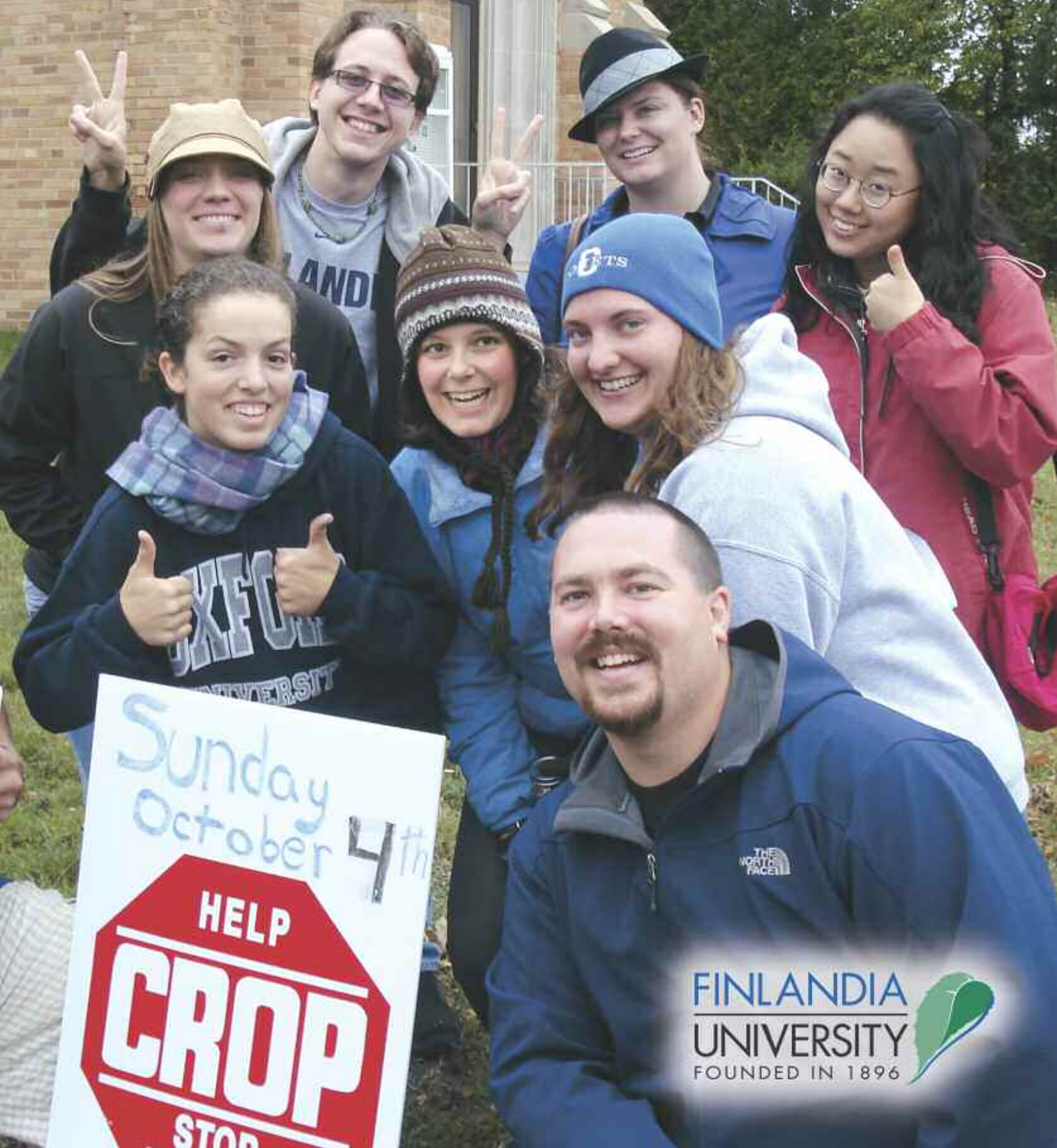


the Bridge

winter 2009



FINLANDIA
UNIVERSITY
FOUNDED IN 1896





Jack Eberhard

Community Partners:

Jack Eberhard, Book Concern Printers

by Ross Rinkinen

The Finlandia University Community Partners advisory group was formed in 1997 to foster and enhance communication between Finlandia and local community leaders. That goal, plus many other related benefits, has indeed been achieved...and Finlandia University is grateful!

Community Partners meetings are a regular opportunity for Finlandia University to share ideas with the western Upper Peninsula business community and keep them apprised of our successes and challenges. I recently visited with Jack Eberhard, president and owner of Book Concern Printers in Hancock, to discuss his involvement in the group.

How many years have you been involved with Finlandia/Soumi?

I have been involved with Finlandia/Soumi since the early 1980s, primarily since 1984 when I purchased Book Concern Printers, Hancock's only graphic design and commercial printing company. We have done a lot of printing work for Finlandia over the years. Decades before my ownership of Book Concern Printers, the company was known as The Book Concern and was housed in a building next to Old Main. The Book Concern served the Finnish Lutheran Synod, printing their regional and national publications, and was Soumi College's on-campus print shop.

How have you seen Finlandia grow and develop in the community?

I believe Finlandia has played a major role in Hancock and Houghton County through its investment of resources and support for educational and economic growth. Not only has Finlandia developed and expanded its academic curriculum and services to better meet the needs of today's college students, it has invested in the local economy through cooperative involvement with various business accelerator enterprises and other organizations.

The impact of Finlandia's commitment to both economic and cultural endeavors reaches far beyond the local area. For instance, the recent announcement and implementation of "Campus and Community: Together for Good," the strategic and cooperative exchange of local K-12 school district properties for a multi-year package of Finlandia tuition awards for Hancock High School graduates, has received national media exposure in venues such as *USA Today*, CNN News Network, and FOX Business News.

What value does Community Partners have for you as a business leader?

I enjoy the exchange of ideas and campus updates that Community Partners meetings offer. It's valuable for professional and business leaders in our community to engage in what is happening at Finlandia. The three meetings each year allow me and others to ask questions and offer opinions or suggestions to Finlandia staff and faculty. I appreciate that Finlandia invites this diverse group of community leaders to share in the university's vision for improving the quality of life for everyone in our local area.

How do you see Finlandia in the future?

Even during these uncertain economic times, I see that the sun is rising on the future of Finlandia. I am optimistic that Finlandia will continue its role as a community leader through its investment in and support of the local economy, as well as through its stewardship of cultural events and programs – the benefits of both extend far beyond our local area.

Finlandia has reached out a welcoming hand to community organizations and businesses through Community Partners. I frequently witness Finlandia's varied service and support to our community and I am grateful. A secure future for Finlandia will benefit and make our community stronger and healthier.

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Cover Photo

Finlandia Campus Ministry students, along with MTU students and community members, participated in the October 4, 2009, Crop Hunger Walk in Calumet. Nationwide, close to two million CROP Walkers, volunteers, and sponsors raise over \$16 million to help end hunger and poverty each year. The sponsored Finlandia walkers took on the four-mile route, raising money for local organizations including Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly, Salvation Army, St. Vincent DePaul, and the Calumet-Laurium-Keweenaw Food Pantry.

Pictured (left to right): Front – Soren Schmidt; Center – Amanda Moyer, Nicole Phillips, Beth Bellinger; Back – Rebekah Schmidt, Sean McBride, Sarah Kinnunen, Kim, a MTU student. Not pictured are Dave Hendrickson and Brittany Foster.

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Address correspondence to:
the Bridge
Finlandia University
601 Quincy Street
Hancock, MI 49930
karen.johnson@finlandia.edu
1-800-682-7604

Karen S. Johnson
*Executive Director of
Communications*
Brad Beaudette
Director of Publications

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PHILIP JOHNSON

President

“There are many good people working on the strategic goals that underlie the great things happening at Finlandia.”

Dear Friends and Alumni,

I hope once again you find good reading in this issue of *the Bridge*. I invite you to read through the lens of Finlandia’s mission: *a learning community dedicated to academic excellence, spiritual growth, and service*. The accent on our three-part mission varies from issue to issue. Listen for this issue’s accent on service.

The Bridge highlights the many good things that are happening at Finlandia. Behind these good things are good people working a good plan. After all, these good things must ultimately champion our history and heritage, reinforce our educational mission, and enable us to more fully realize our strategic goals. I encourage you to visit our website (www.finlandia.edu) and become more familiar with Finlandia’s strategic plan. Our five-year plan stresses institutional moorings including board governance, enrollment, and finances.

Board governance continues to be strong under the leadership of Dr. Sylvia Fleishman, and this year’s goals related to the Board’s ongoing reform efforts are being met. This fall we recognized the extraordinary service of three retiring trustees: Alexander “Sandy” McAfee, John Hamar, and Ray Hirvonen. Their exemplary leadership will be missed, yet they all remain closely connected with Finlandia. We continue to strengthen the Board through trustee recruitment and development. Five newly elected members will join us for the Board of Trustees meeting this January.

Enrollment growth this fall was exceptional. We exceeded our new student goal, enrolling 259 – a 22 percent increase over fall 2008. We must maintain this momentum in the spring and into next fall. Look for the Campus News item in this issue for more information.

Financial stability continues to be reflected in our ratios, audits, and improved fiscal management and budget processes. You can read more about our financial health in this issue’s article featuring our EVP for business and finance, Nick Stevens.

