Dr. Pirjo Helena Vaittinen will join the university as a 2005-2006 Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence (SIR). Dr. Vaittinen is the first Fulbright Scholar hosted by Finlandia University, and the first-ever Finnish national requested to serve as a Scholar-in-Residence by a U.S. college.

The primary objective of the worldwide SIR Program is to bring scholars and professionals from abroad to the campuses of U.S. colleges that infrequently or never host visiting scholars, expanding the contact their students and faculty have with people of other cultures. “There have not been any SIRs from Finland ever before,” said Terhi Mölsä, Executive Director of the Fulbright Center of Helsinki, Finland. “So there’s a particular reason to make Dr. Vaittinen a cause célèbre!”

“Dr. Vaittinen’s residency will enrich the community outreach activities of Finlandia University,” said Dr. Jeanne Rellahan, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “She will be involved in a variety of activities with local institutions including the Finnish-American Heritage Center, the City of Hancock, the history departments of Michigan Technological University and Northern Michigan University, the Copper Country Intermediate School District, and Eldercare Services through the Portage Health System.”

Dr. Vaittinen is a senior lecturer in Finnish pedagogy for the Department of Teacher Education at the University of Tampere, Tampere, Finland. She earned her Ph.D. in comparative literature from the University of Turku and is trained in teaching Finnish as a foreign language. Dr. Vaittinen has been studying and teaching Finnish language and culture for more than 30 years. She is particularly interested in interdisciplinary theories of teaching Finnish as a foreign language, and her expertise includes Finnish culture, especially contemporary literature, theatre and film. Dr. Vaittinen's husband, Kari Juhani Hiltula, and daughter, Minna Maria Hiltula, will join her in Michigan.

During her one-year residency in the Copper Country, Dr. Vaittinen will participate in a variety of activities that aim to strengthen the international resources and programs of both Finlandia University and the community as a whole. “Dr. Vaittinen will play a central role in the planning and delivery of academic and community outreach programs that will deepen our connections with contemporary Finland and the Finnish-American community,” said Finlandia President Dr. Robert Ubbelohde.

To enhance Finlandia's existing Finnish studies and language program, Dr. Vaittinen will teach several classes for the Suomi College of Arts & Sciences, including “Topics in Finnish Studies”. She will also participate with faculty and staff in revitalizing Finlandia’s Finnish Studies curriculum. “A long-term goal for the Finlandia Finnish Studies concentration is to make the program among the most significant in the U.S.,” said Dr. Rellahan. “Dr. Vaittinen’s expertise will help us to expand the links between Finlandia University and relevant community institutions and agencies with Finnish connections, and begin building a consortium of universities and colleges that share a Finnish focus in their academic, cultural and community programs.”

Dr. Vaittinen will also pursue her own historical and cross-cultural research related to the use of the Finnish language in America, and collect historical and contemporary documents and narratives exploring the identity of Finnish-American immigrants. “I want to explore the Finnish language and its use in America, and create new material and innovative ways of teaching Finnish to non-native speakers,” explained Dr. Vaittinen.

Dr. Rellahan is responsible for organizing and supporting the activities of the Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence during the 2005-2006 academic year. She was a Fulbright Senior Scholar to the University of Jyväskylä in 1989-1990, and served as chairperson of a Regional Administrators' and Teachers' Exchange Program in Hawaii from 1998 to 2004. Dr. Rellahan joined the faculty of Finlandia University in summer 2004 from Hawaii Pacific University.

The Fulbright Program, the U.S. government’s flagship program in international educational exchange, was established in 1946. Fulbright grants are made to U.S. citizens and nationals of other countries for a variety of educational activities.

The Fulbright Center in Helsinki, Finland, is a non-profit organization that specializes in academic exchange between Finland and North America. Over three thousand Finns have studied in the United States through the Fulbright Center's grant programs since 1950. Among them are numerous cultural, society, and business leaders. Well over one thousand Americans have visited Finland on a Fulbright grant.
Exploring a Finnish Language Consortium
Kellogg Foundation grant unites North American educators

Presenting the Class of 2005
Valedictorians and alumna share thanks and insight

Honorary Degrees Awarded
Accomplishments of Finnish ambassador and Lutheran pastor recognized

Art, Design and Business
Innovative synergies foster student entrepreneurship

Student Excellence Recognized
Who’s who among students at Finlandia

The Finnish-American Reporter
An important link for Finnish Americans and friends

North Wind Books at Finn Grand Fest
Authors to sign works at Tori Market

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Is it paradoxical, or perhaps anachronistic, for Finlandia to commit itself to maintain a connection to contemporary Finland and to celebrate its Finnish-American roots, while also proclaiming in its mission commitments to be “globally connected,” “international” and to have a “diverse faculty and student body?” Why do three of Finlandia’s nine major goal commitments address Finnish or Finnish-American relations and connections?

While it might be difficult to explain what the ‘Finnish’ connection brings to the education of our students and the life of the institution, we are committed to celebrating our Finnish/Finnish-American roots and fostering contemporary relationships with institutions, agencies and groups in Finland. We hope this issue of The Bridge provides some insight into our commitments and will inspire you, whether or not you are of Finnish heritage.

From a personal perspective, I am continually amazed at what I learn through our Finnish connections, and my own contacts with both national Finns and Finnish-Americans. Having now been a visitor to Finland over fifty times, I believe my own life has been enriched and inspired by a culture and history that was little known to me seventeen years ago when I came to Finlandia University, then Suomi College.

The work Finland has done in the areas of national planning and economic development is cutting-edge. We here in the United States can learn much from their strength and experience as a nation, as in Finlandia’s efforts to become a model for improving the well-being of our students, faculty and staff as well as the communities we serve.

A unique perspective on Luther and his theology developed by a group of scholars in Finland is both challenging and thought provoking. The Finnish presence in the world of music is astonishing, and perhaps the most familiar Finnish example to the non-Finns I have visited. Finnish design frequently blends a sense of history with bold experimentation.

An alumus from Connecticut, Richard Gross, has for a number of years sent me a clipping of every article that appears in the New York Times about Finland, Finns and Finnish-Americans. The number of clippings I receive from him (a number that seems to increase each year), and the breadth of topics covered in the clippings, leaves me in awe. I wish I had saved each article as they would make a wonderful collage indicating the reasons why celebrating our Finnish roots and building relationships with individuals and groups in Finland enriches the education we offer students.

The learning that goes on through exchange of students and faculty is mutual. A faculty member from Finland told me that after a year here, he now understood there to be several Finnish cultures. He also shared that, while he found much in common with his Finnish-American friends, he also learned that there were many differences.

It is my hope that our exchange programs and relationships with a variety of Finnish organizations, agencies and individuals will encourage self-reflection and learning among all participants. In short, our Finnish heritage and contemporary Finnish relationships contribute to the exciting learning community at Finlandia through the encouragement of self-reflective and critical inquiry.
A one-year, $25,000.00 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation has made it possible for Finlandia University to establish an Advisory Board of Finnish Language Instruction. Comprised of North American educators involved in all levels of Finnish language instruction, the advisory board will study the viability of establishing a North American Finnish Language Consortium.

“The teaching of the Finnish language to younger generations continues in numerous Finnish-settled and Finnish-American communities in the U.S. and Canada,” said Project Director James Kurtti. “The new advisory board will investigate the practicality of establishing a central “network hub” or consortium of resources for these teachers and students of Finnish language and culture.”

The advisory board will include representatives from local elementary and secondary public schools, several universities, the Concordia College-sponsored Salolampi Finnish Language Village, and the Suomi Koulus, an informal network offering Finnish language instruction to Finnish nationals living in North America.

The first meeting of the advisory board will take place this fall. The board will survey Finnish language instructors, develop a proposal exploring the establishment of a central resource body for the support of North American Finnish language and culture instruction, and investigate and identify sources of funding for a Finnish language and culture center.

Among other items, the advisory board study will measure the need for instructional materials geared toward North American students and teaching methods. With few exceptions, current Finnish language instruction materials are produced in Finland based on Finnish teaching and learning methods. North American Finnish language instructors at all levels will be surveyed, and their interest in professional development and training opportunities will be gauged.

The advisory board will explore options for appropriate activities within the consortium, investigate areas in which current programs are lacking, and identify strategies for filling program voids. A survey, statistical studies and an action plan will be completed within the next 12 months.

In recent years, several Copper Country area public schools have included Finnish language and culture in their curricula. Calumet Elementary School cooperates with “sister-schools” in Finland, second graders at Hancock Elementary School participate in a “Finnish Connection” social studies unit, Chassell High School offers three levels of Finnish language instruction, and elementary-age students in Baraga, MI, can select a Finnish-related social studies unit.

