



ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

2024-2025

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Greetings from the Boerigter Center for Calling and Career!

The 2024-2025 academic year was a year for achieving new milestones. We were honored to receive a national award recognizing overall excellence in career services. We hosted a conference and sent our staff to present at other conferences. We hit new high marks in student engagement metrics, CFL programs, and health professions acceptance rates. I am so grateful to be a part of this high-achieving team!

This was also a year for navigating a rapidly changing environment for higher education. As college costs continue to rise, we have sought out and promoted organizations that offer tuition assistance to students. As artificial intelligence changes the way people learn and work, we jumped on it early to help students navigate what it means for their future. It is challenging to keep up, but we are constantly listening and adapting to find solutions with a spirit of creativity.

Despite the rapid pace of change, the Boerigter Center remains grounded in our mission to teach all students how to engage in the lifelong practices of career development. It's about helping them discern their calling and then prepare for their best possible launch after Hope. New in this year's report are stories from a few of many, many students who did just that.

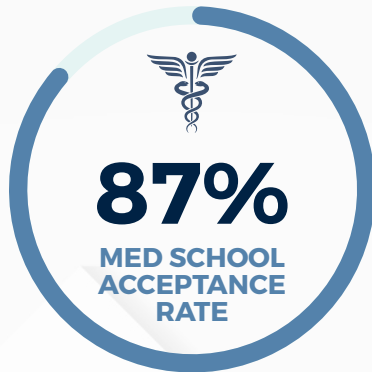
Thank you so much for your prayers and the support you provide to help us do our work! I'm so appreciative - we couldn't do it without you!



SHONN COLBRUNN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BOERIGTER CENTER FOR CALLING AND CAREER

P.S. I'm a regular user of AI, but not for everything. Sometimes, I feel like it's better to do things the old-fashioned way - by writing it myself. I hope you enjoy this year's edition of our Boerigter Center Annual Highlights, written in full by me alone without the help of ChatGPT!

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS



National average is 40-45%



Our highest since launching in 2021



275

Student attendance
at the 2025 Spring
Career Fair

68 more than our previous record

FOLLOWERS ON INSTAGRAM



27% increase from last year



105

Students enrolled in
Leadership minor

CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP CONSULTING



31

PROJECTS



\$170K

IN REVENUE

STUDENT IMPACT STORIES

CLASS OF 2025

EVIE FIRMAN

Associate Engineer - DTE Energy

"The Boerigter Center was instrumental in my early Career journey after Hope, helping me strengthen my resume, improve my LinkedIn profile, and develop practical interview skills. A special thank you to Shonn Colbrunn and Dale Austin for arranging mock interviews and answering all my questions, which gave me the confidence I needed during the interview process."



ADAM VANDELLEN

Technical Sales Engineer - Texas Instruments

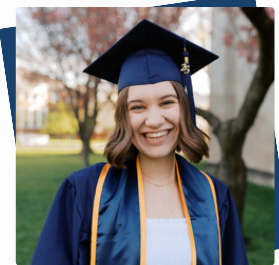
"I found this opportunity at Texas Instruments in the fall at the career fair put on by the Boerigter Center. By the time I met them at the career fair, being proactive with the team there helped me to have a complete and refined resume. I was able to use the Center to train me for interviews and do mock interviews, which prepared me for the TI interview process."



ELSIE CRAIG

MEd in College Student Affairs Administration - University of Georgia

"The Boerigter Center met me where I was throughout my time at Hope. As an underclassman, they helped me set up job shadows and alumni connections to learn about different career paths. Later, they helped me apply for grad school and assisted me in preparing for my grad school interviews. I am grateful for all the ways they poured into me and supported me!"



JIMMY HWANG

Doctor of Physical Therapy - Washington University

"The Boerigter Center has helped me so much with my physical therapy school application process! The staff there have looked over my essay, held mock interviews, and advised me as well. Most importantly, they have supported me amidst the stress of uncertainty while applying."



MADELINE KENNEY

MS in Business Analytics - University of Notre Dame

"I appreciate such a supportive environment at the Boerigter Center where the staff radiate genuine care for students. I'm so grateful for my time at Hope, and I'm excited to be attending graduate school at Notre Dame!"