Our strategic collaboration, *Campus and Community: Together for Good*, remains on course. This fall we enrolled 25 Hancock Central High School graduates, exceeding projections for this first cohort of Hancock Award recipients. Official transfer of the properties acquired in this exchange will be complete by year-end. Development and renovation of the former Hancock Middle School and Condon Athletic Field will fuel and accommodate Finlandia’s targeted growth within College of Health Sciences programs and NCAA Division III athletics. Complementing this institution-wide strategy is a host of newer ideas and fresh initiatives emerging from academic programs and student life activities across campus, each adding value to the Finlandia experience, each contributing to our overall growth and success.

There are many good people working a good plan that is served by the many good things happening at Finlandia. Enjoy the reading ahead.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Philip Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "P" and "J".

Philip Johnson, Ph.D.
President



ALUMNI & FRIENDS ARE AVID VOLUNTEERS

*Pie social bakers and helpers (left to right):
Norma Nominelli, Nancy Fenton, Hazel Tepsa,
Charleen Ahola, Lois Seaton, and Don Peryam*

Don Peryam ('68) and his crew of volunteers, The Sanders' Club, have taken on multiple maintenance and beautification projects on the Finlandia University campus in the past few years.

This spring they began raising funds to upgrade the basement windows of Old Main. Not surprisingly, after 108 years of snowmelt and Keweenaw rainfall, the 19 original windows are ready for replacement.

Each window and its installation costs approximately \$600. So far, donations and donor commitments have been made for three-quarters of the windows. An entire window can be donated in memory or in honor of a loved one or a special event, and an inscribed plaque will acknowledge those donors. The windows are expected to be installed next spring.

The Old Main window replacement project began with a letter to men's clubs at various area churches. Additional fundraising events have included a soup luncheon November 22 at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Hancock, and a pie social October 3 at Finlandia's Hoover Center.

On Friday, December 11, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., a Christmas open house fundraiser will take place at Finlandia's Hoover Center. At this (hopefully) final window replacement event attendees will enjoy homemade hors d'oeuvres and treats for a donation of \$8.00 per person. To add ambience to the celebration Alexandra Dixon will play the harp, and Mike Irish and Monica Ravano will sing holiday music.

In preparation for the October 3 pie social, Peryam spent several afternoons painting and repairing the building's enclosed exterior porch. "On the day of

the event, Don and his crew transformed the Hoover Center to resemble a Victorian tea room with floral arrangements and properly set tables," said Cheryl Ries, director of alumni relations.

"Over 50 delicious homemade pies were donated for the fundraiser, including pumpkin, apple, blueberry, cherry, French silk, pecan, and Shoo-fly pie. Guests were greeted by President and René Johnson and Melvin Kangas shared his gift of music by playing the kantele," Ries adds.



The bakers and pie social helpers were Charleen Ahola, Gert Anitoho, Barb Briggs, Nancy Fenton, Shelby Hamar, Ed Longnecker, Marilyn Mickelsen, Pam Niemela, Mary Nominelli, Norma Nominelli, Cheryl Ries, Lois Seaton, Hazel Tepsa, Sharon Torgeson, Fayth Wolfe, and Don Peryam (who baked 25 of the pies).

Since retiring in 2001 Peryam, of Hancock, has become an avid volunteer, particularly at Finlandia University. He was awarded the 2009 Salvation Army Community Service Award October 21. Peryam is also a key organizer of

the twice-yearly Finlandia men's basketball Fish Fry dinners.

Peryam graduated from Suomi College in 1968, and in 1970 completed a degree in culinary arts at Northern Michigan University. His food service career spanned more than 30 years, including 14 years as director of food service for Suomi College.

For additional information about the Old Main window replacement project, and to make a gift, please contact Cheryl Ries, 601 Quincy St., Hancock, MI 49930; (906) 487-7317; cheryl.ries@finlandia.edu.



FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY GALLERY SCHEDULE 2010

January 11 to February 11, 2010

Artist Reception: Thursday, January 21, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Artist talk begins at 7:15 p.m.

Melinda Steffy: *Remnants and Residual Memories*

Philadelphia artist Melinda Steffy's current painting/textile/objects draw from her interests in memory, mythology, alchemy, geology, family history, and music. Based on the belief that materials retain meaning from their previous uses, items like antique lace, the spice turmeric, tarnished copper, dead ladybugs, and found barrettes make their way into rhythmic visual compositions that consider questions of memory, the loss of memory, and the construction of systems that sustain memory.

February 18 to March 24, 2010

Opening Reception: Thursday, February 18, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Artist talk begins at 7:15 p.m.

Finlandia University International School of Art & Design: *Alumni Exhibit 2010*

The Finlandia University International School of Art & Design is pleased to present its first alumni exhibit. In the 11 years since the bachelor of fine arts program began at Finlandia, 87 students in five concentrations – ceramic design, fiber/fashion design, interdisciplinary design, graphic design, and studio arts – have graduated. This exhibit spotlights the continuing work of many of these active alumni artists.

The Finlandia University Gallery, in the Finnish American Heritage Center, features year-round exhibitions of contemporary Finnish, Finnish-American, and American artists. The gallery provides educational resources for the community and is a gathering place for people to discuss and reflect upon art. One of its goals is to become a leading exhibitor of Finnish and Finnish-American art nationwide.

Carrie Flaspohler,
Gallery Director



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*A learning community dedicated
to academic excellence, spiritual
growth, and service*

An Honor NOT Taken Lightly

Hancock attorney and financial planner Roger Helman was ten when his father was hired as executive director of the Michigan Tech Fund. The move to Houghton from Oxford, Ohio, was a big adjustment for Roger, but soon he says he was thoroughly enjoying the Keweenaw.

This is Helman's first semester as an adjunct instructor at Finlandia University. He says his class, Principles of Financial Planning

(BUS 355), encompasses five main areas of personal finance: investments, retirement and estate planning, insurance, and income tax.

"It is actually a lot of material to cover in one semester, but my students seem to be digesting it well," he says.

Although Helman's law and financial planning practice involves teaching clients about their options and various strategies, he hasn't taught college classes before.

"I am a bit of a perfectionist, which works nicely with my practice. But I am not necessarily a gifted orator and that is both frustrating and challenging for me," Helman says. "I am still learning to enjoy public speaking."

Helman feels that having an impact on a student's future is a tremendous responsibility, and an honor he does not take lightly.

"If I can be a positive influence and help them in some way, whether it is directly related to their grade, the class work, or decisions that they will make in the future, that would be very satisfying," he says.

Helman received a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Michigan, a law degree from the University of Detroit, and completed professional training as a certified financial planner at the College for Financial Planning, Denver.

During and immediately after law school, Helman worked with a small firm in Bloomfield Hills. In 1996 he and his family moved to Harbor Springs where he established his own law practice and began his financial planning training. In 2002 he opened his office in Hancock.

Helman primarily helps his clients with estate planning: wills, trusts, and medical and financial powers of attorney. He also handles probate matters and assists clients who are buying or selling real estate. As a certified financial planner, he helps clients with financial issues from retirement planning to credit matters, goal setting, and budgeting.

"Hancock is a wonderful place to work," Helman says. "There is a lot of traffic downtown, the city is doing a good job, and the rent for my office space is reasonable."

Helman and his wife of 16 years, Allison, live in Houghton. They have three sons and one daughter. Allison Helman is a family practice physician at Portage Health. Roger is the son of Ron and Lou Helman of Chassell.

"I simply want to thank everyone who has made me feel welcome," Roger says. "I very much enjoy being a part of Finlandia, and hope that I can continue to be involved with the university for many years. It is truly a learning experience for me, but hopefully I can make a difference for others, as well."



Roger Helman

"If I can be a positive influence and help them in some way, whether it is directly related to their grade, the class work, or decisions that they will make in the future, that would be very satisfying."

Improving the Bottom Line

Nicholas Stevens began work at Finlandia University in October 2005 as a staff accountant. He was quickly promoted to Accounting Department director, and in January 2007 was appointed interim executive vice president for finance. In July 2007 he was appointed permanent EVP.

Among Stevens's job responsibilities are preparing the annual university-wide fiscal budget, and managing the general funds and assets of the university within the approved budget.

He also supervises a number of campus departments including Human Resources, Accounts Payable, Facilities and Maintenance, Information Technology, Payroll, Purchasing, Food Service, Housekeeping, North Wind Books, Financial Aid, and the Mailroom.

Stevens says he has always been good with numbers. That's one reason he became an accountant. He also prefers to be "behind the scenes," quietly helping to improve profitability and tackle financial problems.

Although Stevens has never been a huge fan of being the center of attention, he deserves a huge thank you. Under his leadership, the university's financial ratio has notably improved, which, he adds, is indicative of the whole financial picture.

As Stevens explains, the composite financial ratio is made up of three ratios that, together, measure the five fundamental elements of financial health: financial viability, liquidity, ability to borrow, capital resources, and profitability.

"In the past three years this ratio has risen from 0.3 to 0.9, and now stands at 1.3," he says. "And all the signs lead me to believe that the ratio will continue to rise."

Other accomplishments Stevens notes are a recent 100% finding-free audit and an improved budget process.

Stevens notes that some of the challenges he faces as chief financial officer are managing limited financial resources, adjusting to decreases in state funding, and large amounts of deferred maintenance.

The strong leadership of President Johnson and other members of the Management Team keep Stevens on track. "I also enjoy working each day side-by-side with so many hardworking and dedicated employees. It's a small relaxed environment, and your co-workers are also your friends when the day is over."

"I especially enjoy opportunities to meet and talk with students" he adds. "It is rewarding to work with a group of the most dedicated employees that I know of, all of them pulling in the same direction to make Finlandia better. Finlandia is small enough so each employee has an opportunity to make an impact, and I feel that all the long hours mean something."

