950, Illiopolis, Ill., November 15, 2021.

Betty Price Brown, Class of 1951, Elk Grove Village, Ill., August 14, 2021.

Richard Dolejs, Class of 1951, Burr Ridge, Ill., December 17, 2021.

David Gooch, Class of 1951, Hubbard, Texas, March 30, 2020.

Robert “Bob” Tully, Class of 1951, Dallas, Texas, December 11, 2021.

Lora Sparks Ash, Class of 1952, Atlanta, Ill., September 8, 2021.

Kenneth “Ken” Hobbie, Class of 1952, Mount Zion, Ill., October 15, 2021.

Henry Langheim, Class of 1952, Virden, Ill., June 14, 2019.

Gweneth Klitzing North, Class of 1952, Cutler Bay, Fla., September 15, 2021.

William Rhein, Class of 1952, Creve Coeur, Mo., January 27, 2022.

French Tickner, Class of 1952, Olney, Ill., August 26, 2021.

Mary Taylor Turner, Class of 1952, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, October 16, 2021.

Betty Riechman Huff, Class of 1953, South Bend, Ind., January 29, 2022.

Rollin Hurlbut, Class of 1953, Salt Lake City, Utah, January 15, 2022.

Charles “Bud” Kenney II, Class of 1953, Springfield, Ill., December 16, 2021.

Mary Murphy McBride, Class of 1953, Colorado Springs, Colo., February 17, 2022.

Joseph Werner, Class of 1953, Bethesda, Md., March 20, 2022.

Donald Brock, Class of 1954, Chicago, Ill., September 1, 2021.

Russell Davidson, Class of 1954, South Bend, Ind., February 2, 2021.

James Glenn, Class of 1954, Lincoln, Ill., August 1, 2021.

Mary Deardorff Besalke, Class of 1955, Centralia, Mo., October 19, 2019.

ALUMNI & FRIENDS MEMORIALS

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| Nancy Hoglund Davidson, Class of 1955, South Bend, Ind., August 14, 2020. | Charles Gaw, Class of 1958, West Chicago, Ill., July 24, 2021. | Alan Hendrickson, Class of 1963, Prescott, Ariz., June 9, 2021. | Sadie Trim Fox, Class of 1968, Decatur, September 16, 2021. |
| Philip Eckert, Class of 1955, Belleville, Ill., January 12, 2022. | Cecelia Armstrong Hart, Class of 1958, Springfield, Ill., March 5, 2022. | Patricia Norton King, Class of 1963, Saint Louis, Mo., February 21, 2021. | Frederic "Rick" Friedman, Class of 1968, Fox Point, Wis., February 6, 2022. |
| Carolyn Cunningham MacDonald, Class of 1955, Tuscola, Ill., May 9, 2021. | Paul Wattles, Class of 1958, Canton, Ill., September 17, 2021. | Joseph Lents, Class of 1963, Decatur, February 21, 2022. | Joyce "Elaine" Sharp Holloway, Class of 1968, Monticello, Ill., March 12, 2022. |
| Ronald Bates, Class of 1956, Mahomet, Ill., January 24, 2022. | Larry Barnes, Class of 1959, Santa Ana, Calif., November 22, 2021. | John Davis, Class of 1964, Decatur, February 21, 2021. | William Kuntz, Class of 1968, Los Fresnos, Texas, January 24, 2022. |
| James Dunn, Class of 1956, Sebring, Fla., November 7, 2021. | Eugene Kuhn, Class of 1959, Tuscaloosa, Ala., July 5, 2021. | David Drobisch, Class of 1964, Decatur, February 4, 2022. | John Scherer, Class of 1968, Decatur, October 24, 2021. |
| William Grant, Class of 1956, Bloomingdale, Ill., November 20, 2021. | Linda Brown Plambeck, Class of 1959, Maryville, Tenn., January 3, 2022. | Kathleen Borchers, Class of 1965, Chattanooga, Tenn., October 15, 2021. | Lawrence Bonnet, Class of 1969, Peoria, Ill., November 23, 2021. |
| Janet Turner McClelland, Class of 1956, Decatur, October 23, 2021. | Helen Patrick Wells, Class of 1960, Decatur, December 2, 2021. | Catherine Kelder, Class of 1965, Benzonia, Mich., August 22, 2021. | Barry Campbell, Class of 1969, Wilmington, Ohio, March 28, 2022. |
| Jack Schepper, Class of 1956, Decatur, December 1, 2021. | Carol Hadley Grimley, Class of 1961, Greenwood, Ind., January 12, 2022. | Dean Reinebach, Class of 1966, Las Vegas, N.M., October 2021. | Earl Hendricks, Class of 1969, Decatur, January 13, 2022. |
| Jay Sharp, Class of 1956, Washington, Ill., November 10, 2021. | Elizabeth Rachford Hoyd, Class of 1961, Brookfield, Ill., April 3, 2022. | Warren Waters, Class of 1966, East Alton, Ill., March 4, 2022. | Thomas "Tommy" Reeve, Class of 1969, Decatur, February 8, 2022. |
| Shirley Dietschy Thomas, Class of 1956, Millstadt, Ill., November 11, 2021. | Barbara Bates Sweat, Class of 1961, Hinesville, Ga., October 18, 2021. | Janet Geibel, Class of 1967, Decatur, April 11, 2022. | Conrad Reid, Class of 1969, Saint Joseph, Ill., September 20, 2021. |
| Carol Cuttill, Class of 1957, Decatur, January 17, 2022. | Sam "Sammy" York, Class of 1961, Decatur, April 1, 2022. | Stephen Jones, Class of 1967, Effingham, Ill., October 1, 2021. | Beverly "Cookie" Carter, Class of 1970, Decatur, January 17, 2022. |
| Harold Crump, Class of 1958, Boody, Ill., December 23, 2021. | Harold Crites, Class of 1962, Taylorville, Ill., January 15, 2022. | James Mackey, Class of 1967, Shorewood, Ill., January 17, 2022. | Margaret Friend, Class of 1970, Phoenix, Ariz., December 30, 2021. |
| | Raymond Harrison, Class of 1962, Chillicothe, Ill., September 1, 2021. | Phillip Pursley, Class of 1967, Park Forest, Ill., October 9, 2021. | Anna Crum Greenhalgh, Class of 1970, Arcadia, Calif., April 13, 2021. |
| | | Robert "Bob" Townsend, Class of 1967, Decatur, January 20, 2022. | |