TINH TRAN

Tax Associate - PwC

"Working with the Boerigter Center and CFL equipped me with the professional skills, meaningful connections, and real-world experience I needed to confidently navigate my career path. Their mentorship and hands-on support made all the difference."



AVERY LARSON

Design and Development Coordinator - 360 Destination Group

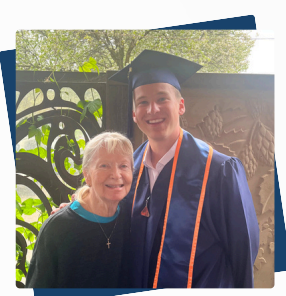
"Hope College's Boerigter Center prepared me for my first real job by equipping me with practical career tools like resume building, mock interviews, and networking strategies. The personalized guidance and support I received gave me the confidence and clarity to pursue my professional goals right after graduation. I wouldn't be where I am without the help of some key resources at Hope."



DAVID BRACE

Commercial Development Program - Dow

"The Boerigter Center staff was incredibly supportive, offering mock interviews and resume revisions that definitely boosted my confidence. Plus, they even arranged for me to have an in-person interview in their space with the Dow team, which made a huge difference."



SYDNEY RITSEMA

Human Resources Support Coordinator - Wedgwood Christian Services

"The Boerigter Center was instrumental in my journey at Hope, helping me explore my interests early on, prepare for interviews, and gain clarity about my goals. Their support led to an internship, my current job, and a deeper understanding that career exploration is also about discovering purpose beyond a specific role."



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

RECOGNIZED AS A NATIONAL LEADER

We were honored to receive the **2025 NCDA Exemplary Career Center Program Award** from the National Career Development Association! This award was established to recognize a career center program for its commitment to thoughtful, innovative, and effective initiatives that support career development. This is a fitting culmination of the work of the Boerigter Center in recent years as we have sought to make an increasingly stronger impact. The award was presented at NCDA's national conference in Atlanta in June.



HOSTED A NETVUE REGIONAL CONFERENCE

We were honored to host a conference on “Integrating Vocation in the Academic Disciplines” in May of this year. Over 50 college leaders from around the country, as well as one from England, gathered at Hope to discuss this important topic, central to the Hope way of preparing students for life and career.

The conference was planned by Dr. Ryan White and Stacy Kemper, in partnership with the Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education (NetVUE). Multiple members of the Hope faculty and staff contributed their perspectives and expertise as featured speakers and workshop facilitators.



Attendees were highly complimentary:

— “
That was a fantastic conference, and I really appreciate all the thought and care that went into thinking through the entire event, ensuring it was a massive home run. Thank you again!
” —

— “
I can't let the day slip by without a huge word of thanks for the excellence you demonstrated over the last three days as part of the NetVUE event. You covered all the bases. Equally important, you demonstrated a sincere, sensitive, and caring spirit. You were a total class act. Thanks for the privilege of participating the last two days.
” —

— “
Thank you for a great conference. Truly, time well spent!
” —

LEADING THE WAY WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

There's no doubt that artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming higher education and the workplace. Over the past year, we have researched best practices in the field of career services and educated our staff on emerging technologies and their impact on our graduates as they enter the workforce. We then provided our students with principles on how to ethically and safely use AI in career preparation situations, consistent with Hope's student guidelines. Currently, our staff are regularly coaching students on effective prompts during 1:1 appointments, such as "What are possible questions that may be asked in an interview for this position? [paste job posting]"

One important goal of this work is to teach students to be "fluent" in their use of AI as they get ready to start their first job. However, we also recognize that employers value more than just AI prompt writing skills. They want graduates who can think critically and communicate effectively. The good news is that these are skills that are developed as a part of Hope's liberal arts curriculum, and we are proud to support our faculty as we double down on these critical human competencies.

PEER ADVISING CONTINUES TO MAKE AN IMPACT

This past fall marked the second year of our Peer Advising program, in which upperclassmen students serve as mentors to first-year students as part of their First Year Seminar classes. Freshmen with peer advisors report higher knowledge of how to access and use resources for student support, advising, and registration. In addition, the peer advisors themselves have shared encouraging anecdotes about the program's impact on their lives:

- "As a future educator, I think this experience as a whole was extremely meaningful to me. I was able to hone in on my advising skills and relationship-building abilities. I had some really deep conversations with students who needed to talk to someone and I am happy that they felt like they could trust me without even knowing me very well."
- "I loved just about everything in this job. I met with several students out of class time on their own accord, and it was truly delightful! I had awesome students to work with and seeing them around campus and interacting with them gave me so much joy."