Stevens grew up in Dollar Bay and graduated from Dollar Bay-Tamarack City High School in 1997. In 2002 he completed a BSBA in accounting at Michigan Technological University. Following college, for three years Stevens was the office manager at Gartner's Department Store, Hancock.

When he's not working, Stevens enjoys spending time with his wife, April, and daughter. He also enjoys fishing, and playing and watching hockey. April Stevens is the assistant manager of North Wind Books. She completed a bachelor of fine arts at Finlandia in 2003. Stevens and his family live in Tamarack City, but are planning to build a new home in Point Mills this spring.



Nicholas Stevens



Left to right: Ally Tincknell, Brittany Foster, Justin Buzzo, Kevin Hughey (non-traditional student representative) Lauren Strong, and Deanna Makela

Each academic year the officers of the Finlandia University Student Senate are elected by student popular vote. The officers of the 2009-10 Student Senate wrote the following brief bios about themselves for the September issue of Finlandia's student newspaper, *The Roar*.

Ally Tincknell, President

Hi, my name is Ally Tincknell, a senior in the Elementary Education program with minors in science and English. I am from Negaunee, the daughter of Dale and Diane, and the younger sister of Lindsey and Lisa. I am also a member of the women's basketball team and co-president of the Elementary Education Club. In the past two years, I have been both secretary and treasurer of the Finlandia Student Senate.

I decided to continue my involvement in the Student Senate because I have enjoyed making a difference and having my voice heard at Finlandia. With my outgoing personality and experience in student government and other leadership positions, I believe that I will do a good job keeping our Senate aimed in a positive direction.

This year the Student Senate will concentrate on creating stronger relationships throughout the Finlandia and Hancock communities by planning many activities, events, and service projects.

Justin Buzzo, Vice President

My name is Justin Buzzo, vice president of the Student Senate. I was born and raised in Ontonagon and I am twenty-one years old. During the summers I work at Bay Cliff Health Camp, Big Bay. I am a senior majoring in Elementary Education with concentrations in mathematics and social studies. I am also president of the International Club, and co-president of the Education Club. I wanted to be on the Student Senate so I could serve the student body by creating an enjoyable learning environment.

Brittany Foster, Secretary/Treasurer

Hi, my name is Brittany Foster and I am from Cloquet, Minn. I am a junior here at Finlandia. My first winter here I thought I was majoring in how not to get lost or buried in the snow. But I have to say, the snow does come in handy when I want to go downhill skiing. After figuring out the snow, I decided I'd better figure out a major and have chosen Liberal Studies with a Christian Vocation concentration. I am the secretary/treasurer of the Student Senate this year. I think it is going to be great and I can't wait to share some of my ideas. I am also involved in the International Club, Rotaract Club, and Campus Ministry. Let's have a great year!

Deanna Makela, Communications Officer

Hi, my name is Deanna Makela and I am the communications officer for Finlandia's Student Senate. It is my job to advertise student events and bridge any communication gaps between the Senate and Finlandia students. I decided to join this team to help encourage more participation in student events. I believe serving on the Student Senate will help ready me to tackle real world problems. I am a third year Interior Design student, and a member of the women's basketball team. I'm really excited to be the Senate communications officer this year! This year's Senate is a fun group which makes a busy schedule a lot more productive and functional.

Lauren Strong, Student Activities and Alumni Director

Lauren Strong, 22, was born in El Cajon, Cal., but has lived most of her life in the Upper Peninsula. She is currently in her fifth year of college, majoring in Illustration. After graduating, Lauren plans to go on to grad school to complete a MFA and teaching certification. She has a 10-gallon tank with three fish named Piggy, Pepé Le Pew, and Ben Marshall, and tons of other pets back with her family in Gladstone. She also has two brothers.

CAMPUS NEWS



Amanda Moyer

An Unusual Challenge

As a part of a Design Studio class, and answering a challenge from her instructor, Finlandia junior art and design major Amanda Moyer (Livonia) is in search of a use for 100 old plastic toilets that were formerly in the bathrooms of the university's residence hall. "The toilets are made from a non-recyclable plastic, they're full of foam, and are entirely not aesthetically pleasing in the realm of toilets," Moyer says.

Moyer has started a blog about the 100 Toilets Project (100toilets.blogspot.com). The project is still in its infancy, but Moyer and her collaborators are planning a large media presentation about the project.

More National Media Attention for Campus and Community

Finlandia University President Philip Johnson appeared on FOXBusiness.com LIVE September 17 to talk about the Finlandia/Hancock Schools initiative, "Campus and Community: Together for Good." President Johnson traveled to Green Bay for the live appearance.

The FOXBusiness.com interview was prompted by an article the Associated Press released nationwide on Labor Day about the Campus and Community collaboration. The AP release and news coverage generated from the release appeared in hundreds of newspapers and media outlets nationwide, including on CNN television news September 8, and in *USA Today* September 15.

Ambardar Publishes Article about Bilingualism

Rekha Ambardar, Finlandia adjunct instructor of business since 2001, had her article *Bilingualism: The Personality Shape Shifter* published in the October 2009 issue of *World and I Journal*, a subsidiary of *The Washington Times*.

Ambardar says the article is based on the premise that bilingualism in a bi-

cultural context generally results in "frame-switching," which is loosely translated as a shift in one's point of reference or personality. She notes that she used research and her own experiences and observations in writing the article.

Campus Recycling Program

Finlandia's Campus Ministry Team has organized a recycling program this academic year. Each Thursday members of the team pick up paper, cardboard, and water bottles at more than a dozen campus buildings and offices. Elementary Education major Jamie Bellinger (Coleman) reports that so far the recycling program has netted large pick-ups each week. "It takes a little work to get it all done," Jamie notes. "But its impact is a wonderful statement to Finlandia's efforts to be 'greener.'"



Art & Design major Mary Dotts (right), of DeWitt, moves into Finlandia Hall this August with the help of friend Ryan Lucas

Fall Enrollment - A Banner Year

This fall, Finlandia reached 97 percent of projected 2009 student enrollment with a banner-year total of 568 students—259 freshmen, readmitted, and transfer students and 309 returning students—about a nine percent increase over last fall's enrollment of 521. "We have a good recruitment team," says Martin Kinard, director of admissions. "We also owe our success to a tremendous effort by the university to get the word out."

CAMPUS NEWS

Great News from the SKRC

If you're not already aware of the Finlandia International School of Art & Design (ISAD) Sustainable Keweenaw Resource Center (SKRC), located at the Jutila Center campus, you're missing out on a terrific community resource network, says Rick Loduha, ISAD associate professor. In its second year, the SKRC (www.skrconline.net) has a growing online and on-the-ground presence in the Keweenaw community.

There is great news on the horizon for the SKRC. Due in large part to the outstanding work of ISAD's Carrie Flaspohler, director of the Finlandia University Gallery, sustainable designer Wendy Brawer of Modern World Design, New York, N.Y., will exhibit her internationally-acclaimed Green Map System at the gallery in September 2010. With the motto "Think Global...Map Local," the Green Map System (www.greenmap.org) engages communities worldwide in mapping green living, nature, and cultural resources.

"The Green Map's approach of viewing a region through the lens of sustainability precisely parallels the intent and activities of the SKRC," says Loduha. "This kind of synchronicity isn't calculated – it happens. Shift happens."

Loduha expects Brawer's visit and exhibition to spark community interest and assist the SKRC in pulling together the local community in the development of a Keweenaw Green Map.

Kangas Directs Finnish Play

Four packed performances of the Finlandia University fall play, directed by long-time Finlandia music and drama instructor Melvin Kangas, took place October 22 to 25 at the Finnish American Heritage Center.

The play, "Women of Niskavuori," was written in 1935 by Estonian playwright and businesswoman Hella Wuolijoki (1886-1954). The well-known drama has been staged more than 40 times in Finland since 2000. Kangas and others translated the play from Finnish into English.

The play's story is one of power, complicated love relations, and conflict between the traditional and the modern. Set against the background of the Niskavuori family estate, the play is the first part of a four-part saga in the vein of "Upstairs, Downstairs."

Central to the story are two strong women, Loviisa (played by Pam Pouttu), the old matron of Niskavuori, and Ilona (Megan Pachmayer), the emancipated young school teacher. Ilona's arrival at the village school compels Aarne Niskavuori (Pasi Lautala), the master of the Niskavuori estate, to make difficult choices concerning his half-hysterical wife, Martta (Kaisa Randolph), his new love, and the home that he loves.



Kaisa Randolph, Ren Olsen, Pam Pouttu, Mackenzie Murtomaki, and Joan Nelson



The 2009 Sibelius Festival musicians

Sibelius Festival a Huge Success

Nearly 1,000 people attended the four performances of the 11th annual Finlandia University Sibelius Academy Music Festival September 21 to 25. "This year's festival was a huge success," said festival coordinator Karen Johnson. "We took a calculated risk this year, moving the date from summer to fall and inviting not only classical musicians, but a jazz trio and a folk duo. I believe the attendance numbers overwhelmingly confirm that we made the right decision."

"We were delighted to host this year's musicians," added President Philip Johnson. "I believe the 'fit' between the musicians and festival was very good. The season, venues, and programs combined made this year's festival very appealing."

"These annual concerts, funded entirely by Finlandia University and its friends and donors, provide a powerful cultural link between Finland and the United States and showcase the talents of students of one of the world's most prestigious music schools," said Julie Badel, chairperson of the university's Finnish Council in America. "Finlandia welcomes financial support for the concerts and encourages all Finns and Finns-at-heart to participate."

The 12th annual Sibelius Academy Music Festival will take place in late September 2010.

