

TritonPride

Iowa Central Alumni & Friends Newsletter - Fall 2020



Commencement
Goes Virtual!

Alumni
on the Front Lines

Built for Success
Greene County
Career Academy



When we started the 2019-2020 academic year, I never dreamed we would be faced with a pandemic. This year has introduced us to a number of new challenges that academic leaders never could have imagined. When our students left for Spring Break in March, we had to make a difficult decision which meant students wouldn't step foot on campus for the remainder of the year. The one thing I can tell you is that I have never seen an institution step up and do what we did to support our students to complete the year. I think I have said it before that we have the best faculty and staff in the world, and this year proved we do! The crisis that we faced wasn't easy, but our faculty and staff stood up to the challenge and moved from an almost complete face-to-face learning environment to a complete virtual learning environment. This all being done in just a few short days. Then our staff and faculty stepped up and started to support our communities by designing and making the Personal Protective Equipment that was needed during this pandemic. I couldn't be more proud of each and every employee we have at Iowa Central.

We have worked hard this summer to prepare to welcome students back on campus for the first day of class on August 18th. We have implemented many safe guards to help increase the safety and wellness of our students.

In this issue you will read about our 2020 Virtual Graduation. Even though we couldn't do it face-to-face we felt that the hard work of these graduates needed to be recognized. Once we knew we couldn't have a face-to-face graduation our graduation team went to work to put an amazing program on so that we could help our graduates celebrate their accomplishments. I am very proud of this graduation class, as they have faced challenges that the many graduation classes before them never faced. I salute the Class of 2020!

In addition, you will see the ongoing updates of our current bond referendum. We are excited to have the new Greehey Family Student Success Center ready to be opened this Fall to better help support our students in their success. We will be opening two new career academies and our industrial training center this Fall. With the Jefferson and Laurens Career Academies and the Storm Lake Industrial Training Center we will be able to serve our local youth and adult learners in our region, which will help support the growing workforce needs many of our communities are facing.

Finally, you will see our success story. In the center of this issue you will see the many faces of Iowa Central Alumni that are the real heroes of this pandemic. We are proud of our graduates who are working the frontlines to save the lives of many people and support their communities. Thank you to each of you for what you are doing! It is always heartwarming to hear from former students and I hope you reach out to share your success story with us.

Thank you for your continued support and we will see what 2020-2021 year has in store for Iowa Central.

Dan Kinney

Dr. Dan Kinney
President, Iowa Central Community College

Congratulations to the Class of 2020!

For Iowa Central Community College's 53rd Commencement, instead of walking across the stage in Hodges Fieldhouse, students participated in the College's first Virtual Commencement Ceremony due to the ongoing pandemic. On May 22nd, the event was broadcast on Iowa Central's YouTube (@IowaCentralCC) and Facebook (@IowaCentral) pages and delivered on-screen and in the living rooms of hundreds of graduates and well-wishers. The decision to go virtual was not taken lightly. The health and safety of the college students, faculty, staff, speakers, and guests were top priority. Iowa Central worked diligently to incorporate ceremonial traditions and graduates' accomplishments in a digital format.

Participating students were mailed their Iowa Central diploma covers, cap, gown, and cords ahead of the ceremony. Graduates were encouraged to take pictures donning their cap and gown and send them to Iowa Central to be displayed during the event broadcast.

"While it is disheartening not to have a normal commencement, our team has worked tirelessly to create the same level of pomp and circumstance surrounding this year's graduation," said Dr. Dan Kinney, President of Iowa Central Community College. "Triton Nation remains strong, and this event is a testament to that."

Traditional commencement greetings from Iowa Central's President, Dr. Kinney and Board of Trustees President, Mark Crimmins set the procession in motion. "I have shared with our team, and now with you today, that in life, being prepared to solve challenges strengthens our ability to succeed. You have overcome challenges to achieve your degree today. We commend you on your resiliency and ability to achieve despite the impact of this difficult situation," opened Dr. Kinney.