In addition, several North American institutions of higher learning offer curricula in Finnish studies and language, including Finlandia University.

“These varied Finnish language and culture programs offer effective educational opportunities for their surrounding communities and exist on a local or regional level,” said Kurtti. “At this time, however, there is not a centralized body cooperating to produce consistent Finnish language and culture programming.”

Founded by early Finnish immigrants, Finlandia University is well placed to coordinate the study. The university continues to serve and educate many second, third and fourth generation Finnish Americans. In addition, Finlandia’s Finnish-American Heritage Center, the Finnish American Historical Archive, and the monthly newspaper The Finnish-American Reporter serve very visible roles in promoting and preserving North American interest in historical and contemporary Finnish language and culture.

Of the 623,573 people of Finnish ancestry in the U.S., 38% (238,786) live in the three-state region of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. Michigan has the largest Finnish population in the nation with 17% (101,351) of all citizens claiming Finnish ancestry. Over 45% (46,000) of these people reside in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and represent the single largest concentration of Finnish Americans in North America.

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation was established in 1930 “to help people help themselves through the practical application of knowledge and resources to improve their quality of life and that of future generations.” Its programming activities center around the common vision of a world in which each person has a sense of worth; accepts responsibility for self, family, community, and societal well-being; and has the capacity to be productive, and to help create nurturing families, responsive institutions, and healthy communities.
Finnish-American Heritage Center
Gallery Schedule 2005

July 21st – September 7th, 2005
Opening Reception: July 21st, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Mirror of the Wood: A Century of the Woodcut
Print in Finland
Organized by the Department of Art and Art History at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, this touring exhibition of 70 woodcut prints by 39 Finnish artists evokes the aura of Finland, a place of pristine forests and lakes. The exhibition explores the past and the present, the influence of place, and the Finnish cultural affinity for nature and design.

September 15th – October 14th, 2005
Opening Reception: To be announced.

Jon Neuse
Minnesota artist Jon Neuse strives to make art that is as expressive and spontaneous as the art of children. The work is often poignantly whimsical, combining representational and abstract imagery that deals primarily with the landscape.

October – November, 2005
Opening Reception: To be announced.

Jaune Quick-to-See Smith: Artist-in-Residency
Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, a member of the Flathead Nation in western Montana, is an artist, activist, curator and advocate for contemporary American Indian artists. During her campus visit she will present two workshops on monoprinting. There will also be an exhibit of her artwork, including lithographs, monoprints and mixed media pieces. Smith's work explores the issues of identity and tribal peoples.

The Finnish-American Heritage Center Gallery promotes Finlandia University’s mission: A Learning Community Dedicated to Academic Excellence, Spiritual Growth and Service, through exhibitions of contemporary Finnish, Finnish-American and American artists. Beyond advancing the arts in our region, the gallery provides educational resources for our community, and is a gathering place for people to discuss and reflect upon art. One of our goals is to become a leading exhibitor of Finnish and Finnish-American art nationwide.

Carrie Flaspohler
Gallery Director

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Akseli Gallen-Kallela (1865-1931), one of Finland's foremost artists, visited the Copper Country in 1924 and exhibited thirty-two of his paintings at Finlandia University (then Suomi College). Known as the most prominent figure in pictorial art of Finland at the turn of the 20th century, Gallen-Kallela lived in the United States from October 1924 until May 1926. He visited Hancock from February 9-14, 1924.

During his time in Hancock, Gallen-Kallela worked with Suomi College students and held a public exhibit and sale of his artwork. We know that Gallen-Kallela sold several of these paintings while in Hancock. Finlandia University and Michigan Tech each have one of these paintings in their collections, and several other paintings were sold to individuals during that time. It is also known that Gallen-Kallela donated a painting to the Kalevattaren Tupa in Hancock during his 1924 visit, although the current location of this painting is unknown.

The Finnish-American Heritage Center Gallery is searching for any paintings from Gallen-Kallela's 1924 Hancock visit that may still be undiscovered. Do you have one of these national treasures in your attic? Gallen-Kallela typically painted scenes of Finnish life, including paintings of the countryside and portraits of people. He is also known for his paintings of the Finnish national epic, the Kalevala. His paintings during that time may have been painted on cardboard, and were typically small in size.

In January 2006, Finlandia University would like to present an exhibit of paintings by Gallen-Kallela. If you have any information about Gallen-Kallela paintings, or have an idea of what happened to the painting donated to the Kalevattaren Tupa, please call Carrie Flaspohler, Gallery Director, Finlandia University, (906) 487-7500, or e-mail carrie.flaspohler@finlandia.edu.
More than 300 students, their friends and families, university faculty and staff, and university friends and supporters gathered April 21, 2005, at the annual Finlandia University Athletic Banquet to recognize the 2004-2005 academic year achievements of student-athletes.

Athletic Director Chris Salani and the head coaches of each team presented awards to student-athletes in four categories. The **Most Valuable Player Award** (MVP) is awarded to student-athletes who contributed significantly to their team’s success. The **Lion Award** recognizes student-athletes who “gave their all” during the 2004-2005 season and best represented and upheld the values of Finlandia University and its athletic programs. The **Most Improved Award** is granted to students-athletes who substantially improved their athletic performance during the academic year. And the **Academic Excellence Award** is awarded to students of at least sophomore standing who earned the highest grade point averages on each of the teams.

In addition, all students who participated in Finlandia athletic programs for the first time in the 2004-2005 academic year received a letter. This “letter” represents the student’s significant contribution to a varsity sport in varsity competition.

The following Finlandia University students-athletes received awards at the annual banquet:

**Men’s Soccer**
- MVP: Sean Yahn
- LION: Brian Kemp
- MOST IMPROVED: Darryl Sage
- ACADEMIC: Sean Yahn

**Women’s Soccer**
- MVP: Rachel Morin
- LION: Sara Sleik
- MOST IMPROVED: Katie O’Brien and Alexa Watkins
- ACADEMIC: Nora Hyrkas

**Men’s Basketball**
- MVP: Tyler Lloyd
- LION: Ryan Artley
- MOST IMPROVED: Mike Nowaczyk
- ACADEMIC: Jack Johnson

**Women’s Basketball**
- MVP: Brooke Sirard and Jessica Koski
- LION: Kathryn Holsworth
- MOST IMPROVED: Brigitte Lapointe
- ACADEMIC: Kristina Nikkonen

**Women’s Volleyball:**
- MVP: Michelle Kuure
- LION: Erica Payne
- MOST IMPROVED: Gillian Juntunen
- ACADEMIC: Lauren Roell

**Nordic Skiing**
- ACADEMIC: Sean Yahn and Lauren Roell
  Due to the newness of the Nordic Skiing program, MVP, LION and Most Improved Awards were not awarded this year.

**Men’s Hockey**
- MVP: Mike Parks and Josh Paquette
- LION: Derek Onkalo
- MOST IMPROVED: Travis Hansen
- ACADEMIC: Chris Wengi

**Women’s Hockey**
- MVP: Sara Sleik and Danielle Syrowik
- LION: Becky Beauchamp and Bree Cote
- MOST IMPROVED: Stephanie Emmi
- ACADEMIC: Jana Riutta

**Men’s Baseball**
- MVP: Darryl Sage and Shawn Wickersheim
- LION: Erik Mahler
- MOST IMPROVED: Rob Baril
- ACADEMIC: Kevin Goke

**Women’s Softball**
- MVP: Jana Riutta
- LION: Angela Gallardo
- MOST IMPROVED: Brenda Peterson
- ACADEMIC: Kristen Yesh

**Men’s Cross Country**
- MVP: Jamie Leffler
- LION: Justin Nantelle
- MOST IMPROVED: John Mackey
- ACADEMIC: Adam Huey

**Women’s Cross Country**
- MVP: Crystal Vivian
- LION: Trisha Barney
- MOST IMPROVED: Jennifer Viau
- ACADEMIC: Crystal Vivian

For additional information, please contact Steve Nordstrom at 906-487-7214 or Victoria Huenink at 906-487-7388.
Baseball - Second season brings improvements

Although the first half of the 2005 baseball season did not start out as well as the team hoped, they finished with their heads held high and looking forward to next season. Second year head coach Matt Farrell and his team finished the season 1-22 versus four-year colleges and universities. “We were a much better team than our record indicates,” states Farrell. “We lost four one-run games and three two-run games in the second half of the season.”

Playing two games at the Metrodome in Minneapolis, Minnesota, turned things around for the team in the second half of the season. “We proved we could play with anybody at our level if we played up to our potential,” says Farrell. (The Lions faced two nationally ranked NAIA teams including William-Penn of Iowa.) “It gave the players some confidence going into the second half of the season.”