CAMPUS NEWS



Latest Issue of Journal of Finnish Studies Produced at Finlandia

The first issue of the *Journal of Finnish Studies* generated at Finlandia University, Vol. 13, No. 1, is now in print. The current journal was produced by Finlandia Paloheimo Scholar Professor Beth L. Virtanen, editor-in-chief, along with co-editor Professor Hanna Snellman of the University of Jyväskylä, and assistant editor and doctoral candidate Hilary

Joy Virtanen of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The issue's cover art is by retired Finlandia art and design instructor Joyce Koskenmaki.

The journal contains ten peer-reviewed articles, including work by Finnish and American scholars. The articles, of two types, examine contemporary literary studies as well as the historical aspects of Finnish migration as presented at the summer 2009 conference, Finnish-American Immigrants in Transition, hosted by the Institute of Migration at the University of Turku.

The *Journal of Finnish Studies* was founded in 1997 by Professor Börje Vähämäki, chair of the Finnish Studies Department at the University of Toronto. Under his editorship, twenty-five issues of the journal were published and an international subscription base was developed.

The current issue is supported by a grant from the Kalevalaseura (Kalevala Society) of Helsinki, Finland (www.kalevalaseura.fi), in celebration of the organization's 90th anniversary.

The journal's transition to Finlandia was supported by a grant from Finlandia Foundation National. Dr. Beth Virtanen's position at Finlandia University is supported by a grant from the Paloheimo Foundation. To subscribe to the *Journal of Finnish Studies*, visit www.finnala.com, the website of the Finnish North American Literature Association.



Courtney Rile

Paloheimo Scholar Promotes Finnish-North American Literature

Finnish North American Literature: A Concise Anthology, edited by Finlandia Paloheimo Scholar Dr. Beth Virtanen, was published this November. The 600-page anthology contains works by 20 Finnish-North American authors and poets, including Emil Petaja, Schirley Schoonover, Jim Johnson, Sheila Packa, Ernest Hekkanen, Lauri Anderson, and others.

In addition, the Finnish North American Literature Association (FinNALA), of which Virtanen is the president and editor-in-chief, recently sponsored a creative writing contest. Winning entries will appear in the winter issue of *Kippis!* an English-language literary journal published by FinNALA. Visit www.finnala.com for information about both of these, and additional, scholarly undertakings by Virtanen.



Beth Virtanen

Entrepreneurship Across Campus

Artist and entrepreneur Courtney Rile visited Finlandia the final week of September to share with students, employees, and community members some of the innovative entrepreneurial projects created through Syracuse (New York) University's flourishing entrepreneurship programs. These projects come from all over campus—especially from the business department and its art and design programs.

Rile is a Syracuse University BFA video arts graduate. She currently manages a traveling exhibition that collects data on pricing variations in art across New York. Rile also engaged Finlandia students in one-on-one portfolio critiques and business plan and website coaching.

CAMPUS NEWS

SUS-FIN Launches Sustainable Energy Campaign

Finlandia's new sustainability committee, SUS-FIN, has launched a "Bright Ideas" campaign this fall with posters and stickers urging people to save energy.

"Because our energy comes from far away and is produced by coal-fired power plants, it takes a big toll on our environment," said Suzanne VanDam, associate professor and SUS-FIN co-chair with associate professor Rick Loduha.

"We can reduce our carbon footprint simply by shutting off the lights when not in use and relying on natural lighting when it is sufficient."

The attractive posters and catchy sayings were designed by Jeanette Katona, a 2009 Art & Design graduate.

SUS-FIN's next campaign will focus on shutting interior doors to prevent heat from escaping outside. Brooke Thompson, a third-year Art & Design major, is already generating creative slogans and eye-catching graphics for this poster blitz.

If you are interested in helping Finlandia reduce its environmental impact, please contact rick.loduha@finlandia.edu or suzanne.vandam@finlandia.edu.



Tim Nakkula (Photo courtesy of the Daily Mining Gazette)

Tim Nakkula Wins Chili Challenge

Tim Nakkula, Finlandia director of food service, and Ted Karvonen, food service cook, won the People's Choice award at the United Way 2009 Chili Challenge September 15. The contest was heated, with 11 different chefs presenting their chili to the crowd. "It's a real honor," Nakkula said in a *Daily Mining Gazette* article. "We enjoyed it; it's our third year coming [to the Chili Challenge]." The winning recipe, originally created by Joan Manninen, includes taco meat, kidney beans, and tomato sauce and is a popular item on the Finlandia Food Service menu.



Dr. Cameron Williams

Williams Named Acting Provost

Finlandia University President Philip Johnson recently announced that Dr. Cameron Williams has been named acting provost for the university.

As acting provost, Williams is responsible for oversight of the academic dimensions of the university, including administrative duties related to instruction and faculty. Williams directs Finlandia's Physical Therapist Assistant program and serves as co-dean of the College of Health Sciences.

Williams is a lifetime resident of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. He completed a doctorate in physical therapy at Simmons College in 2005, and also holds a master's degree in community healthcare administration from California College for Health Sciences and a bachelor of science in physical therapy from Northern Illinois University.

He is an active member of the Michigan Physical Therapy Association (MPTA), and for 15 years has been a delegate to the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

Williams can be contacted at (906) 487-7368 or cam.williams@finlandia.edu.



A group of representatives from the Kijitonyama Congregation of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, visited campus October 1. The congregation hosted participants of this spring's Service and Learning in Tanzania trip.



DUANE AHO

Real Friends ... Priceless

The Thanksgiving holiday and an article that recently crossed my desk prompt me to reflect on those things that are really important in life. And nowadays, I find myself reflecting not only on my personal life, but also on my experiences here at Finlandia.

The article referenced above defined "Real Friends" as those who will do anything for you. They help you move, they dance at your wedding or at your children's weddings, they give you advice, they grieve with you when you lose a loved one. On the personal front, I feel fortunate for the many Real Friends in my life.

So how does the value of Real Friends apply to my job here at Finlandia? One of my goals as chief advancement officer at Finlandia is to increase university revenue through private sources. In my "real life" I would never think of making friends just to help me pay my mortgage or meet other personal financial needs. So, using the same analogy, why would I use that approach at Finlandia?

It is the wisdom, ideas, experience, loyalty, and advocacy for Finlandia that identifies Finlandia's Real Friends. I trust that I will always look beyond the dollars if I am fortunate enough to speak with you about a relationship with Finlandia. I believe a short sighted approach to fundraising overlooks the genuine benefits of having Real Friends.

In my first six months at Finlandia, I have learned that the university has countless Real Friends. In my short time on staff here I have met many who give so much beyond financial gifts. The university is very fortunate. I applaud my predecessors for the work they have done to develop so many loyal friends of the university.

Thank you for being a Real Friend. Finlandia is a special place because of people like you. Your financial support of Finlandia University is greatly appreciated ... as a Real Friend you are priceless.

Warm regards,

Duane W. Aho

Duane Aho
Chief Advancement Officer
EVP, External Relations



Dan Maki, long-time associate professor of social sciences, has cumulatively donated more than \$6,000 to the university's annual Campus Campaign.

Finlandia Employees Set New Record

The annual Campus Campaign gives Finlandia faculty and staff the perfect opportunity to give something back to the university. Ross Rinkinen, director of annual giving, is pleased to announce that this year's employee campaign raised \$13,321, of which \$2,000 is earmarked for painting the Hoover Center.

Overall, 102 employees gave to this year's campaign, compared to 65 last year. "That's a record-setting 73% participation and a 100% dollar increase over last year!" notes Rinkinen.

The Campus Campaign Committee, and co-chairs Denise Vandeville and Rinkinen, sincerely thank all who participated in this year's campaign. Your gifts make a difference!

Campus Campaign Giving

	<u>09-10</u>	<u>08-09</u>	<u>07-08</u>
Participants	102	65	67
Gifts	\$13,321	\$6,171	\$3,863

News Too Good Not to Share

If you've ever met long-time Finlandia Board of Trustees member Alexander (Sandy) MacAfee, you'll know that he prefers to stay out of the limelight. But the news we're about to share is much too good to remain a secret.

Last spring MacAfee presented Finlandia with a generous challenge: he would match dollar-for-dollar, up to \$25,000, all new and increased FY 2008-09 gifts to the Finlandia Fund. It is with sincere thanks to Finlandia friends and supporters that we report that the challenge was met. Challenge donations were raised through a student phone-a-thon, gifts from *the Bridge*, and the spring annual fund mailing. With MacAfee's challenge fulfilled, the challenge resulted in a \$50,000 total gift.

"We are grateful to Sandy and to all those who helped us meet his challenge gift," Rinkinen says, adding that all Finlandia Fund gifts have an immediate impact on the students of Finlandia, both through financial aid programs and instructional budgets.

Helping Make Educational and Career Goals a Reality

"Without your support it would be virtually impossible for me to attend Finlandia and make my educational goals and dreams come true," says sophomore Sports Management major Joshua Fusco, Unadilla, New York.

As a work-study student in the Advancement Department, during the past 18 months Josh has telephoned hundreds of donors and friends to share his story and encourage their support.



Each year, close to 98% of Finlandia University students qualify for financial aid. Further, the greatest part of student aid comes directly from the university's operating budget – which is sustained by the Finlandia Fund – and from endowed scholarships.

"Students like me who struggle to find financial support to attend college are given a great opportunity through the Finlandia Fund and our Financial Aid program at Finlandia," Josh adds.

We invite you to join this celebration. You may be surprised to learn that close to 5,000 of the individuals – both alumni and friends – who receive regular mailings from Finlandia, have never given a monetary gift.