This year, speakers included Student Senate Vice-President, Macy Wunschel (cover); All-Iowa Academic Team & All-USA Academic Team Nominee, Brooklin Border; and Commencement Speaker, The Honorable William Thatcher. Wunschel and Border addressed their fellow graduates.

"A new door is opening for each of us. Some may be entering the workforce, transferring to a university, or entering into a program; this door is going to enter you into a new realm filled with new experiences. So, I encourage you to take this leap into your future with trust that Iowa Central has taught you to be the best that you can possibly be," said Wunschel.

Border added, "One thing I have learned here is that the whole world is, indeed, a stage. We have this stage where we can use our own voices, to speak out, to learn new things, travel, make new friends, and do whatever makes us happy. We have one chance at life, so why not make the most of it?"

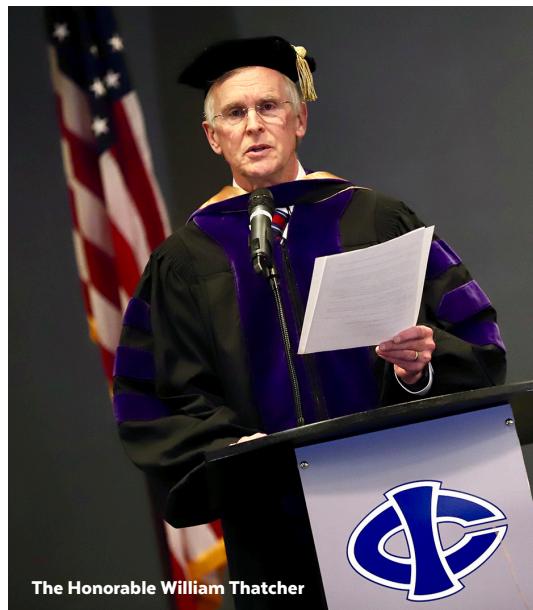
The Honorable William Thatcher, offered some encouraging words of wisdom. "I've been judging people for over four decades. I've seen winners, and I've seen losers. As a result, I have three recommendations for you. Make good memories. Make good decisions. Have a winning attitude," said Thatcher. "Excellence is not a skill. It's an attitude. No matter what you do in life, whether it is being a diesel mechanic, an artist, an engineer, a nurse or a farmer, you must carry a positive, winning attitude. Your attitude will define you."

The ceremony concluded with a special video tribute featuring photos of students participating in various events throughout the year.

Under the direction of Vocal Music Director, Will Lopes, the Iowa Central Vocal Jazz Ensemble joined from their homes across the country to sing The Star-Spangled Banner.

Pomp and Circumstance, composed by Sir Edward Elgar and The Iowa Band Law March, composed by Karl L. King, were put together under the direction of Paul Bloomquist, Director of Instrumental Music. These musical pieces by the Iowa Central Concert Band were remotely recorded individually and then mixed together into the final versions by Mr. Bloomquist.

Those interested in viewing the event can watch it on the college's YouTube page at youtube.com/IowaCentralCC





BOND REFERENDUM UPDATES

Updates to our campuses got underway following the successful passing of our bond issue in February of 2018. We have made significant progress and here are a few of the highlights!

- The Greehey Family Student Success Center construction is nearly complete. (1)
- At our Storm Lake campus, construction continues for the new Industrial Training Center. (2)
- Parking lot resurfacing projects are underway at our Webster City campus and on our main campus next to the Applied Science & Technology Building. (3,4,5)
- Liberal Arts Building new roof and other improvements are completed.
- Additional building locks and security cameras are being installed.
- Science Building remodeling is moving forward.

For more details and a complete list of updates, visit our website at www.iowacentral.edu

Built for Success!

As summer draws to a close, the new career academy in Jefferson will be opening up and welcoming students. The career academy is connected to the new Greene County high school. The structure of the program will provide students the opportunity to learn skills for high demand jobs while still in high school and earn college credit at the same time.

Students will have several different career options to choose from in the career academy. Programs include Agriculture Information Technology, Advanced Manufacturing and Welding, Construction/Building Trades, Computer Software / Programming, Culinary Arts and Hospitality, and Health Care.