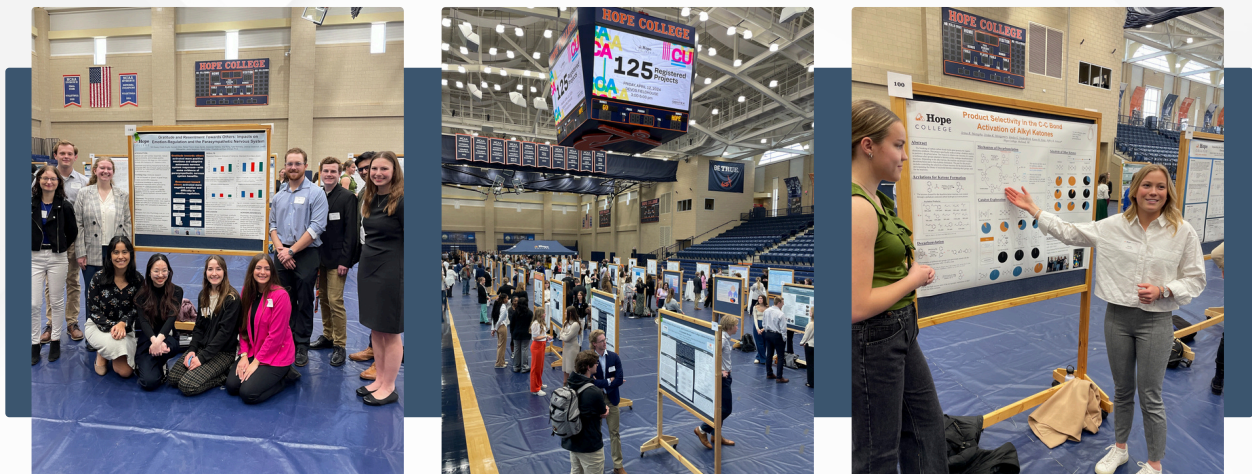
We have tweaked the program based on our survey data to continue to target our outcomes of increasing first-year students' sense of their own vocation as college students. Very few programs like this have attempted to measure impact, and our granting organization feels this may be of high value to others offering similar programs who lack a sense of how to improve and strengthen them.



SUPPORTING THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

In addition to supporting our students with all aspects of calling and career, we are regularly asked to support other areas of Hope's academic program. This year, we began oversight of the College's Fellowship Advising program. While a team of faculty members reviews applications and provides feedback and assistance, the Boerigter Center is now offering support with student publicity and process management. Our most common fellowships include the Fulbright and Goldwater fellowships. In addition, we assisted in the nomination process for the Athens Democracy Forum and the Leadership in Action seminar. We are proud to say that Hope students were selected for each of these highly selective opportunities.

In addition to fellowships, this was our third year of providing project management and oversight for Hope's Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (CURCA). This is Hope's annual student research showcase event, held every April. This year was the largest in the last five years, with over 1,000 attendees, 200+ posters, and 25+ oral presentations.



BUSINESS-SPONSORED TUITION

In the spirit of Hope Forward, we took the lead in identifying external organizations that would provide students with money towards tuition as an added benefit of their employment. Three local retail businesses will allow Hope students to work in a part-time position and receive up to \$5,250/year in tuition support. In addition, we identified three additional opportunities at local hospitals that provide scholarships for students pursuing degrees in nursing. Besides the immediate benefit of tuition support, our students can gain skills and build experience to set them up for future success.

CONTINUED SUCCESS IN HEALTH PROFESSIONS PREPARATION

Hope College has a long-standing tradition of providing excellent preparation for students who choose to go into health professions. This year was exceptional, as 87% of our students were accepted into medical school! At a time when the national average is 40-45%, this is a testament to the quality of our students, professors, and Health Profession Advisors, Emily Baker and Terri Cregg.