That's one reason a second long-time Finlandia donor has made an astounding challenge gift to encourage first-time-gifts to the Finlandia Fund.

For every dollar in new Finlandia Fund gifts received this fiscal year, this generous donor will match that \$1.00 with a \$3.00 gift of her own, up to \$20,000 in new donations. Thus, your new donation, tripled by this generous matching gift, could mean as much as \$80,000 in additional financial aid for Finlandia students.

"This challenge gift will make a tremendous impact on Finlandia's ability to help its students," explains Rinkinen. "Please consider a gift of any size. Your gift to the Finlandia Fund is an investment that encourages bright futures for all our students."

Ross Rinkinen, director of annual giving, invites you to contact him at (906) 487-7314 or ross.rinkinen@finlandia.edu. Your gift may be mailed using the post-paid envelope included with this issue of *the Bridge*.

THOUGHTS ABOUT ESTATE PLANNING ... DON'T LET OTHERS DECIDE

Because the subject itself is a reminder of our own mortality, planning the ultimate designation of the assets you have accumulated during your lifetime can be difficult. Finlandia University invites you to schedule a private, confidential conversation to discuss your wishes and desires related to estate and/or will planning. If you do not currently have an estate plan, we can help you develop one or direct you to someone in your area who can assist you. We offer this complimentary consultation to you

because of your relationship with Finlandia. Of course, the consultation carries no obligation to include Finlandia in your estate plan.

If this is of interest to you, please call Duane Aho at (906) 487-7349 or e-mail him at duane.aho@finlandia.edu. "I look forward to hearing from you and assisting you in this very important matter," Aho says. "Perhaps we can create a legacy for you, find a way for you to gain additional income, or simply assist you in gaining the satisfaction of knowing how your assets will benefit others after you are gone."



Finlandia Campus Ministry: Alive and Serving Well

by Soren Schmidt, University Chaplain

Pictured above:

Left to right (front row): Beth Bellinger, Soren Schmidt, Dave Fier (Cross Fire)

Left to right (back row): Dave Hendrickson, Katie Kautz (Cross Fire), Erin Clayton (Cross Fire), Ludvigs Ayala Porras (Cross Fire), Elliot Cox (Cross Fire), and Rebekah Schmidt

The Cross Fire traveling music ministry team was on campus October 6 to 9.

Finlandia's Fall 2009 semester arrived with lots of fresh new faces, mixed with plenty of returning students. Campus Ministry got right down to business. God's business. The business of loving God and neighbor while sharing and growing in faith.

In my first several months on the job, I am pleased to see increasing levels of involvement in Campus Ministry from students, employees, and community members.

There's been genuine excitement and a wonderful sense of community among those on campus who desire to be involved with their faith. We've already accomplished quite a handful of activities. I'm looking forward the continued growth of Campus Ministry and exploring the ways we can share in faith discussions, while reaching out to help others.

So far this fall, Campus Ministry has organized a running list of activities, along with traditional chapel services.

We've worked collaboratively with other community faith organizations on activities such as a progressive dinner, CROP Walk, Salvation Army activities, and wood chopping for Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly.

Campus Ministry has hosted multiple campus events including a bonfire, a "See You At The Pole" prayer event, TGIF events, and a recycling program.

During a recent weekend, Finlandia Campus Ministry, along with the college ministries at Michigan Technological University and Northern Michigan University, joined a retreat at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp to explore the discernment of spiritual gifts. In November, to encourage graduate studies and continued faith development, the college ministry students took part in a vocational/educational visit to the seminaries at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Wartburg College, and Luther College.

Reaching out to others and developing new faith and growth activities is the core mission of Finlandia Campus Ministry. We recently began a Fellowship of Christian Athletes group (FCA) to reach out to our student-athletes. The FCA has regular "huddle" meetings, chapel services have welcomed a blessing of athletes and coaches, and Finlandia is proud to

have hosted a national FCA activity, "Fields of Faith." Finlandia was the only location in the Upper Peninsula to host such an event, and just one of three in Michigan. Nationwide, 426 Fields of Faith events occurred.

Aside from all these special events, Campus Ministry continues twice-weekly chapel services, which are seeing a welcome growth in attendance. Chapel services include communion, guest leaders, and a variety of worship formats.

To cap off the Fall semester, Campus Ministry has arranged a special opportunity for parents to touch their college student's life. Parent Finals Week care packages will include loving notes of encouragement from home, healthy snacks, a special gift, and more.

Campus Ministry is already planning and arranging plenty of faith and service opportunities for the Spring semester. Alternative Spring Break is in

March, a second Fortune Lake retreat is in the works, and the 'Cross Fire' Youth Encounter Team will return in April.

As always, with open hands and warm hearts Finlandia Campus Ministry welcomes and encourages the greater Finlandia community to get involved. All are welcome.

For more information, or to share thoughts and ideas, please contact Soren Schmidt at soren.schmidt@finlandia.edu or (906) 487-7239.

*The business of loving
God and neighbor
while sharing and
growing in faith.*

Gathering Voices, Spreading Cheer

The University Singers has long been Finlandia's choir program. It has served students well and has allowed melodies to stream forth on campus. Now, with a rigorous PR plan and a new direction, University Singers is at the cusp of reverberating harmonies through an expanded program.

Under the direction of university chaplain Soren Schmidt, and with the piano accompaniment of adjunct music instructor Carla Phillips, registrations for University Singers are in larger numbers than have been seen in years.

"Carla and I are both very excited to see the growth in the choir program," says Schmidt. "We had been friends in the music program when we attended Finlandia in the 90s, and are quite ready to see more music involvement here at Finlandia. We hope to see wonderful things happen!"

A University Singers concert in April will feature the first public performance of "Finlandia! Finlandia!" a new school song Schmidt has written.

"Since the name change in the 1990s, Finlandia has not had an official Alma Mater song," Schmidt says. "I have developed the Alma Mater over the last few years and am grateful to have the University Singers here at Finlandia to perform it. Hopefully, it will be received well. Perhaps in the future we'll also hear a new Fight Song!"



*University Singers alumni at the June 2008
Finlandia all-school reunion*

SPORTS NEWS

Finlandia men build from blue line

by Michael H. Babcock, Sports Writer, *Daily Mining Gazette*

Coach Joe Burcar and the Finlandia men's hockey team have a lot of reason for hope heading into the 2009-2010 season: they're looking at a top-notch defensive corps that Burcar hopes will have the Lions competing for the Midwest Collegiate Hockey Association championship.

"There is a lot of optimism here," Burcar said. "If there is one area we will be very strong it's goaltending, as well as on the defensive side."

Burcar said junior goaltender Ryan Donovan is looking to have a much-improved season after a hard summer of workouts.

"Ryan has worked hard over the summer, and he looked good last year, so we're expecting big things this year," Burcar said. "He'll still have to earn it; we have good goalies in Mike Wuthrich and Jason Barndt out of Maine. The three will challenge each other."

Donovan was named MCHA tournament MVP during his freshman campaign, but put up average numbers last season with a 3.53 goals-against average and .890 save percentage, while earning seven victories.

The good news for Donovan is that he will have the needed support. "We have eight defensemen this year, and the corps is one of the best we've had in years," Burcar said.

One of the top players in that corps is senior Quinn McIntosh, who led the Lions in scoring last year with 22 points, including 19 assists. Twenty of those points came during MCHA play, when McIntosh finished second in scoring by defensemen.

"Quinn has really stepped up as one of the leaders this year, and he was all-conference last year," Burcar said.

The defense will also be helped by transfer student Matt Marchel, who is coming in from the University of

Minnesota-Crookston, where he put up 13 points in 20 MCHA games. UM-C, a Division II school, folded its hockey program after the 2008-09 season when it was removed from the MCHA in favor of only Division III schools.

That leaves just one question, could McIntosh and Marchel be the team's leaders on offense? "We're optimistic about where the offense will come from, and we feel we have three good lines that can put the puck in," Burcar said.

One place the offense could come from is Nemanja Jankovic, who scored five goals and nine points in 24 games last season, but spent the offseason improving upon his game.

"Jankovic has really worked hard in the off-season, he's probably showed the most improvement from freshman to sophomore year," said Burcar. "He lost 10 pounds, but gained muscle and is really quick on the ice this year."

Also returning will be James Neitsch, who led the team with 11 goals last season in his freshman campaign. Fellow sophomore Charlie Benik put up 17 points last year and senior Brandon VanAcker will be asked to

be a leader this season, ideally improving on his 17-point junior campaign.

The offense is also focused on re-establishing an image. To help with that Burcar said he brought in Cam Goode and Troy Storm, who will offer some of the edge that the 2008-09 team was missing.

"We didn't have that grit, the physical play," Burcar said. "But these two players will do that well for us on an aggressive forecheck. These two players really bring that element to our team."

This article appeared in the October 30, 2009, issue of the *Daily Mining Gazette*. It is reprinted here with permission.



2009-2010 Men's Hockey Team

SPORTS NEWS

New coaches bring new spirit

by K.D. Warvie, Sports Editor, Daily Mining Gazette

This year's version of the Finlandia women's hockey team will have a vastly different look. There are plenty of new faces on the roster and a couple more behind the bench.

Two of those new faces are assistant coaches Tiger Marcotte and Chaslyn Duffek. Both Marcotte (men's team) and Duffek (women's) played for Finlandia last season.

Having Marcotte and Duffek on staff will help Coach Heather Reinke in a variety of ways. Not only are both former players familiar with the team's systems, they will also have an impact on bringing in new players.

"Our staff is looking good," Reinke said. "They're enthusiastic. They're going to help our team try to be more successful. They're helping out with recruiting, which is a big thing for us. Getting graduates from this program to help us recruit is another big aspect of it."