Farrell saw great strides over the 2004 season. “Our batting average climbed 60 points from 2004,” says Farrell. Leading the way was the team’s Most Valuable Player, Shawn Wickersheim of White Lake, Wisconsin. “The freshman became the most consistent pitcher, as well as the best hitter,” says the head coach. He led the team in wins, ERA, innings pitched, and strikeouts on the mound. He also led in batting average (.368), home runs (4), on base percentage, and slugging percentage at the plate.

Another key player was sophomore transfer Darryl Sage of Warren, Michigan. “Darryl was the best defensive catcher I saw all year, including any of the teams we played against,” says Farrell. “His outstanding skills behind the plate saved us many runs over the course of the year.” Not only was Sage a defensive player, he also showed his strength on the offensive end with a batting average of .338, three home runs, six doubles, and 12 runs batted in.

When faced with the difficult question of “What will you work on in 2006?” Farrell said he will focus on consistency from the pitchers and defense. “If we can throw strikes and make the routine plays, we’ll be in good shape for next year.”

Softball - Impressive stats for a second year team

The Lions softball team made a great improvement over last year. With a record of 11-20 in the 2005 season, the Lions were competitive against their strong opponents. “We lost only three games in less than seven innings this year as compared to 17 last year,” says second-year head coach Joel Carpenter. “We were one play away from winning many of the losses this year.”

Many of the key wins came from key plays from the defense and Upper Peninsula players. “Our defense became very solid with Michelle Kuure (Houghton, Michigan) at third base and Joannie Derusha (Gladstone, Michigan) at second base. The outfield was solidified with the addition of transfers Meagan Petros (Marquette, Michigan) and Brenda Peterson (Laurium, Michigan),” states Carpenter.

With four players hitting over .300, the Lions offense was a threat to most Division II and III pitchers. Sophomore Jana Riutta of Stanton Township, Michigan, hit an amazing .480 this season. Lindsey Moxie (Wolverine, Michigan) followed in percentage with .397. “These are impressive stats for a second year team facing very good Division II and III pitchers,” says Carpenter.

When the season concluded, the coaching staff and the players came to a consensus that they wanted more wins. “I have been busy through the spring recruiting players who can help us do that,” says Carpenter. “In addition, we are going to build on our team confidence levels. They have seen the competition and know they can win at this level and will.”

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Recipe for Success: Nursing Students Raise Funds for Hospice Care

Finlandia University bachelor of science nursing students staged a festive Italian dinner April 2 at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Hancock to benefit the Omega House hospice project. “Music, candlelight, great food, servers, and an irresistible dessert table all added up to a net profit and donation of $1,050,” explained nursing student Cathy Bausano. “The event was so successful that we have already decided to hold this event on behalf of Omega House again next fall.”

Student Donate to Humane Society

Finlandia University Student Senate President Ryan Koski presented the Copper Country Humane Society (CCHS) with a check for $200.00 on behalf of the Student Senate March 17. In return, CCHS recognized the Student Senate with a personalized donor tile in the newly constructed humane society facility. Finlandia University students have been walking dogs at the animal shelter weekly since last fall. The funds were raised through a “student auction” in which winning bidders and their “prize” were treated to dinner and a movie.

SSS Grant Renewed

Since 1984, Student Support Services (TRIO) has provided academic, personal and career assistance to eligible Finlandia students. Director Rob McTaggert is pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Education has renewed its grant for an additional four years. Student Support Services (SSS) serves 180 students per year. SSS staff offer free on-campus professional tutoring and facilitate regular workshops on topics such as study skills, resume development, and personal health issues. All services are free and confidential to eligible students. The SSS also offers cultural enrichment activities, a laptop computer loan program and copy center services. Visit the SSS Trio website at www.fuss.com for more information.

Films Shed Light on ‘Karelian Fever’

Few people know that the forests of Soviet Karelia contain more American dead than any other site of mass graves in the world. A pair of moving documentary films was shown April 27 at the Finnish-American Heritage Center (FAHC) to shed light on this tragic chapter in world history. The first film, an encore screening of the National Film Board of Canada production “Letters from Karelia”, follows Alfred Pitkänen as he retraces through Karelia the footsteps of a father he never knew. The afternoon’s second film, “The Survivors: North American Finns in Stalin’s Russia”, produced by Anita Hokkanen Middleton, featured interviews with 20 North American Finns who survived Stalin’s ‘Great Terror.’

Those attending had a special opportunity to discuss the films and ‘Karelian Fever’ with Anita Middleton, who also co-authored her parents’ biographical book, *Karelia: A Finnish American Couple in Stalin’s Russia, 1934-1941*, and Mayme Sevander’s daughter, Stella Sevander. Mayme Sevander was a teacher, historian and writer who chronicled the lives of many American Finns who emigrated to Soviet Russia in the 1930s. Mayme’s father, Oscar Corgan, once an editor for the socialist Finnish-language newspaper “Tyomies”, helped found the 1930s Karelian movement.

SIFE Team Receives Kudos

The Finlandia University Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) Team was awarded First Runner-up and “Rookie of the Year” honors in the SIFE Regional Competition held in Minneapolis, MN, on April 5. SIFE teams from 25 universities participated in the competition. In a multi-media presentation to a panel of business leaders, Finlandia SIFE Team members explained some of the team’s community outreach activities during the past year. The panel evaluated the team’s presentation and its written
annual report using a number of criteria including creativity, innovation and effectiveness.

Established in September, 2004, this was the team’s first opportunity to compete in the annual competition. “We are a very new team, but several students have put a lot of effort into getting this organization up and running during the past year,” stated Anne Marie Larsen, International School of Business faculty member and a Sam Walton Fellow. “The students gave an excellent presentation, and the awards earned by the Finlandia team speak to the quality of the work that the students are doing.” SIFE is one of the largest university-based organizations in the world. A nonprofit entity, SIFE gives students the tools to learn the free enterprise system in real working situations. Please visit www.sife.org for additional information.

University Singers Welcoming Spring

The Finlandia University Singers treated the community to a spring choral concert April 19. The program, “Spring Songs and Spirituals”, featured a selection of spring-inspired songs and joyful spirituals by ensembles and individual voice students, including pieces composed by Moses Hogan, Randall Thompson and Michael Estes. Directed by Melissa Williams and accompanied on piano by Carla Phillips, the 12-voice choral group is comprised of Finlandia students and community members.
Today is a time of celebration for all of us as we look forward to the contributions you will make in each of your futures,” said Finlandia University President Dr. Robert Ubbelohde to the 91 graduates and hundreds of guests attending the 2005 commencement exercises on May 1. Degrees conferred to the Class of 2005 are: 32 Bachelor of Arts degrees in Elementary Education (16), Liberal Studies (5) and Rural Human Services (11); 10 Bachelor of Business Administration degrees; 7 Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees; 40 Associate in Applied Science degrees in Criminal Justice (4), Nursing (27) and Physical Therapist Assistant (9); and 2 Associate in General Studies degrees.

“Today is not the end of your learning,” Dr. Ubbelohde continued. “If we did our job well, today is actually the start of your learning. We’ve educated you to a vocation, to a calling, and that calling, quite simply, is to serve God and others. And to do that, you need to keep learning.” Dr. Ubbelohde concluded his brief message to graduates with heartfelt wishes for their success and a reminder not to forget about their time at Finlandia. “We look forward to seeing you back on campus frequently. Good Luck.”

Robin Dueweke, Hancock, MI, is the Finlandia University Class of 2005 bachelor degree program valedictorian. She received a bachelor’s of arts degree in Elementary Education.

“There is so much to the learning process besides the books and the papers. As a wise person once said, life isn’t about finding yourself; life is about creating yourself. Not only were your minds being shaped, but also the kind of people you are to be. Getting an education proves that you can accept challenges, and the responsibilities that go along with the challenges. Whether you believe it or not, the education you’ve just received helped to make you a stronger and more daring person. You are a person who takes risks. You took a risk when you came to Finlandia, and the risk paid off and will continue to. As you receive your degree today, realize that all you have accomplished is only the beginning. There are many more mountains you must climb and many more risks to take. Inside each of you the faculty of Finlandia University has planted the seed of knowledge. The seed may take a couple of years to grow, but it will bloom. So when it happens, whenever it happens, go with it and make Finlandia University proud of you.”

Karen Heck, Pelkie, MI, is the Finlandia University Class of 2005 associate degree program valedictorian. She received an associate in applied science degree in nursing.