ALUMNI & FRIENDS MEMORIALS

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Janice Zepp Ramsey, Class of 1970, Florissant, Mo., August 17, 2021. | Joan Shoemaker Merrill, Class of 1973, Decatur, January 7, 2022. | Jeffrey Hultgren, Class of 1979, Milan, Ill., March 23, 2022. | Alexandra Bartley Caputi, Class of 1991, Rock Hill, S.C., August 31, 2021. |
| Gary Smart, Class of 1970, Urbana, Ill., June 16, 2020. | Fred Miller Jr., Class of 1973, Aurora, Ill., September 1, 2021. | Marjorie Strohl, Class of 1979, Shelbyville, Ill., December 3, 2021. | Eric "Rick" Romager, Class of 1992, Springfield, Ill., December 28, 2021. |
| Eugene Whitmore, Class of 1970, Dunlap, Ill., December 12, 2021. | Truman Bray, Class of 1975, Decatur, January 13, 2022. | Peggy Kolberer Peterson, Class of 1981, Urbana, Ill., September 8, 2021. | Chad Cardot, Class of 2001, Champaign, Ill., January 21, 2022. |
| Timothy Corbin, Class of 1971, Orange, Texas, November 15, 2021. | Lane Hendricks, Class of 1975, Decatur, November 8, 2021. | Jeffrey Lewis, Class of 1983, North East, Pa., November 22, 2021. | Keisha Young-Rowe, Class of 2002, Atlanta, Ga., August 19, 2021. |
| Wanda Corsaw Crawley, Class of 1971, San Jose, Ill., August 28, 2021. | Linda Clough Ledbetter, Class of 1975, Decatur, September 7, 2021. | Andrew Verdooren, Class of 1985, Lincoln, Neb., October 9, 2021. | Cherie Kieपुरa Garza, Class of 2003, Homewood, Ill., September 13, 2021. |
| Peggy Thiele Moma, Class of 1971, Decatur, January 5, 2022. | Jettie Street, Class of 1975, Decatur, November 6, 2021. | Pamela Thompson, Class of 1986, Casselberry, Fla., February 4, 2022. | Teri Barnett, Class of 2005, Decatur, March 25, 2022. |
| Roger Tomlin, Class of 1971, Franklin, Tenn., September 2, 2021. | Rose Hill Bradford, Class of 1976, Decatur, September 17, 2021. | Lynda Jackson Hagler, Class of 1987, Mattoon, Ill., October 11, 2020. | Steven Ventress, Class of 2006 & 2007, Macon, Ill., September 8, 2021. |
| Charles Dulaney, Class of 1972, Kimble, Minn., December 7, 2021. | Ellen Craig, Class of 1976, Brookfield, Wis., August 5, 2021. | Kirsten Stone Morlock, Class of 1987, Memphis, Tenn., November 29, 2021. | Jill Davidson, Class of 2012, Westfield, Ind., September 16, 2021. |
| Debra Donnelly Akers, Class of 1973, Newman, Ill., November 22, 2021. | Mark Dawson, Class of 1978, Taylorville, Ill., April 11, 2022. | Natalie Mauck McDowell, Class of 1989, Monticello, Ill., November 6, 2021. | Michael Valley II, Class of 2015, Lebanon, Ind., October 20, 2021. |
| Glenn "Bill" Bowen II, Class of 1973, Topeka, Kan., October 21, 2021. | Philip Flaughner, Class of 1978, Decatur, January 8, 2022. | Angela Henry Palanca, Class of 1990, Homewood, Ill., May 20, 2020. | |
| Thomas Bucy, Class of 1973, Warminster, Pa., March 2, 2022. | David Ebbert, Class of 1979, Viola, Wis., February 11, 2022. | Douglas Bingaman, Class of 1991, Athens, Tenn., August 28, 2021. | |

SUPPORT

**MEMORIAL GIFTS
CAN BE MADE IN HONOR
OF LOVED ONES AT:**

millikin.edu/memorialgift

**MEMORIALS SUBMITTED
AUG. 30, 2021-APRIL 30, 2022**



MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY

1184 WEST MAIN STREET
DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62522

millikin.edu



**CHECK OUT THE DIGITAL VERSION AT:
[MILLIKIN.EDU/MAGAZINE](https://millikin.edu/magazine)**

**800.373.7733
MAGAZINE@MILLIKIN.EDU**