The rest of the new faces are on the team's roster. The Lions brought in nine freshmen this past off season. The top recruit of the group is defenseman Dana Dillon. Dillon spent last season playing hockey for the Little Caesars franchise.

"She's a great recruit," Reinke said of Dillon. "We're really lucky to get her. She's already shown she's capable of logging some good ice time."

Four other newcomers will battle for playing time between the pipes. All four could see action in the early part of the season.

"We do not have a clear-cut no. 1 at this point," Reinke said of her goaltenders. "All four are battling for it. I think on any given day anyone of them could be the starter. I think to start with it's going to be goaltender by committee."

With so much inexperience in net, having a good defense will be key. Fortunately for the Lions, the blue line is the strength of their team.

"Our defensive corps, we graduated Chas (Duffek), but we still have J.J. (Jessica Jones) back there," Reinke said. "We have (Nicole) Schumacher as a junior, one of our lone juniors back there. Then you have Jolene Kneebone, who

played one semester with us last year. She showed lots of promise. She just wasn't on the ice as much as we would have liked because she came in at the semester."

As good as defense looks, Finlandia will still need to score. That's where Katelyn McLean and Kendra Benson come in. The two tied for the team lead in points last year with 17. McLean had 11 goals and six assists while Benson chipped in eight goals and nine helpers. Both will be counted on to provide even more scoring punch this year. But unlike last season, McLean and Benson will have more help on the offensive end.



2009-2010 Women's Hockey Team

The Lions will go with three lines and have three other forwards who will rotate in on those lines. Junior Emily Marcotte (Conrad) will be one of the players who should help lessen the burden on McLean and Benson.

With a solid group of returning players, and a very good freshman class, Finlandia expects to be a much better team than it was last season.

The Lions opened their season at home against Marian College October 31.

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For more information about Finlandia Athletics,
please visit our website at
www.finlandia.edu/index.php?id=74.

*The Suomi College Class of 1945
Photo courtesy of Sylvia Koski ('45)*



“Looking back I realize that attending Suomi was such great fun, and a safe place to be,” reflects Martha Johnson Kulla ('45) about her days at Suomi College during the war years. “I had thought about going into nursing, and my older sisters also encouraged me to follow them to Detroit where I could study while living with them. But, I would have been away from my parents and my Christian friends.”

Consequently, when Suomi College’s Prof. Martti Nisonen suggested she attend the college during a conversation in a store, Martha decided then and there that’s what she would do. She knew her parents wanted her to have the advantage of a good education.

“There were many country schools at that time and they needed teachers, in particular with so many men in the war. I was going to be a teacher.”

The war also had an impact on the Suomi student population. “We were a small group. The only men were the seminary students,” Martha explains. “They were all perfect gentlemen, although one did ask me if I ever thought about being a missionary’s wife. I told him, I didn’t think so.”

When asked who stood out among her instructors she fondly remembers the French and German instructor, Fred Hanselman, as well as Dr. Viljo Nikander, Dr. Uuras Saarnivaara, and Raymond and Kaarina Wargelin. “They were all such lovely people.”

“Kosti Arho was the Finnish teacher. The most interesting thing was learning why we say things the way we do,” Martha says. Martha’s first language was Finnish and she learned to read the language in Sunday school, and by reading the “Valvoja” (The Watchman) and “Kristillinen Kuukauslehti”

SAFE AT SUOMI DURING WWII

BY JAMES KURTTI



(Christian Monthly), two periodicals printed by the Apostolic Lutheran church in Calumet, to which her parents subscribed.

"All our religious instruction was in Finnish. It wasn't until I was in my late teens that they began to have a brief summary of the sermon in English at the end of the service."

Martha graduated from Hancock High School in 1943. "My parents gave me an English language Bible. I was so excited because then I had my own room *and* my own Bible."

During her Suomi College years, Martha remained at home in Boston Location, five miles north of Hancock. She recalls making friends from across the country. "They were mostly from Suomi Synod homes, people like Elsa Kesätie from Ohio and Esther Kopra of Butte, Montana, who had a beautiful singing voice," Martha remembers. "Esther was always called upon to sing."

Martha particularly remembers a student from Maynard, Massachusetts, Vilja Helenius. She had a sign on her door which read "Miscellaneous," using word play on her name 'Miss Helenius.'

Vilja had concluded she would return home after her first year, but "she was so happy and full of life. We all begged her to stay," Martha recalls. "Tragically, she was killed while riding a toboggan during the college's Laskiainen celebration. We girls were asked to sing at her memorial service before her body was shipped back to Massachusetts, but I don't think we were able to make much of a sound."

The seminarians were given the task of setting up Sunday schools in the rural area churches during the war years. "They asked me to teach Sunday school in Boston Location, because I lived there," Martha recalled. "One of my students was Rudy Kemppainen. Even when he was a little boy they called him 'Pappi' [pastor]."

Kemppainen, a graduate of Suomi College's seminary, continues his ministry to this day, and is a strong supporter of Finlandia University, having served on its Board of Trustees and Finnish Council in America.

When speakers were called to preach in the area, Martha's parents often housed them. One such preacher was Emil Kulla of Brainerd, Minnesota. Just after Martha's confirmation Kulla responded to a call and brought his wife and family. Martha immediately befriended the Kulla children, with whom she kept in contact via letters, including their son Carl.

In 1941, Carl Kulla began his studies at Suomi College where he intended to learn Finnish. Martha, still in high school, would see him at church on Sundays. In the fall of 1942, after a few weeks of classes, Carl was inducted into the service.

"Many of us went to the train station in Hancock to see the young men off," Martha remembers. "Carl and I continued to write letters through the military system."

Shortly after Martha graduated from Suomi College in 1945 Carl returned from Europe. "We were already engaged by mail. We were married in my parents' home and Carl's father was the pastor who married us."

After some time in Minnesota, Texas, and Oregon, the young couple was able to settle down in Minneapolis following Carl's discharge in 1946.

Martha's frequent letters to her parents kept up her Finnish skills. "Unlike the everyday Finglish we spoke (the mixing of Finnish grammar and English words), they said my letters sounded like Dr. Saarnivaara," Martha laughs.

She also was an avid reader of "Kristillinen Kuukauslehti." "I would read some of the sermons and they were so beautiful, I felt I had to edify Carl's soul by translating them." The translations were saved and compiled. "Finally, Carl said we have to do something about these. They're not doing anyone any good just sitting here."

Thus began the Kullas' endeavors in publishing. Carl has published 24 books with Martha supporting him in every way, but perhaps most significantly as translator.

Word got out that Martha is a capable translator. Now and then she received requests to translate various texts. "I was asked to translate some early church and cemetery association records from the late 1800s. I was surprised that they were using Finglish so early on," Martha recalls.

"When the records mentioned clearing some land they used the verb *kleerata*. In another entry, this time in discussing wasting electricity while the sun was shining, the decision was made to *toppata* (stop) the electric lights."

Martha finds old Finglish delightful, and sometimes amusing, she says. It reminds her of happy times at Suomi College and she often wonders about her classmates.

Classmates interested in contacting Martha and Carl Kulla can reach them at 18015 NE 232nd Ave., Brush Prairie, Washington 98606.



Finlandia University Criminal Justice major Corey King, Hancock, served in the U.S. Army from August 2005 to December 2008. He spent 15 months in Iraq at a forward operating base in east Baghdad. He was honorably discharged at the rank of sergeant.

This fall King is taking the course, Servant Leadership for the Local Community (REL/SOC 237), for which he was challenged to complete a community-based service project.

“A central requirement of the course is a project that exercises both servant-hood and leadership,” explained assistant professor René Johnson. “It has to be something that comes out of who you are – your background, experience, and passions.”

“When he started his project, Corey had the impression that for most people in the U.S., Iraq is off their radar screens,” said Johnson. “Because of that impression, he wanted to get people involved in sending a care package – primarily letters – to a battalion in Iraq.”

King’s letter-writing project was also prompted by his personal reaction to receiving a letter from a grade school youth while he was serving in Iraq. King wants to create for other soldiers a similar feeling.

“It was great to see the letters. It was a morale booster and helped me connect with another reality,” King explained. “When we’re on a long string of missions in Iraq, we kind of get into a groove and everything we think about has to do with the missions. It was good to know that people are still supportive back in the States, and that they’re thinking about us.”

“King’s leadership is getting a lot of people involved,” Johnson said. “He is preparing to speak with a third grade class at Hancock Elementary School, and following they will write letters to soldiers serving in Iraq. He is also involving Finlandia students in collecting items for a care package to be sent with the letters.”

The recipients of the letters and care package will be a platoon recently redeployed to Iraq. King previously served with that platoon’s battalion leader.

The care package will include “stuff from back here,” King said. “Things like individually wrapped food items, good toothbrushes and toothpaste, and other things they can’t get there.”

Although the service project is still coming together, it got a boost October 6 when King shared his story at a Finlandia Community Partners meeting. From there it has blossomed.