Today marks a significant personal accomplishment in my life. I am honored to be standing here as valedictorian of my nursing class, and I thank and praise God for his grace that enabled me to complete such an undertaking. As I reflect on the last two years here at Finlandia, I believe I speak for each graduating nursing student when I say our lives have been enriched. Enriched by the quality of education, and our gifted instructors; enriched because we have shared as nursing students and become better citizens; enriched because we have discovered lasting friendships, both personally and professionally. And enriched because our passion and commitment to help promote and restore health in individuals, family and community continually grows.”

Laura Sayen, Hancock, MI, is one of two graduates in the first class of the Finlandia University Elementary Education baccalaureate program. Since graduating in 2003, she has taught sixth grade math for Houghton Middle School and now teaches fourth grade at Houghton Elementary School. Laura also earned a bachelor’s degree in business and marketing from Michigan Technological University before coming to Finlandia.

“Although we are different people than when we first started this journey, we are better equipped to face the future. A future that is full of hope and promise. The promise of a new occupation of our choosing, and the hope of being able to live each day to the fullest with the people we love. As we embark on this journey, let us remember that because of our experiences here at Finlandia University, we know three things for certain. We have the skills to learn, the aptitude to succeed, and the ability and creativity to make a difference. And we will work diligently to meet the needs and assist in solving the problems that face society today.”

Karen Hecks, Pelkie, MI, is the Finlandia University Class of 2005 associate degree program valedictorian. She received an associate in applied science degree in nursing.

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Finlandia University was pleased to recognize the influential work of two members of the Finlandia community at its May 1, 2005, commencement exercises. An Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters was granted to The Reverend Antti A. Lepisto, president of the ELCA Suomi Conference, and to His Excellency Jukka Robert Valtasaari, Ambassador of Finland to the U.S.

Past recipients of honorary degrees granted by Finlandia University include, in 2003, Tarja Halonen, President of Finland, and, in 2000, The Honorable Paavo Lipponen, Chairman of the Finnish Social Democratic Party and Prime Minister of Finland from 1995 to 2003.

The Reverend Antti A. Lepisto

The Reverend Antti A. Lepisto has been president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) Northern Great Lakes Synod Suomi Conference since 1993. His mission work with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria, Russia, has given renewed energy to the work of the Suomi Conference. His tireless leadership led to the re-emergence of the original 32 Lutheran congregations in Russia closed during Stalin’s regime, and has spurred the birth of 40 additional Russian congregations. The Evangelical Lutheran Church has now become the fastest growing church in Eastern Europe.

Pastor Lepisto has served congregations in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois, worked as a mission developer in Western Canada, and has helped many on their journeys to improve their lives and overcome drug and alcohol addiction. His ability to generate ideas that expand ministry, and his impressive energy and enthusiasm have motivated many others acting in service to Christian principles.

“There are specific requirements that we look at for the awarding of the honorary degree,” said Finlandia University President Dr. Robert Ubbelohde. “Part of it is service to God and spiritual development and, as you’ve read Antti’s biography, he’s done that.” Another requirement is interest in global or international relations. Pastor Lepisto has done that in a unique way: after his retirement. “Part of what we recognize today is Antti’s work in energizing a group to serve others,” continued Dr. Ubbelohde. “What Antti has done is not only to remind people here in the U. S. of the call to serve others, he has actually gone to serve others. Today we recognize Antti’s service to those who need help.”

His Excellency Ambassador Jukka Robert Valtasaari

Those attending the Finlandia University 2005 Commencement Exercises were privileged to hear the commencement speech of His Excellency Ambassador Jukka Robert Valtasaari, the Ambassador to the United States of the Republic of Finland from 1988 to 1996 and again since 2001. “The fact that Ambassador Valtasaari has been posted to the United States twice says much about the respect with which he is held in Finland and the United States,” said Dr. Ubbelohde. “It is very, very uncommon for an ambassador to be posted to the U.S. twice. And not only was he posted twice, his first posting was extended.”

In between postings to the U.S., Ambassador Valtasaari served as permanent secretary for the foreign ministry of the Republic of Finland, the highest non-political appointment in that ministry. Since 1966, Ambassador Valtasaari has held several additional posts in the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ambassador Valtasaari holds a master’s degree in political science and a licentiate of political science from the University of Helsinki. He was a fellow at Harvard University from 1976 to 1977. For his notable public service, Finland and other countries have awarded Ambassador Valtasaari many decorations.

Had Ambassador Valtasaari been invited to give a commencement speech on the evening news, he figured he would have had only 7.8 seconds, or about four sentences. So to compress his message into a television sound byte, Ambassador Valtasaari summarized his wishes for the Class of 2005 as follows. “Had this been television,” he said. “I would have said the following: ‘May you always retain your inquisitiveness, enthusiasm and belief that the world can be improved. Try to convey this belief to those around you and dream big. And finally, develop the ability to work with others while retaining your individuality. And above all, be true to yourselves. Now this is serious part. You have reached a milestone, now you will go out in the world. Be curious and have fun.”
A recent tour of Finlandia University’s new Portage Campus and the Center for Global Design and Business (CGDB, formerly the Business Innovation Center) generated much excitement among those present. Renovations to the first three floors of the former hospital are nearly complete. The plentiful, wide-open spaces revealed by the improvements promise many enhancements to the business and art and design synergies already fostered by Finlandia University. The university’s International Schools of Art and Design and Business will begin moving to the new campus this fall.

New business formation is one of the most important economic and social activities for any society expecting economic growth and innovation. Entrepreneurship is a widespread activity in the United States. According to the 2002 Panel Study of Entrepreneurial Dynamics sponsored by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, about 6.2 of every 100 adults 18 years old or older are engaged in starting new firms. That means that approximately 10.1 million adults in the United States are attempting to create a new business at any time. The creation of new businesses in the United States affects our economy and social structure by providing a mechanism for self-employment, innovation and economic development.

And what better way to ensure the future economic health of our communities than by creating local employment opportunities? But an entrepreneur needs both expertise and an environment in which ideas can be transformed into reality. And smaller firms need art and design graduates who understand business operations. Focusing on its core strengths, Finlandia University looked to Finland, and the culture of its founders, to address these issues. It found in business-based Finnish design education a curricula that will not only prepare students for the work place, but will also, in effect, help create that workplace for them, an innovative and perhaps revolutionary departure from how designers are currently taught in U.S. colleges.

The Finnish Design Education Model

In cooperation with the Kuopio Academy of Design of Kuopio, Finland, Finlandia University has adapted proven Finnish educational methodologies for the university’s art and design baccalaureate degree program. This business-based product design curricula educates students to fill a market niche created by small firms in need of design expertise, teaching design students the business skills necessary to start their own businesses. It is hoped that the curricula will become a model for other colleges located in rural areas throughout the United States.

The Finnish design education model fosters active university cooperation with industry and business, and the creation of design service centers, such as the CGDB, in design schools. In the classroom, the project learning method is used in teaching and learning. Students in product,
fiber and ceramic design learn design skills through creative experimentation, gain hands-on practical experience working with established businesses, and learn about international business and culture. The model also supports user-oriented design principals, and encourages environmental research and innovation toward sustainable design.

Leading to a bachelor of fine arts (BFA), Finlandia’s business-based art and design degree programs educate talented young artists to become innovators who can combine cultural influences, technology, and entrepreneurial business skills to contribute meaningfully to the companies for which they work and the local and global communities in which they live. The end result? Confident, entrepreneurial and community minded young adults, poised to make a difference on the Upper Peninsula’s business landscape, creating a brighter future for promising entrepreneurs and the State of Michigan.

The Center for Global Design and Business

Business incubation facilities have been around for many years, targeting in particular the science and technology fields. What is innovative about Finlandia’s business incubator is that it pairs business not with technology, but with artists and designers. Opening this fall, the Finlandia University Center for Global Design and Business (CGDB), at the new Portage Campus, is specifically designed to foster entrepreneurial activity by providing assistance and resources to emerging product design firms.

Small business tenants of the CGDB will enjoy access to the kind of support and resources that are vital for the growth of entrepreneurial, forward-thinking creative product design firms. And not only will CGDB tenants enjoy state-of-the-art, advanced facilities, they will have the unique opportunity to share essential business services with other concordant small firms. “The CGDB will offer office and workshop space, business equipment, conference areas, clerical assistance and knowledge resources,” said Joanne MacInnes, director of the CGDB. “By joining like-minded product design firms together in an environment built for growth, we’re creating cost-efficiencies and opportunities for very productive partnerships.”