Iowa Central and the Greene County Community School district broke ground for the new building in the Spring of 2019 after the successful passing of a bond issue with 68% approval.



Sheanelle Rose finds success at Iowa Central

When you wake up in the morning, and you are excited to start your work day, you know you're in the right career. Finding the road to discover a job you're passionate about sometimes takes a few tries. For Sheanelle Rose of Webster City, IA, her journey started at a University. "After the first semester, I knew that I preferred a smaller setting," recalls Rose. Growing up in Webster City, Rose was familiar with Iowa Central Community College and the programs offered. "I worked at a hospital in Emergency Department Registration and that peaked my interest in learning more about a career in the medical field. I completed both certified nursing assistant course and emergency medical technician course, not knowing which path to go down. I considered a registered nurse career. Ultimately, I decided on becoming a Paramedic," shares Rose. She credits one of her mentors with her career choice. "When I was in middle school, I broke my ankle playing softball and needed crutches. Andi Dyer, who's a paramedic, taught me how to

use the crutches, and I always remembered her kindness and professionalism. We reconnected when I started working at the hospital, and I was inspired by her passion and knowledge of the paramedic field," says Rose.

In August 2016, Rose enrolled in the Paramedic program at Iowa Central. "The small class room size, and one-on-one attention made for a great experience for me. The learning environment allowed me to have hands-on experience which was invaluable," recalls Rose. Following graduation in 2018, Rose joined the Fort Dodge Fire Department in December of that year. "Each day is different, and I really enjoy that aspect. What I love the most is helping people make the best of their situation. First responders are often the first glimmer of hope during a crisis or challenging moment. It's humbling to know that our presence shines a light at a dark time," reflects Rose, who's husband Dylan is also on the front line as a police officer for the city of Webster City. For people considering a career in the medical field, Rose encourages looking into the paramedic program. "My work is very rewarding, and I am lucky to work with a great group of teammates!" exclaims Rose.

Interested in learning more about one of the medical services programs at Iowa Central? Call our Advising Center today at 1-800-362-2793 to learn more about the medical career options we offer:

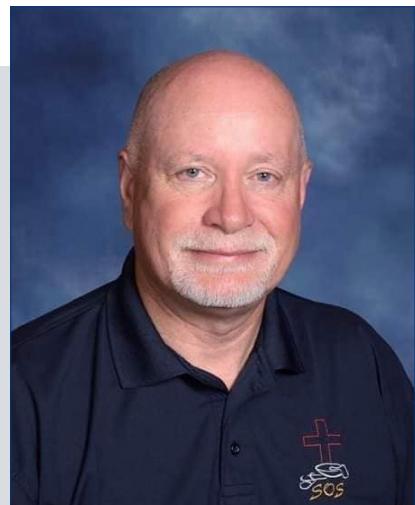
- **Certified Nurse Aid**
- **Dental Hygiene**
- **Emergency Medical Service (Paramedic/EMT)**
- **Medical Assistant**
- **Medical Laboratory Technician**
- **Nursing**
- **Radiologic Technology**



Henderson Scholarship Available to Help

In memory of Rev. Allen Henderson, who was pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fort Dodge, a scholarship is available for students majoring in Emergency Medical Services, Fire Science or Criminal Justice. Rev. Henderson served the greater Fort Dodge community for twenty years and helped start the "Serving Our Servants" initiative in 2014. He was also the Chaplain for local law enforcement and first responders.

Scholarship applicants must be first year attending Iowa Central full-time for one of the specific programs and reside in Region V (Buena Vista, Calhoun, Greene, Hamilton, Humboldt, Pocahontas, Sac, Webster or Wright county). Application must include an essay of 500 words or more explaining why you have chosen your field of study, plus a letter of recommendation. Scholarship is renewable for 2nd year with a 2.5 or greater GPA.





We couldn't be more proud of our Triton Alumni
working on the frontlines to help keep us safe.