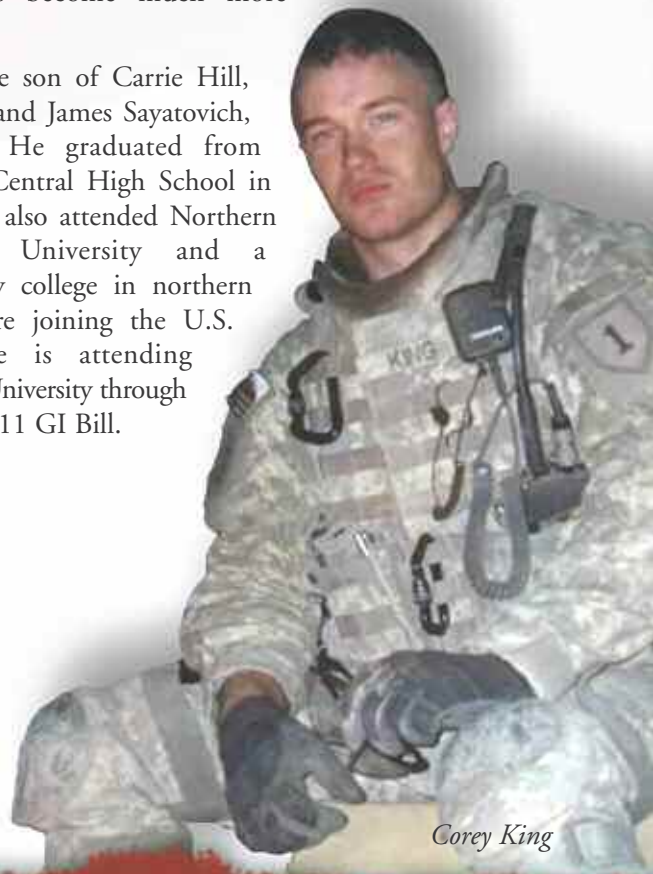
“The project woke me up a little bit,” King said. “Once I put the idea out there, there was a pretty big response.”

King was recently a guest on “Keep It in the U.P.,” a weekly radio program hosted by Dick Storm on WCUP-FM and WGLI-FM. From that interview, the South Range VFW contacted King offering to help with the care package and cover the cost of mailing the package to Iraq.

Further, a newly-formed book group that will meet monthly at North Wind Books chose as its first selection *The Good Soldiers* (2009) written by David Finkel of the *Washington Post*. The book is a chronicle of the day-to-day life of the soldiers in the battalion in which King served. King has been invited to join the group’s discussion of the book.

King said his service in the Army definitely changed his outlook on life. In particular, helping others has become much more important.

King is the son of Carrie Hill, Hancock, and James Sayatovich, Hancock. He graduated from Hancock Central High School in 2000, and also attended Northern Michigan University and a community college in northern Iowa before joining the U.S. Army. He is attending Finlandia University through the Post-9/11 GI Bill.



Corey King

COREY KING
Servant-hood and Leadership

Alumna is Passionate about Service Career

For over 20 years, Shanna Cherubini's grandmother, Eleanor (Colombe) Sauvola, a Class of 1950 Suomi College graduate, provided shelter in her home for abused and neglected children. From six to 13 children, teens, and adults would be in the house at any given time. Cherubini spent a lot of time at her grandmother's and so in a sense she grew up with these children and the social workers who looked after them.

In 2004, Cherubini graduated from Finlandia University summa cum laude with a bachelor of arts in Rural Human Services. She also completed an associate degree in criminal justice at Finlandia in 2003. Today, she is the Western U.P. services supervisor for Child and Family Services of the Upper Peninsula, Inc., Houghton.

Her first position at CFS was as a youth specialist, assisting homeless and at-risk youth. In a year or so, she was promoted to assistant supervisor, and about a year after that became the Western U.P. services supervisor.

Cherubini says she didn't expect to advance so quickly, but feels she was well prepared when she began her career. What gave her the edge, she says, were her excellent college GPA, grant writing experience, and good references from her internships.

"I definitely had the background I needed," she said. "Mary Tormala (former Human Services program director) was able to teach a lot you could never learn from a book. I also completed an internship at Houghton County Courthouse and worked in direct care for Copper Country Mental Health."

"When I did my internship, I put all my effort forth; I didn't blow it off," Cherubini says. "My advice to students is to take your education and internships seriously and do the best you can. It's a chance to get your name out there and develop relationships."

"It also helps when it's something you are passionate about," Cherubini adds.

What Cherubini is passionate about is helping the homeless. CFS currently administers seven different homeless programs, including a Homeless Prevention program in Baraga and Houghton counties, and a Homeless Youth Initiative in Houghton County.

Cherubini and her staff have also established a Housing Resource Center, which is a central information and assistance point for those experiencing housing issues.

Cherubini says that the Houghton CFS office served 39 homeless adults and children in 2006, 131 in 2007, and 341 in 2008. She expects the 2009 total to reach 500. In addition to homeless referrals and prevention cases, CFS provides various other services to an additional 200 people each year.



Cherubini concedes that her work can sometimes be frustrating, but she takes the good with the bad.

"I definitely get stressed out," she said. "But I hang on to the good moments. It's also helpful to have a supportive staff."

Which she does. Including Cherubini, eight staff members work at the Houghton CFS office.

Recently Child and Family Services leased a portion of the former Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Hancock, which they expect to occupy in February 2010. The new space will include CFS offices and 11 apartment units, four leased by CFS for client use.

"We're excited that all CFS offices will be in one building," Cherubini says. She stresses, however, that it is not a homeless shelter. "It will be a one-stop housing resource center and a place where clients can use a computer and take advantage of laundry and kitchen facilities."

Cherubini is the chair of Continuum of Care, a group of service providers from Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw counties that gathers to discuss homelessness issues and explore solutions.

Cherubini, 28, graduated from Houghton High School in 1999. She lives in Chassell with husband, Frank, and their two children, Zachary and McKayla.

ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNI NOTES

ALL-SCHOOL REUNION JUNE 24-27, 2010

Mark your calendars! Don't miss it! The next Suomi College/Finlandia University all-school reunion is June 24 to 27, 2010. Plan now to reconnect with your alma mater and school friends. Some of the activities you can look forward to include a pasty picnic, a wine tasting, a golf outing, an alumni awards ceremony, and other fabulous events!

If you have ideas for the reunion or would like to serve on a planning committee, please contact Cheryl Ries, director of alumni relations, at (906) 487-7317 or cheryl.ries@finlandia.edu.

Check us out on Facebook: Search for Finlandia University Alumni Association Lion's Pride.

ALUMNI FRIENDS

SHARE YOUR NEWS

Did you bump into a classmate while on vacation? Were you recently married? Has a new baby arrived?

Have you started your own business?

We'd love to hear about it! Please take a minute to write or e-mail us.

Attn: Cheryl Ries
Finlandia Alumni Relations
601 Quincy Street
Hancock, MI 49930
(906) 487-7317
alumni@finlandia.edu



RYAN SULLIVAN JOINS FARM BUREAU

Ryan Sullivan ('09), Marquette, has joined Farm Bureau Insurance as a new agent serving the Marquette area

from the Farm Bureau office at 2315 U.S. 41, Marquette.

Ryan recently completed an extensive career development program for new agents, which prepared him for the state licensing examination and provided instruction in all areas of property/casualty and life insurance.

Ryan's training included the agent career school at the Farm Bureau Insurance home office in Lansing. Farm Bureau agents are licensed to sell all lines of insurance, including life, home, auto, farm, retirement, and business.

Prior to joining Farm Bureau Insurance, Ryan attended Finlandia University where he graduated with a bachelor of business administration, while also playing ice hockey for the Lions.

Ryan joins a statewide force of 400 Farm Bureau Insurance agents serving nearly 450,000 Michigan policyholders.



Nine future alumni gathered for a photo on the steps of Old Main recently. These freshmen, and 17 additional Finlandia freshmen, all graduated from Hancock Central High School in June 2009. They are the first cohort of Finlandia "Hancock Award" recipients, which is a key component of the "Campus and Community: Together for Good" initiative between Finlandia and Hancock public schools.

ALUMNI NEWS

OBITUARIES

Eleanor Jane (Massie) Hoyer, age 92, died Aug. 25, 2009, in Hancock.

Mary Elizabeth (Kaiser) Altenburg ('47), age 81, died Oct. 27, 2009, in Calumet.

Howard L. Johnson ('52), age 81, died Aug. 20, 2009, in Houghton.

Edith Impi Roosa (Turpeinen) Dreelan ('46), age 83, died Oct. 29, 2009, in Pelkie.

Sally Louise (Lassila) Hanson ('42), age 87, died October 24, 2009, in Valley City, N.D. A profile of Mrs. Hanson appeared in the summer/fall 2009 issue of *the Bridge*. On her behalf, Mrs. Hanson's daughters, Shelley Williamson and Lori Ritchey, recently presented a gift to Finlandia for scholarships and library resources. The recipients of the 2009-10 Sally Lassila-Hanson Scholarship are Alisha Carne ('10), Dollar Bay; Serena Harju ('11), Houghton; and Ashley Harma ('11), Houghton. Each scholarship recipient received \$1,000.

Edwin R. Takkunen ('50), age 85, died Aug. 17, 2009, in St. Paul, Minn.

Arthur W. Jalkanen ('56), age 79, died Sept. 11, 2009, in Bloomfield Township.

Aarne Holmio ('50), age 79, died Oct. 17, 2009, in Escanaba.

Norma (Kyrole) O'Hagin ('52), age 76, died Aug. 19, 2009, in Napa Valley, Cal.

Irwin M. "Mort" Jaehnig ('60), age 70, died Oct. 23, 2009, in DeWitt.

Judith C. (Kapoun) Puotinen ('00), 67, died Sept. 30, 2009, in Elgin, Ill. Judy was born March 5, 1942, in St. Paul, Minn. She received a B.A. degree from Augustana College, Illinois, where she met her husband, Arthur Puotinen ('61). They were married in 1964. Judy was a public school teacher and a strong partner in her husband's career as a Lutheran pastor and college administrator. She earned a B.F.A. at

Finlandia University in 2000, beginning a promising second career as a fiber artist. She was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church where her husband serves as pastor. Judy is survived by her husband, three daughters, her mother, a sister and brother, and several grandchildren. Art Puotinen was Suomi College dean of faculty in the mid-1970s, and vice president and provost from 1996 to 2002.