Also housed at the CGDB, the Biz Resource Center is a one-stop location where current and future small business owners can receive business assistance and advice. Part of a network of 12 regional offices and over 30 satellite offices administered by Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center, the Biz Resource Center includes the latest computer technology, hardware and software, and an extensive small business reference library of hard copy books, and publications. The network provides a full range of services for emerging small businesses through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Illustrating further synergies at the CGDB, the Michigan Tech EnterPrise SmartZone is located on the fourth floor of the new Portage Campus. A collaboration between Michigan Technological University, the cities of Hancock and Houghton and the Keweenaw Industrial Council with the goal of creating and attracting science and engineering jobs to the area, the SmartZone’s mission is to grow the high-tech job base in the Upper Peninsula by commercializing technology developed at MTU and elsewhere, assisting the growth of local technology companies, and attracting new technology companies to the region. The SmartZone offers programs and services to encourage entrepreneurial development and help ensure the success of start-ups and small companies.

“There is so much to be gained by collaboration between university resources,

Seda Yilmaz

Seda Yilmaz has joined the faculty of the Finlandia University International School of Art and Design as an Assistant Professor of Product Design. Yilmaz recently completed a master of fine arts at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where she also taught digital imagery courses. Yilmaz also has a bachelor of science in industrial design from the Middle East Technical University of Turkey. Her academic research areas focus on the technical and cognitive aspects of design decision methodologies and techniques, the interdisciplinary design process, interactive media design fields, and human-centered design.

Yilmaz will also work as the Director of Corporate Relations for the university’s Center for Global Design and Business. “In this position, I am responsible for developing contacts with corporations, working with them on collaborative student projects, and letting companies know about the business development services the Center offers, including design consulting and rapid prototyping,” Yilmaz explained.
including students and faculty, and the real-life experiences and opportunities that a businessperson can bring,” said MacInnes. “By combining these many related components in the same facility, Finlandia students have a unique opportunity to work and learn with entrepreneurs in their areas of interest.” You can really engage a student when they understand that what they are learning in college is directly applicable to the real world, MacInnes continued. “By integrating business into the art and design curriculum, students will become comfortable and confident in a business setting, easing their transition into the working world.”

Rapid Prototyping at the CGDB

Finlandia University has been selected to receive a grant from The Coleman Foundation’s Entrepreneurship Excellence in Teaching Colleges program. The competitively awarded grant totals $150,000.00 over three academic years, 2005-2008.

The award significantly expands the services offered by the Center for Global Design and Business (CGDB) by making it possible to add rapid prototyping equipment and support. Opened in 1999 as the Business Innovation Center (BIC), the CGDB serves as a liaison between the university departments of international business and art and design and the business community by offering and facilitating services such as workforce training, business seminars, business incubation, design and business consulting and services, and now, rapid prototyping services.

“To my knowledge, Finlandia University’s CGDB will be the first organization to offer concept design and business services for rapid prototyping in the Upper Peninsula area,” said Kristian Venäläinen, assistant dean of the university’s school of art and design. The new equipment will be housed at the Finlandia University Portage Campus.

The term rapid prototyping refers to a class of technologies that can automatically construct physical models from Computer-Aided Design (CAD) data. These “three dimensional printers” allow designers to quickly create tangible prototypes of their designs, rather than just two-dimensional pictures. Rapid prototyping is widely used in the automotive, aerospace, medical, and consumer products industries.

The Coleman Foundation’s Entrepreneurship Excellence in Teaching Colleges program is a national program recognizing and supporting entrepreneurship education in colleges and universities with 4,500 students or fewer. These competitively awarded grants are awarded to schools with existing entrepreneurship programs that have strong plans for program expansion, cross-campus outreach and/or community involvement.

The Coleman Foundation, Inc. is a not-for-profit, private, independent foundation established in 1951. One of its major areas of grantmaking is education, with a strong emphasis on entrepreneurship education. Since 1981 the Foundation has invested more than $25 million in the promotion of entrepreneurship as a profession and the establishment of quality programs of entrepreneurship education for practicing entrepreneurs and students of all ages.
Friday evening, April 15, students, family members, faculty, staff and friends gathered in Finlandia Hall for the annual Finlandia University Honors Banquet. 2005 graduation candidates were recognized for their academic achievements, and endowed scholarships were awarded to continuing students.

The Class of 2005 bachelor’s degree valedictorian is Robin Dueweke (BA, Elementary Education) of Hancock, MI; the associate degree valedictorian is Karen Heck (AAS, Nursing) of Pelkie, MI. In addition, Class of 2005 summa cum laude, magna cum laude and cum laude honors were awarded to 18 bachelor’s degree and 15 associate degree candidates.

The Ken & Lois Seaton Scholarship, awarded to a continuing Copper Country area junior or senior student in a bachelor’s degree program, was awarded to nursing student Cassie Harris of Laurium, MI, and human services major Jennifer Kivela of Mohawk, MI.

The Philip and Loret Ruppe Community Service Award is awarded annually by the Ruppe family to commemorate the service of former Congressman Phil Ruppe, a Houghton, MI, native, and his late wife, Loret Ruppe, who served as head of the Peace Corps and U.S. Ambassador to Norway. The scholarship recognizes students for outstanding volunteer efforts and service to the college campus and local community. This year’s recipients are nursing student Catherine Bausano of Calumet, MI, and elementary education major Ryan Koski of Marquette, MI.

Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges

Twenty-eight Finlandia University graduating seniors have been named to the 2005 Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges, one of the most highly regarded and long-standing honors programs in the nation. Finlandia faculty and staff nominate outstanding student leaders annually for the award based on academic achievement, participation in leadership roles, service to the university and community, and potential for future achievement. The 2005 honorees are:

- Jessica Bianchi, Ironwood, MI
- Mia Collins, Houghton, MI
- April DeCaesari, Hubbell, MI
- Robin Dueweke, Hancock, MI
- Alana Evans, Lake Linden, MI
- Jerry Gagnon, Atlantic Mine, MI
- Christopher Gast, Weston, WI
- Courtney Griffin, Lake Linden, MI
- Kristy Halgren, Hancock, MI
- Todd Heinonen, Hancock, MI
- Holly Hodges, Allouez, MI
- Kathleen Hongisto, Hubbell, MI
- Scott Hueckman, Prentice, WI
- Amy Jarvi, Houghton, MI
- Marissa Kentala, Lake Linden, MI
- Matthew Keranen, Calumet, MI
- Jessica Koski, Michigamme, MI
- Sarah Leskela, Hermantown, MN
- Delsie Luokkala, Negaunee, MI
- Sherri Lystila, South Range, MI
- Melissa Maki, South Range, MI
- Angela Mulzer, Daggett, MI
- Heather Nelson, Hancock, MI
- Carin Paupore, Houghton, MI
- Go Sato, Hamura-shi, Japan
- Grace VanCamp, Reading, MI
- Christian Wengi, Waldstatt, Switzerland
- Janai Williams, Calumet, MI
In January of 2000, The Finnish American Reporter (FAR) published its first edition from new offices in the Kivi House at Suomi College/Finlandia University in Hancock, MI. The most widely read Finnish-American newspaper in North America today, the monthly English-language publication is a literary and cultural journal serving Finnish Americans and friends around the world.

Since its introduction in 1986, the FAR has included articles representing all aspects of Finnish and Finnish-American culture and life. It features stories and letters submitted by readers and correspondents, news from Finland, and items about and of interest to its readership. The publication has a stable and growing circulation of 3,600 subscribers, close to 30 retail distributors nationwide, and dozens of advertisers. The FAR reaches readers in all 50 states, in Canada, and on five continents.

Regular features of The Finnish American Reporter include the Kalenteri, a full-page calendar of events of interest to Finnish Americans, book and music reviews, and a ‘History Mystery’ that invites readers to identify the people and places in historical photographs. “It’s amazing,” said Kurtti. “Every month the Kalenteri fills a full page of the FAR. In the months of December and June, two very active months for Finnish-related events, it’s sometimes hard to fit it all in.”

“People love the letters to the editor,” Kurtti said. “Oftentimes, the letters serve to help in genealogical research, connecting readers with lost family members and friends.” A monthly Finnish language lesson, provided by the Salolampi Language Village, is also published in the FAR each month. “It’s not truly a language lesson in the sense of grammar and vocabulary,” Kurtti explained. “It reinforces and renews the knowledge and appreciation for the Finnish language many share. I’m just amazed at how many people really treasure that.” And readers of the FAR especially appreciate the inclusion of obituaries of those well known to the Finnish-American community.

These features, regional, national and international news and sports reports, and monthly columns from correspondents of Finnish-American communities across the U.S. keep Finnish communities across North America well connected, despite great distances. “The FAR is an important link for Finnish Americans,” said Kurtti. “We strive to reinforce and enrich the unique qualities that define ‘Finnish-ness.’”