Dr. Kinney and all of us at Iowa Central thank you for all
you are doing for our communities!

See more at www.facebook.com/iowacentral



Share your STORY!

Do you want to be the next alumni to be highlighted in our “Share Your Story” feature? Do you have any photo memories you’d like to share with us? Tell us and you may become our next feature! Share your story and submit photos by email to decoursey@iowacentral.edu!



2005 Graduate
Fort Dodge, Iowa

Jessica Bailey



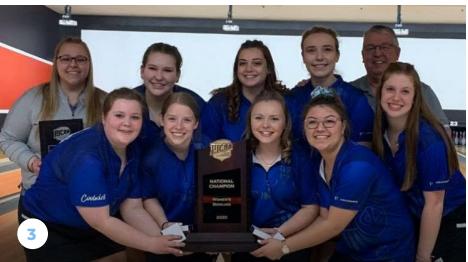
A career in nursing provides opportunities to explore many different areas of health care. For Jessica Bailey of Fort Dodge, her 15-year career in nursing started taking shape as a student at Iowa Central. “When I was a student, many of us were not sure which direction we wanted to go,” recalls Bailey who graduated from the Iowa Central nursing program in 2005 and has worked at UnityPoint Health - Fort Dodge since graduation. For Bailey, helping patients in the hospitals critical care unit as a registered nurse aligned with career aspirations. “While I was a student at Iowa Central, the instructors taught me and my classmates important lessons about nursing that went beyond the technical skills. We learned how to care for patients with grace and compassion during a patient’s most vulnerable times,” shares Bailey. For nearly eight years she has served hundreds of patients at the bedside, hospitalized for critical care.

In addition to utilizing her clinical nursing skills, she also had the opportunity to mentor other nurses and provide leadership. “It’s so important for nurses to lean into empathy for patients to ensure each patient truly knows we care about them and their well-being,” says Bailey. Her leadership skills did not go unnoticed, and she now serves as the Director of Quality for the hospital. In her current role, she oversees areas related to Infection Prevention, which has taken on new responsibilities with the COVID-19 pandemic. “I am serving on the Incident Command team and have helped with the planning and decision making that has gone into our COVID-19 response,” notes Bailey.

In addition to her full-time work, and raising three children with her husband Nick, she has returned to the classroom. She completed her Bachelor of Science in nursing, and this December she will graduate with her Master’s in Nursing degree as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner. “I’m excited for this next step in my nursing career and am grateful that I got a great start by going to Iowa Central. I believe that at Iowa Central if you put forth your best effort, you get a lot out of the program and you will be well prepared to start your journey in nursing,” exclaims Bailey.



#TRITONNATION



1 Triton Rugby's Elijah Hayes was selected in the first ever Major League Rugby Collegiate Draft with the 19th pick by the Utah Warriors!

2 National Champion! Triton Wrestling's Boone McDermott battled to a national title at the NJCAA National Wrestling Tournament.

3 The Triton Women's bowling team was named Women's Bowling NJCAA Academic Team of the Year with a 3.49 GPA!

4 A 3.40 GPA and Women's Half Marathon Academic Team of the Year honors for our Triton Women's Half Marathon team!

5 The Triton Men's Track & Field team are NJCAA Indoor Track & Field National Champions! That's 4 of the last 5!

6 After 17 seasons and over 800 wins at the helm of Triton Baseball and Softball, Rick Sandquist announced his retirement.

7 Let's hear it for Iowa Central Swimming! The Triton men placed 3rd and the Triton women finished 4th at the NJCAA National Meet!

**Follow Triton Athletics
online at www.ictritons.com
and on Twitter @ICTritons**

Five in a row! Iowa Central has been awarded the Daktronics/NATYCAA Cup for the fifth consecutive year (11 of the last 12)! The Daktronics/NATYCAA (National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators) Cup is awarded each year to the athletic department that earns the most points for team finishes at national tournaments!