87%

OF OUR STUDENTS WERE
ACCEPTED INTO MEDICAL
SCHOOL

This success is supported by the Malcolm H. McKay Health Sciences scholarship, now in its fourth year of administration through the Boerigter Center. High-performing juniors with intentions of pursuing a doctoral-level degree are invited to apply for a scholarship for their senior year. This scholarship alleviates financial pressures, enabling promising students to focus on their studies and medical graduate program applications.



While we work with students throughout their four years at Hope, our engagement starts even before they are admitted. Every year, the Hope Admissions Office invites high school students to attend our Health Professions Showcase, organized by Emily and Terri. This event is highly effective, as 77% of attendees choose to enroll at Hope (more than the typical 60% from other disciplinary showcases).

Attendees shared this feedback:

— “ —
Terri Cregg and Emily are one of the primary reasons why Hope stands out above other undergrad programs! It was very informative and helped my daughter feel even more comfortable.
— ” —

— “ —
It was a fantastic day that solidified our desire for our child to go to Hope.
— ” —

SUPPORTING THE HOPE WESTERN PRISON EDUCATION PROGRAM

Over the past few years, Amy Freehafer, our Senior Academic & Career Advisor, has supported students in the Hope Western Prison Education Program (HWPEP) by administering PathwayU, a career interests and values assessment. This year, we had the opportunity to support these students in new ways. One highlight from the year was welcoming two HWPEP students to our main campus in Holland as they were released on parole. We worked with them to develop professional resumes, and we coached them as they attended our Spring Career Fair. We are excited to continue to work with them on career and grad school prep as they get ready to graduate in the next year. Another highlight was running our CFL Leadership Development Program with 35+ students on site in Muskegon.



“Our goal, as always, was to inspire and equip our Hope students to become more effective servant leaders. I am confident we accomplished that goal, but the unexpected outcome was we were inspired by these exceptional students. They were far and away the most engaged and energized group of the 17 retreats I have facilitated. They also showed a level of gratitude that was frankly awe-inspiring.”

CFL Director Doug Ruch

NEW STAFF MEMBER

Sara Sanchez-Timmer '14

Sara joined the team as a part-time Academic and Career Advisor. She also works part-time as an Integrative Learning Coordinator in Hope's Student Development office. Previously, she worked as the Residential Life and Program Coordinator in Scott Hall and the Phelps Scholars Program. Sara is herself a Hope graduate, and she spent eight years working as a high school English teacher before coming back to work at Hope. She has quickly become a trusted advisor to our students through both of her roles!