A Brief History of Finnish-American Newspapers

It is estimated that of the Finnish immigrants arriving in the U.S. between 1899 and 1910, 98 percent were able to read and write, compared with an average immigrant literacy rate of 76 percent. During this period, dozens of Finnish-American newspapers were published with varying success by a number of groups including socialist, church and temperance interests. For example, Naisten Lehti, or “Women’s Newspaper,” a short-lived periodical begun in 1903 by Finnish feminist Maggie Walz, was addressed specifically to Finnish immigrant women.

For early Finnish immigrants, the newspaper became an integral institution serving their new communities. The newcomers relied on locally published Finnish language publications to keep them connected with the familiar in a strange society, and to help them to better understand and contribute to their new world. Whether by conscious design, or not, the homogeneity and strength of immigrant groups and their cultures were
bolstered by publications providing a medium for the active use of their native language, and supplying news from their homeland and other Finnish communities across America. Conversely, regardless of the desires of their editors, early immigrant newspapers also contributed to the Americanization of immigrants by passing on news of America and the communities in which they lived, acclimating them to American customs and, through advertising, to American consumer products.

Published by the Työmies Society, Työmies or “Working Man” was one of the most significant Finnish working-class papers in early 20th century America. Begun in 1903 at Worcester, MA, it was moved to Hancock, MI in 1904, and in 1914, to Superior, WI. It became a daily publication in 1910 and was an influential force in the development of the immigrant labor movement of the early 1900s. From a circulation of 700 in 1903, the newspaper reached nearly 16,000 readers in 1920.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FINNISH AMERICAN REPORTER

In 1985, recognizing that the future of the Finnish-American press may depend on its transfer to the English language, the Työmies Society proposed the formation of an independent, non-aligned English language newspaper at the 1985 Finn Fest celebration on the campus of Suomi College. The proposal did not bear immediate fruit, but the Työmies Society was still convinced of its efficacy.

Exhibiting the ’sisu’ typical among Finns and Finnish Americans, later in 1985 the Society began publication of an English language supplement to its weekly newspaper, Työmies Eteenpäin (T-E), or “Working Man Forward.” For nearly a year, it was included as a one-page insert in the T-E. In 1986 at the Berkley, CA, Finn Fest celebration, a free, 24-page sample copy of the first stand-alone edition of The Finnish-American Reporter was distributed. This time, the paper was well received.

The Työmies Society continued to publish both the FAR and the T-E for ten years. The weekly Työmies-Eteenpäin ceased publication in 1995. “The Society continued to publish the FAR for several years,” said Kurtti, “But they simply did not have the staff to do it any longer.” So the Työmies Society began to seek a new home for the FAR. After considering more than 20 educational and non-profit organizations, in 1999, the Työmies Society gifted the FAR and substantial assets to Suomi College.

“That, to me, is the single most positive event in recent Finnish-American history,” said Kurtti. “In 1913, the Työmies Society and its publications were literally ‘run out of town’ as tensions among striking workers and the mining industry reached a boiling point,” Kurtti continued. “For the Työmies Society to give the paper to Suomi College is a very important symbol of the healing of Finnish America.”

Sources:
The Finnish American Reporter
“For the Common Good: Finnish immigrants and the radical response to industrial America”, 1977, Työmies Society

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Finnish-American people, history and culture, and the rugged and awesome beauty of the northern Great Lakes region have inspired the work of numerous contemporary authors, historians, photographers and musicians. This rich body of creative work will be well represented at Finn Grand Fest 2005 in Marquette, Michigan, August 10-14. Finlandia University’s North Wind Books has arranged for many of these authors and artists to sign copies of their books and CDs at their booth at the event’s Tori Market.

- A professor of English at Finlandia University, **Lauri Anderson** describes the Finnish American experience with humor, sensitivity and insight. His many works of fiction include *Misery Bay: And Other Stories from Michigan’s Upper Peninsula* (2002) and *Children of the Kalevala: Contemporary American Finns Relive the Timeless Tales of the Kalevala* (1997).

- **Dr. Marion Wisti Brown**, a professor of history, was raised on a farm in Chassell Township, MI. Her recent book, *A Finnish Immigrant Son in the Great War, 1918-1919* (2004), is based primarily on the experiences of William Wisti, Dr. Brown’s father, in the American Expeditionary Force in France during World War I.


- First published by William Crowe in 1952, the third edition of *Lumberjack: Inside an Era in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan*, 50th anniversary edition (2002), has been revised and expanded by Crowe’s granddaughters **Lynn Emerick** and Ann Weller.

- In the mid-1800s, the Cornish ancestors of **Lon Emerick** came to the Keweenaw Peninsula to mine copper ore. His books *Going Back To Central: On the Road in Search of the Past in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula* (2003) and *The Superior Peninsula: Seasons in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan* (1996) explore the history and beauty of the Upper Peninsula.

- The music of **Barbara Hanka** is inspired by Finnish heritage and culture, family history, and the Lake Superior environment. Her CD, “A Change in Seasons” features the sounds of the Finnish language, the kantele, flutes and Sami drums.

- A collection of poetry and photographs, *The Co-op Label* (2005) interprets many immigrant experiences of 20th century America. The poetry of Finnish American **Jim Johnson** tells of first- and second-generation dreams, struggles, and belief in the ideals of cooperation; **Marlene Wisuri** captures their spirit with haunting images that are both touching and mysterious.


- A native of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, poet and writer **Dr. Beth Virtanen** is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Puerto Rico. Her rich collection of poetry, *Guarding Passage* (2005), explores the past and present in an array of cyclical poems at once personal and universal.

Specific times for these Finn Grand Fest 2005 author book signings will be announced at a later date. Please contact North Wind Books at 888-285-8363 for additional information or to purchase any of these publications.
Theresa Kinjerski
1655 Sandalwood Rd.
Sobieski, WI 54171
(920) 826-4500

News: Hello to my 1987-89 classmates! Time sure flies by when you’re living life!

I’m practicing therapeutic massage since graduating in 2000 from Fox Valley School of Massage in Appleton, WI! Soon, Jill will be attending La Stone Therapy in September 2005!

Paul Krautkramer and I married in August 2004 at Baird Creek Park, Green Bay, WI. (Go Packers!) We met at a Packers game in ’96. Our lives became more beautiful when Jake entered our world May 16, 2003! We have resided in Sobieski, WI, since December 2004 and enjoy the many adventures that come into our lives! Peace, Love & Joy to all!

Carla S. Foster
9000 US 23N
Alpena, MI 49707
(989) 595-5350
csfoster222@hotmail.com

News: After several moves we are settled in Alpena. We have 3 children: Rachel, 18, a graduating senior, Nicole, 16, and Taylor, 12. Keith is using his engineering at a local plant and I have just received my BSN degree! I would love hear from anyone!!! GOD BLESS!

Hikaru Sato
Kanagawa, Japan

News: Hikaru Sato (’90) and his new wife Aiko visited Finlandia University and the Copper Country while on their honeymoon this April. Mr. and Mrs. Sato were married in Kanagawa, Japan on Sunday, April 10, 2005. Hikaru attended Suomi College from 1988-1990 as an international student, earning an associate of general studies degree. He now serves as an assembly-man for the Kanagawa prefecture in Japan. Kanagawa borders the capital of Tokyo to the north and has a population of close to 8.8 million.
Jennifer Miller & Tim Niedzwiecki

LAKE LINDEN – Norbert and Margaret Miller of Lake Linden, MI, announce the engagement of their daughter Jennifer Miller to Tim Niedzwiecki. Tim is the son of Michael and Sue Niedzwiecki of Pinconning, MI.

The bride-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Lake Linden-Hubbell High School. She is a full-time student at Finlandia University and will graduate in April 2006 with a bachelor's degree in business.

The groom-to-be is a 2000 graduate of Pinconning High School. In April he will receive a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering technology from Michigan Tech University. He is employed at Pettibone, LLC in Baraga, MI.

An October 14, 2006, wedding is planned.

Danielle MacDonald & Brian Foreman

CALUMET – Linda MacDonald and Kay Kerttu announce the engagement of their children, Danielle R. MacDonald of Lake Linden, MI, and Brian K. Foreman of Hancock, MI.

Danielle is the daughter of Linda MacDonald of Lake Linden and John MacDonald of Cooks, MI. Brian is the son of Kay Kerttu of Hancock and the late Francis Foreman.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 graduate of Lake Linden-Hubbell High School and currently works at the Laurium Manor Inn.

The future groom is a 1987 graduate of Lake Linden-Hubbell High School. In 2001, he received a bachelor's degree in human services from Finlandia University. He is currently employed by Dial Help in Houghton, MI.

A September 3, 2005, wedding is planned.