Ann Mary "Jazmin" Robertson Lewis, daughter of William and Theresa Robertson, died Aug. 14, 2009, of ovarian cancer at her parents' home in Lewes, Del., where she had lived since 2007.

She is survived by sisters Cathleen Robertson and Julia (William) Robertson, sister-in-law Ann Robertson, and her parents.

Ann was born April 4, 1963, and raised in Arlington, Va. She graduated from Bishop D.J. O'Donnell High School, and earned a nursing degree at Finlandia University in 1999.

Jazmin considered the U.P. her home. She lived in Houghton/Hancock from 1995 to 2007 and was employed as a hospice and home health nurse at Portage Home Health.

She loved hunting for agates, cross country skiing, and swimming in Lake Superior. Jazmin could be found most evenings at Bleachers Sports Bar, Hancock, where she regularly defeated all competitors in trivia.

Her generosity, compassion, and listening skills will be missed by many. Ann and her family thank everyone who contributed to the many fundraisers that helped with the medical costs. The kindness and love shown by the people of the Copper Country has overwhelmed us and shows how much Ann was loved here in the U.P.

Memorial donations may be made to Omega House Hospice, Houghton.

Memorials & In Honor Gifts

MEMORIALS

July 1-October 31, 2009

Dolores (Sormunen) Fennell

Martha Johnson Fischer

Ruth M. Galetano

Roy Alan & Lorraine (Rotta) Heino

Toini Kari

Eero B. Keranen

Eric A. Kettula

Toivo & Joyce Kiltinen

Reino Kolpanen

Lily Korpi

Marion F. Kuehn

Dr. Walter Kukkonen

Carl Lohela

Martha Lurvey

Ernest Niederer

Paul Ollila

John & Helmi Osterberg

Dolores Panke

Carl W. Pelto, Sr.

Gertrude Pentinmaki

Judith Puotinen

Aino Ristimaki

Martin Siik

George B. Soorus

Kaspar & Elina Toivonen

IN HONOR

July 1-October 31, 2009

Scott & Martha Dickson

Sarah Kemppainen - 50th Birthday

2009-10 CALENDAR

FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 6 Finnish Independence Day program, 2 p.m. (FAHC)
- 10 Nordic Film Series: *Christmas Tale*, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. (FAHC)
- 11 Christmas Open House fundraiser, 5-8 p.m. (Hoover Center)
- 11 End of Fall 2009 semester
- 18 Dedication of Jutila Center Incubator and Holiday Open House (Jutila Center)
- 28-31 Holiday Break (all non-essential university offices closed)

JANUARY

- 11 Spring 2010 semester begins
- 14 Nordic Film Series, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. (FAHC)
- 21 Artist Reception: Melinda Steffy, 7 p.m. (Finlandia Gallery)
- 30 Heikinpäivä Mid-winter Festival (Downtown Hancock)

FEBRUARY

- 2 Community Partners meeting, 12 p.m. (FAHC)
- 11 Nordic Film Series, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. (FAHC)
- 14-21 Homecoming Celebration
- 18 Opening Reception: Finlandia Alumni Exhibit 2010, 7 p.m. (Finlandia Gallery)

MARCH

- 11 Nordic Film Series, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. (FAHC)

APRIL

- 8 Nordic Film Series, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. (FAHC)
- 16 Honors Banquet
- 30 End of Spring 2010 semester

MAY

- 2 Commencement and Baccalaureate

FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY GALLERY

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| December 3 to January 3 | Bruce Niemi: <i>Heavy Metal/Graceful Forms</i> |
| January 11 to February 11 | Melinda Steffy: <i>Remnants and Residual Memories</i> |
| February 18 to March 24 | Finlandia University ISAD: <i>Alumni Exhibit 2010</i> |

ATHLETIC EVENTS

DECEMBER

Men's Basketball

- 5 University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
- 12 North Central University
- 18 Alma College
- 19 Olivet College
- 29 University of Minnesota-Crookston
- 30 Albion College^A

^A Game to be played in Gwin, MI

Women's Basketball

- 1 Northern Michigan University
- 8 Michigan Technological University
- 11 Crown College
- 12 North Central University
- 18 Hope College Classic
- 19 Hope College Classic
- 29 University of Minnesota-Crookston

Men's Hockey

- 4 Northland College
- 5 Northland College
- 12 Gustavus Adolphus College
- 13 St. John's University

Women's Hockey

- 4 Marian College
- 5 Marian College
- 12 Adrian College
- 13 Adrian College

JANUARY

Men's Basketball

- 6 Gogebic Community College
- 9 University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
- 12 College of St. Scholastica

- 16 Silver Lake College
- 19 Northland Baptist Bible College
- 26 Northland College
- 30 University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Women's Basketball

- 2 Bethany Lutheran College
- 3 Bethany Lutheran College
- 12 College of St. Scholastica
- 14 Mount Mary College
- 16 Silver Lake College
- 19 Northland Baptist Bible College
- 26 Northland College

Men's Hockey

- 5 Augsburg College
- 8 Concordia University-WI
- 9 Concordia University-WI
- 15 Lawrence University
- 16 Lawrence University
- 22 Milwaukee School of Engineering
- 23 Milwaukee School of Engineering
- 29 Adrian College
- 30 Adrian College

Women's Hockey

- 2 St. Catherine University
- 3 St. Catherine University
- 8 Augsburg College
- 9 Augsburg College
- 15 Concordia University-WI
- 16 Concordia University-WI
- 23 University of Wisconsin-River Falls
- 24 University of Wisconsin-River Falls

FEBRUARY

Men's Basketball

- 2 University of Wisconsin-Superior
- 9 Northland Baptist Bible College

- 13 Silver Lake College
- 16 Bemidji State University
- 18 Gogebic Community College
- 19 DIII Independent Tourney
- 20 DIII Independent Tourney
- 21 DIII Independent Tourney

Women's Basketball

- 4 Mount Mary College
- 6 Cardinal Stritch University
- 9 Northland Baptist Bible College
- 13 Silver Lake College
- 16 St. Norbert College

Men's Hockey

- 5 Marian College
- 6 Marian College
- 12 Northland College
- 13 Northland College
- 19 Lawrence University
- 20 Lawrence University
- 26-28 MCHA First Round Playoffs

Women's Hockey

- 6 University of Wisconsin-Superior
- 7 University of Wisconsin-Superior
- 12 University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
- 13 University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
- 20 University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
- 21 University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
- 26 NCHA Quarterfinal
- 27 NCHA Quarterfinal

Women's Softball

- 26-28 Finlandia Dome Tournament

MARCH

Men's Hockey

- 5-7 MCHA Final Four
- 19-21 NCAA DIII Final Four

Women's Hockey

- 5 Conference Finals

Men's Baseball

- 6-15 Gene Cusic Classic, Fort Myers, FL
- 30 Crown College/St. Boniface

Women's Softball

- 6-15 Cocoa Expo Spring Training
- 27-28 Augsburg College Invitational

Men's Golf

- 27-4/2 Finlandia Spring Tournament
- Myrtle Beach, SC

APRIL

Men's Baseball

- 3 University of Wisconsin-Stout
- 6 Milwaukee School of Engineering
- 7 Wisconsin Lutheran
- 9 Rochester College
- 11 Alma College
- 17 Lawrence University
- 19 Northland College
- 22 Cardinal Stritch University

Women's Softball

- 8 Northland College
- 9 University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
- 15 Rochester College
- 18 Olivet College
- 23 Mount Mary College Invitational
- 24 Mount Mary College Invitational

Men's Golf

- 10-11 Ripon College Spring Invitational
- 17-18 Beloit College Invitational

Home games in bold



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Pictured: Kendall Sarazin (left) and Christopher Sarazin, both of Bootjack

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Living on Sisu: The 1913 Union Copper Strike Tragedy, by Deborah K. Frontiera

This well-researched historical fiction takes place in Houghton County, Michigan. It is written from the point of view of a twelve-year-old girl whose father is on strike. The first-person narrative puts the reader on the scene. Historical photographs help the reader visualize the time and place.

The ABC's Press, 2009.

Paperback\$16.95

Hauskat Sanat, by Dawn Sirett

My First Words - Let's get talking!

Can you see a teddy bear? Where are the little kittens?

From toys to farm animals, and shapes to the seaside, this is the perfect first word book for toddlers to share and enjoy with grown-ups. There are colorful pictures and fun-filled questions throughout, plus inviting picture tabs so children can easily find the pages they love. It's never been easier to encourage your child to start thinking and talking in Finnish!

Tammi, 2008.

Board Book\$15.50

Moomin Book 4: The Complete Tove Jansson Comic Strip, by Tove Jansson

Drawn & Quarterly's bestselling Moomin series, created by the legendary children's author Tove Jansson, is now in its fourth installment. The series is the winner of the Harvey Award and has been nominated for multiple Eisner Awards.

Drawn & Quarterly, 2009.

Hardcover\$19.95

Helsinki Homicide: Against the Wall, by Jarkko Sipila

Against the Wall, winner of the 2009 Finnish Crime Fiction of the Year Award, is the first of Jarkko Sipila's nine Detective Takamaki novels to be translated into English. Through realistic characters and complex plots, Sipila explores current topics surrounding Finnish society and unveils glimpses into his esoteric homeland.

Ice Cold Crime, 2009.

Paperback\$11.95

NORTH WIND

BOOKS