Giving Back To Our Foundation

Do you ever go to the mailbox with excitement because you know there's going to be good news waiting for you in an envelope? My guess is that may only happen if you still get birthday cards with money. I'm several years past those days of a greeting card with a crisp \$5 bill carefully taped to the inside with the smallest sliver of wrapping tape. However, my daily mail is filled with wonderful news these days! The students who we awarded a Foundation scholarship to are sending in their donor thank you letters! It is truly heartwarming to read each student's words of appreciation to our generous donors. Here's a small sample of what they have to say.

"Words can barely describe just how appreciative I am to be receiving a Foundation Scholarship. I spent countless hours working in the library this year, and to receive an award such as this one, really makes me believe that on top of the steep, bouldering mountain, is a beautiful view waiting to be seen."

~ Pre-Law major student returning for sophomore year

"I have been interested in healthcare for as long as I can remember. Working with patients is my passion; I love helping other people get better, whether that's physically or mentally. Thanks to your generosity, I am able to get one step closer to completing my dream."

- Freshman, Nursing major student

"I am pursuing an education at Iowa Central Community College because of the quality education that you can get at an affordable rate. I decided that Iowa Central was best for me because of the feeling that I received when I was on campus for a tour, which felt like home."

~ Freshman, Electrical Technologies

Working with students is one of the best parts of serving on the Iowa Central team. Reading the students' letters confirms that the entire team of employees strives to carry out the college's mission of providing quality educational opportunities in and outside of the classroom.

Awarding scholarships is always challenging due to the number of outstanding applications we receive. This year, the number of applications submitted increased by 44%, making the selection process even more difficult. Thank you to each student that submitted an application!

Foundation scholarships for students are possible because of donors who give to the foundation. Would you like to help support scholarships? Gifts of any size make a difference. Donations can be mailed to: Foundation Office, 1 Triton Circle, Fort Dodge, IA 50501 or donate online at <https://iowacentral.augusoft.net>. If I can answer questions, please feel free to reach out at 515-574-1145 or ludwig@iowacentral.edu

Warm Regards,

Mary



Mary Ludwig
Executive Director,
Development and Alumni Affairs.



Sulzbach gift perpetuates scholarship

In 1864, Reinhard Sulzbach and his wife Catherine moved to Fort Dodge and were early settlers of the community. Their great grandson, Dan, remembers stories passed through the generations about the impact his ancestors had in Fort Dodge. Reinhard, who emigrated to America from Germany, was a mason and stone cutter. He worked on many of the oldest buildings in Fort Dodge. Decades later, the Sulzbach family continues to provide building blocks for the future.



The Sulzbach Scholarship in memory of Reinhard and Catherine has paved the way for student scholarships since 2009. This past Fall the scholarship fund was given a large financial boost through the estate of Deborah Sulzbach. Deborah was one of five siblings in the Sulzbach family born to the grandchild of Reinhard and Catherine, Dr. John Sulzbach. Following an illness, Deborah passed away October 17, 2019. In her estate, she donated a portion to Iowa Central to perpetuate the Sulzbach Scholarship which is awarded each year to a full-time student in a Health Science or Bioscience major.

Iowa Central is grateful for the generosity of Deborah and her desire to leave a legacy through scholarships. "Every gift makes an impact by allowing the Foundation to provide scholarships to outstanding Iowa Central students. We thank Deborah for her vision to preserve scholarship opportunities for many generations to come," shares Ed Shimkat, Foundation Board President.

If you are interested in establishing a scholarship at Iowa Central, we're happy to help! Questions can be directed to Mary Ludwig, Executive Director of Development and Alumni Affairs at 515-574-1145 or at ludwig@iowacentral.edu

Proud to be a **TRITON**



Iowa Central played an important role as our communities were in need of PPE! Our Industrial Manufacturing program went to work and created 2,500 face shields that were distributed throughout health care facilities in our area and we partnered with Iowa Prison Industries to be a pick-up/drop-off location for volunteers to help sew thousands of protective cloth gowns!



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ENROLL NOW!

Fall classes begin August 18th

Call the Admissions Office at 515-574-1005!