Mildred ‘Millie’ Rickabaugh

MOHAWK – Mildred “Millie” Rickabaugh, 84, a former Mohawk, MI, resident, passed away March 13, 2005.

The former Mildred Oja was born on March 7, 1921, in Fulton, MI, a daughter of the late Andrew and Anna (Pensala) Oja. She attended the Mohawk schools. Following graduation from Calumet High School in 1939, she moved to Detroit where she married Ross Rickabaugh on December 12, 1942. He preceded her in death on June 22, 1994.

In 1946, Millie moved back to Mohawk where she resided since. She was employed as the librarian at the Mohawk School before working as a secretary at Suomi College, retiring in 1981.

Gertrude S. Mella

AHMEEK – Gertrude S. Mella, 88, a former resident of Ahmeek, MI, passed away March 7, 2005.

The former Gertrude Leskitien was born April 2, 1916, in Ahmeek, a daughter of Paul and Hilda (Matson) Leskinen. She was raised in Ahmeek and later moved to Detroit, MI.

On January 9, 1937, she married Ernest Mella. The couple later returned to the Copper Country.

Gertrude was employed for many years at the M & M Bank in Mohawk, MI, and she operated the gas station in Ahmeek with her husband.

Paula M. Sten

REDRIDGE – Paula M. Sten, 53, a resident of Redridge, MI, died unexpectedly Friday, March 18, 2005, following a lengthy illness.

Paula was born January 30, 1952, in Ann Arbor, MI, a daughter of Lawrence and Mary (Hellenga) Baker. She graduated from high school in Ann Arbor, and attended Suomi College. Paula later attended Northern Michigan University, graduating with a teaching certificate. For a period of time, she taught school at the junior high level.

Paula was married to Allan Sten for 25 years.

Mary F. Frechette Glenn

HANCOCK – Mary F. Frechette Glenn, 45, of Hancock, MI, passed away March 22, 2005, after a long battle with cancer.

Mary was born on March 12, 1960, in Dodgeville, MI, a daughter of the late William ‘Bud’ and Agnes (Kezel) Frechette. She lived all of her life in the Copper Country area and attended St. Ignatius Loyola and Houghton area schools graduating in 1990. Mary also attended Suomi College and Michigan Tech University. From 1998 to 2001, Mary lived in Mass City, MI, and worked at the Ontonagon County Historical Society Museum. In 2001, she moved back to Hancock and worked at the Copper Country Mall.

Margaret M. Rowe

CALUMET – Margaret M. Rowe, 73, a resident of Calumet, MI, passed away May 3, 2005. She had been afflicted with Alzheimer’s disease for many years.

She was born on July 15, 1931, in Chicago, IL, a daughter of the late John and Margaret (LaMutt) Gamache. She graduated from Calumet High School in 1949 and attended Suomi College.

On April 4, 1953, she was married to Dr. Kenneth Rowe.

William ‘Bill’ Oikarinen

LOWER PEWABIC – William “Bill” Oikarinen, 90, a former resident of
Bill was born on February 23, 1915, in Salo, MI, a son of the late Jafet and Maria (Moiilan) Oikarinen. He attended the Salo School and resided in the Salo area until 1966 when he moved to Lower Pewabic, where he resided until 2003.

On December 21, 1946, he was married to the former Ada Miller. She preceded him in death on July 29, 1983.

Bill worked for Jim Gaspardo as a farmer for many years. He then worked for, and retired from, Suomi College.

Bill was a veteran, having served with the U.S. Army Air Force during WWII. He was awarded the Bronze Star.

Luella M. Turnquist

KEAR SARGE – Luella M. Turnquist, 71, a summer resident of Kearsarge, MI, died May 11, 2005.

She was born on May 12, 1934, in Ahmeek, MI, a daughter of George and Julia (Szuch) Turnquist. Luella graduated from Calumet High School in 1952, attended Suomi College, and received her teaching certificate from Northern Michigan University.

She taught school at Dollar Bay, MI, for eight years, and at Calumet High School for 20 years, retiring in 1986.

Herman "Winks" Gundlach Jr.

HOUGHTON – From captain of the high school football team to a captain of industry, Dr. Herman "Winks" Gundlach Jr. was a man of many passions. Gundlach, 91, died unexpectedly May 5, 2005, following a debilitating stroke that left his right side paralyzed. He was born July 16, 1913, in Houghton, MI.

The son of a successful businessman, Gundlach kept company in his youth with the sons and daughters of mining company magnates, lumber barons and community leaders.

A football captain at Houghton High School, Gundlach graduated in 1930 and became a football standout at Harvard University. He received a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering in 1935, the same year he signed with the Boston Redskins football team. He was later elected to the college all-stars team and remained a professional member of the National Football League Alumni until his death.

Following service in World War II, he took over as president of Herman Gundlach Inc., the successful construction venture founded by his father in 1898. Herman Gundlach Jr. ran the company until his retirement in 1987. The company later merged with Champion Industries of Iron Mountain, adopting its current name of Gundlach Champion Inc.

Gundlach received numerous accolades for his work, including induction into the Michigan Construction Hall of Fame in September 2004. He was hailed as an innovator in winter construction methods, allowing workers to build year-round. Gundlach was a long-standing member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and MTU’s Academy of Civil and Environmental Engineers, and in 1991 was honored by the Ironworker’s Local Union 783.

His interests included educational pursuits at many levels. He received an Honorary Alumni Award from MTU in 1995, an honorary doctoral degree from Finlandia University in 2000, and the Copper Country Association of School Board’s education leadership award in 2001.

Gundlach was also honored for his civic pursuits by the Houghton Kiwanis Club and the Keweenaw Peninsula Chamber of Commerce. He was a long-time member of the Finlandia University

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Houghton Rotary Club, and received numerous awards from the Boy Scouts of America, including its special achievement award in 1979.

For more than 50 years, Gundlach served on the board of the Good Will Farm, an organization founded in 1899 to provide help and shelter to troubled youth. His generous support of women’s and children’s issues led to the opening of the Barbara Kettle Gundlach Shelter Home named for his wife who passed away in 1983.

Many of the Copper Country’s schools, businesses and community buildings were constructed by Herman Gundlach Inc. and Gundlach Champion Inc., including Finlandia University’s Paavo Nurmi Athletic Facility in 1964, Wargelin Hall in 1967, the Finlandia Hall dormitory in 1983, and the Maki Library addition to Wargelin Hall in 1996.

The Bridge thanks Jane Nordberg and The Daily Mining Gazette for substantial contributions to the above obituary.

Robert E. Tuohimaa

HOUGHTON CANAL DISTRICT – Robert E. Tuohimaa, 77, a resident of Houghton Canal District, MI, passed away May 29, 2005, following a lengthy illness.

He was born on December 20, 1927, in Painesdale, MI, a son of the late Henry and Hilda (Heikkinen) Tuohimaa. Robert was a graduate of Jeffers High School. He later lived in the Tapiola area before making his home in the Houghton Canal area for approximately 56 years.

Robert was a veteran, having served with the U.S. Army.

On November 11, 1949, he was united in marriage to the former Marie Romppainen.

Robert worked at the former Stella Cheese Co. as a young man. He was a welder for Manninens and did carpentry work before becoming employed at Finlandia University as a night watchman.

Katherine A. ‘Kay’ Aho

WAKEFIELD – Katherine A. “Kay” Aho, 83, a longtime resident of Wakefield, MI, and formerly of Newberry, MI, died unexpectedly April 30, 2005.

Katherine was born January 2, 1922, in Lansing, MI, a daughter of the late Elmer and Agnes (Lidey) Bessonien. Kay was a 1939 graduate of Calumet High School and a graduate of Suomi College.

After graduating from college, Kay worked in the office at Suomi College. During the early years of WWII, she moved to Detroit where she worked for Excello Corporation. When Kay lived in Newberry she worked at the bank as a secretary. She was treasurer for the City of Wakefield until her retirement.

On February 27, 1943, she was married to Edwin W. Aho.

Raymond J. Franz

DOLLAR BAY – Raymond J. Franz, 85, a resident of Dollar Bay, MI, died June 2, 2005.

He was born March 9, 1920, in Dollar Bay, a son of Isaac and Christine (Backman) Franz. Ray was a 1939 graduate of Dollar Bay High School. He attended Suomi College, and later attended Northern Michigan University, graduating in 1965 with a degree in business. Ray was employed for 17 years at Calumet & Hecla. He then worked for 16 years at Copper Range as controller, retiring from there.
On February 8, 1941, he was married to the former Joan L. Yauch. Ray was a WWII veteran of the United States Army.

Ray managed the Quincy Hoist and the Arcadian Copper Mine in Ripley, MI. He was the Supervisor of Osceola Township for approximately 20 years and was instrumental in bringing the water system to Dollar Bay.

For over 30 years, he served on the Department of Social Services board, now the Department of Human Services. As part of Ray’s role on the board, he was heavily involved with the Houghton County Medical Care Facility, for which he had a great passion. He aggressively worked toward numerous major improvements in the building’s facility. Ray also served as president of the Suomi College Alumni Association for 25 years, and was on the St. Joseph’s Hospital Board.

Clifton Francis Rogers

ISHPEMING – Clifton Francis Rogers, 85, of Ishpeming, MI, died June 1, 2005.

Cliff was born on June 6, 1919, in Negaunee, MI, to the late Ruth (Roberts) and Harry Rogers. He was a 1937 graduate of Negaunee High School and he attended Michigan State University. He served for two years on the USS Rowan, landing in Nagasaki.

He started his career as an electrical engineer at Cliffs Power & Light. He moved to Houghton in 1959 where he became the president and CEO of the Upper Peninsula Power Company.

Cliff served on the Houghton National Bank Board, the Portage Hospital Board, and was an officer of the Kiwanis Club. He was president of Operation Action UP, and was active in the Hiawathaland Boy Scout Council for 50 years. Cliff served as chairman of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, and served on the boards of Bay Cliff Health Camp, the United Way, and the Union Bank of Marquette.

Cliff retired and moved back to Ishpeming in 1984 where he remained active in many community organizations. He was honored by both Suomi College and Northern Michigan University, and was awarded the Silver Beaver Award from the Hiawathaland Boy Scout Counsel.

On January 9, 1943, Cliff married the former Ruth Quayle.

Donald Kleven

KEARSARGE – Donald Kleven, 69, a resident of Kearsarge, MI, passed away June 5, 2005, following a five-year battle with cancer.

Don was born on February 28, 1936, in Bumbletown, MI, a son of the late John and Florence (Kivela) Kleven. He attended Calumet High School, graduating in 1956. He later attended Suomi College.

Don worked for C & H until he moved to Chicago in 1962 where he worked for the Greyhound Bus Co. as the Chicago Terminal manager. In 1972, he moved back to the Copper Country and worked for White Pine Mine. Don worked for the State of Michigan until he retired in 1996.

On August 25, 1962, he was married to the former Joan Schutz.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Thomas L. Perry

CRYSTAL FALLS – Thomas L. Perry, 47, of Crystal Falls, MI, died April 2, 2005, as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

He was born April 25, 1957, in Crystal Falls, the son of the late John and Bertha (Waldo) Perry. He graduated from Forest Park High School in 1975 and attended Suomi College where he majored in criminal justice.

Tom moved to Lansing, MI, where he was employed as a security guard. He later became a mechanic and returned to Crystal Falls in 1985. He was employed as a mechanic at both Lindwall and Bacco Motors and in 1999, became employed at Bill’s Auto Repair in Crystal Falls. For the past several months, he had been working as a truck driver for Gunville Trucking.

Tom married the former Jo Lynn Payne Wheeler on July 18, 1998.
# Finlandia University Calendar for 2005

## University Events

### AUGUST

1st-31st Art Exhibition: Mirror of the Wood: *A Century of the Woodcut Print in Finland* (FAHC Gallery)

10th-14th Finn Grand Fest 2005 (Marquette, MI)

10th-14th Gala Day at the Cooperative Store, a play directed by Melvin Kangas presented by Finn Grand Fest (Boathouse Theatre, Marquette, MI)

### SEPTEMBER

1st-7th Art Exhibition: Mirror of the Wood: *A Century of the Woodcut Print in Finland* (FAHC Gallery)

14th-30th Art Exhibition: Jon Neuse

30th Grand Opening of the Finlandia University Portage Campus, 1:00 p.m.

### OCTOBER

1st-14th Art Exhibition: Jon Neuse

TBD Art Exhibition: Jaune Quick-to-See: *Artist in Residency* 

FAHC - Finnish-American Heritage Center

Please note that dates listed are tentative and subject to change. For more information please check our web site at www.finlandia.edu.

## Sporting Events

### SEPTEMBER

**Cross Country Running**

- 3rd St. Norbert College
- 9th Northern Michigan University
- 17th Concordia College

**Men’s Soccer**

- 2nd Alma College
- 9th Grace Christian Bible College
- 10th Taylor University
- 12th Northland Baptist Bible College
- 16th Grace Christian Bible College
- 17th Maranatha Baptist Bible College
- 24th Northland Baptist Bible College

**Women’s Soccer**

- 2nd Mount Mary College Tourn.
- 3rd Mount Mary College Tourn.
- 12th Northland Baptist Bible College
- 17th Maranatha Baptist Bible College
- 23rd Upper Iowa University (at NMU)
- 24th Northland Baptist Bible College
- 25th Mount Mary College

**Women's Volleyball**

- 2nd Viterbo University Tourn.
- 3rd Viterbo University Tourn.
- 7th St. Norbert University
- 9th Hamline University Tourn.
- 10th Hamline University Tourn.
- 13th Northland Baptist Bible College
- 16th Lakehead University (at College of St. Scholastica)
- 17th Northland College
- 20th Lake Superior State University
- 27th Northland Baptist Bible College
- 30th Finlandia University Quadrangular

### OCTOBER

**Cross Country Running**

- 1st Wisconsin Lutheran College
- 8th Ripon College
- 15th Alma College

**Men’s Soccer**

- 1st University of Wisconsin-Superior
- 8th Mayville State University
- 9th Robert Morris College
- 19th Northland College
- 22nd Illinois Institute of Technology
- 23rd Illinois Institute of Technology
- 30th University of Wisconsin-Superior

**Women’s Soccer**

- 1st University of Wisconsin-Superior
- 2nd Mount Mary College
- 8th Mayville State University
- 19th Northland College
- 22nd Illinois Institute Of Technology
- 23rd Illinois Institute Of Technology
- 30th University of Wisconsin-Superior

**Women’s Volleyball**

- 1st Finlandia University Quadrangular
- 4th Northland College
- 7th Great Lakes Christian College Tourn.
- 8th Great Lakes Christian College Tourn.
- 21st Cardinal Stritch University
- 22nd Alverno College
- 22nd Mount Mary College (at Alverno College)
- 22nd Calumet of St. Joseph’s (at Alverno College)
- 26th Northland College
- 26th College of St. Scholastica (at Northland College)
- 28th University of Wisconsin-Superior Tourn.
- 29th University of Wisconsin-Superior Tourn.

### NOVEMBER

**Men’s Soccer**

- 5th Northern Michigan University Exhibition

**Women’s Soccer**

- 5th Northern Michigan University Exhibition

**Women's Volleyball**

- 5th Independent Championships
- 6th Independent Championships
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Sizes: S, M, L, XL
Cardigan .............................................. $49.95

### Finlandia University Crew Neck Sweater – Ladies crew neck sweater, 97% polyester and 3% acrylic. By Oarsman. Available in grass (pale green) and wisteria (pale lavender).
Sizes: S, M, L, XL
Crew Neck Sweater .............................................. $49.95

### Mugs – Stackable ceramic mugs. Available in white and cobalt with light blue printing.
Mugs ...................................................... $6.50

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The Book of Finnish Elves (Suomalainen tonttukirja) - Written and illustrated by Mauri Kunnas. Translated by Tim Steffla. A collection of traditional folk tales from Finland artfully portrayed in vibrant watercolors pleases young and old alike. The stories provide an insightful look into time-honored Finnish fantasy and vision. Otava Publishing, 2004. Finnish Audio CD $27.95  
Hard Cover $29.95

Salmela Architect - Written by Thomas Fisher. Preface written by David Salmela himself. This compilation of pictures and descriptions of Salmela’s work shows how he uses space and ingenuity to their full extent on each of his projects to create visually pleasing and efficient homes. University of Minnesota Press, 2005. Soft Cover $34.95


The Co-op Label - Poems written by Jim Johnson. Images by Marlene Wisuri. Johnson’s poetry describes the hardships and triumphs of 20th century immigrants to America, while Wisuri’s dramatic yet simple black and white photographs depict the stories superbly. Selections of Johnson’s poems were also published in Pemmican, North Coast Review, North Stone Review and Seneca Review. Dovetailed Press, 2005. Soft Cover $15.95

Finland, Cultural Lone Wolf - By Richard D. Lewis. Author of When Cultures Collide and The Cultural Imperative, Richard Lewis displays his expertise on Finland and her rising economy in his newest book. Lewis also gives insight into reasons why Finland is quickly becoming one of the most developed and cultural countries in the world. Intercultural Press, 2005. Soft Cover $24.95

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