FEATURED EVENTS



FALL CAREER FAIR



**NON-CLINICAL
HEALTHCARE PANEL**



**COTTAGE CLEANING
SERVICE PROJECT**

Be SHARP: Interviewing 101

Donut Forget You're Awesome - A Sweet Employer Appreciation Event

Admissions Summer Open House

Boerigter Overview for Parents and Families

NetVUE Staff Vocation Retreat

Hope College Connection LIVE: Humanities

Energize Your Semester: Caffeinate with the Career Center

Dow Info Session

CFL Leadership Forum

Professional Attire Pop-up Shop

CFL Leadership Development Program: Athletics

Art & Art History Open House

Fall Career Fair

CFL Leadership Development Program: Arts & Humanities

Hope College Connection LIVE: Indianapolis

Veterans Day Reception & Field of Flags

Hope College Connection LIVE: Grand Rapids

Your Health Lecture Series

Returnee Workshop - Office of Global Engagement

Hope College Connection LIVE: Dance

Non-Clinical Healthcare Career Panel

Help! I'm Still Deciding My Major

Hope Family Webinar with the Boerigter Center

Articulating Your STEP Experience in Multiple Settings

Support From the Boerigter Center: Easing Faculty Workload

Academic Support Center Resume Session

College to Career: Lindsey Pollak's Fireside Chat

CFL Leadership Retreat: Hope Wester Prison Education Program

Engineering Showcase Parents Presentation

United Society for Diverse Engineers (USDE) Resume & Networking Workshop

Spring Career Fair

Academic Internship Workshop: A Guide for Faculty & Staff

Hope College Connection LIVE: Washington, DC

Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity

Hope College Connection LIVE: Sustainability

Exam Week Stress Break: Puzzles & Popcorn

Cottage Cleaning Service Project

Resume/CV Session for Summer Research Students

Presenting with Clarity & Confidence for Summer Research Students

CURCA & NCUR - Timelines & Tips for Summer Research Students



**BE SHARP:
INTERVIEWING 101**



**CFL LEADERSHIP
FORUM**

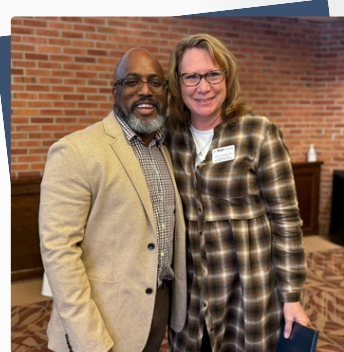


SPRING CAREER FAIR

STAFF IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Amy Freehafer

Selected from all Hope College faculty and staff to receive the **2025 Provost's Excellence in Academic Advising Award**



Emily Baker

Appointed to the role of Secretary for the Board of the **Central Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (CAAHP)**



Emily Baker & Terri Cregg

Presented at the Central Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (CAAHP) regional conference: **Guiding Students from Applying to Acceptance** (April 2025)

Maricela Mireles

Presented at the ConnectUR National Conference: **Creative Ways to Make the Most of Corporate Sponsorships** (June 2025)

Shannon Schans & Ryan White

Presented at the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Conference on Learning and Student Success (CLASS): **Beyond the Career Center: Integrating Vocational Discernment and Career Readiness Across the Liberal Arts Curriculum** (April 2025)



WHAT'S COMING

DEEPER ACADEMIC INTEGRATION

In the coming year, we expect to double down on our strong relationships with Hope faculty as partners in preparing students for a successful launch. We will be:

- Launching new software to support academic advising
- Delivering training to faculty on best practices in student advising
- Expanding activities that enable students to articulate what they are learning, a key skill that helps students excel in interviews
- Strengthening our Boerigter Liaison program with staff members dedicated to specific academic departments
- Integrating the concept of “calling” more prominently into curricula and programming

LEAD WITH HOPE

This October, we will be launching our inaugural “Lead with Hope: Authentic Leadership Retreat.” Building on the CFL’s decades of experience teaching leadership to students, we aim to share our expertise with external businesses and nonprofit organizations. This 2.5-day workshop will be an excellent opportunity for leaders to refresh, recharge, and rediscover their calling as leaders in our beautiful campus setting. Dr. Ryan White will be designing and facilitating the program, which will include other members of the Hope community as featured presenters. We are looking forward to bringing the best of Hope and CFL to our community!

WHAT WE HEARD

ALUMNI

“

I wanted to thank you for your time yesterday. I really appreciate your time, advice, and connections. As a result of our conversation, I ordered the book "Case Interview Secrets" by Victor Cheng and ordered the Management Consulted Interview package. I will continue to look into other firms such as Accenture and Plante Moran. I will be sure to keep you updated in the coming weeks and months as I move forward with this process. Thank you again for demonstrating why Hope College is such a special place with transformational people.

Thank you for supporting me in prepping for the Michigan interview. I just finished my interview and I felt pretty good leaving it - I got more engagement than anticipated and got some really great reactions from the panel as I was telling stories.

I just wanted to follow up with you regarding my mock interviews with you. I was offered one of the two positions I applied for and started with my team this past week. Thanks again for your help!

This is excellent. I am incredibly grateful. I could tell in reading it how much thought you put into it and how much you care, so thank you. Excellent perspective and attention to detail. I am honored and grateful. Thank you so much for believing in me. Thank you also for taking the time to provide such a strong recommendation as an investment in my future and the call that God has on my life.

I just wanted to let you know that I was offered the position at Carahsoft and that I will be starting there, January 6th. I couldn't have done it without your help and constant support and guidance. I will be forever grateful. I hope to stay in touch and have a strong feeling I will be asking for your help again some time in the near future.

I just realized that I never updated you about my admissions process to dental school- I got accepted into the University of Michigan with a scholarship! I also was accepted to the other schools I interviewed at as well. I seriously could not have done it without your help and advice in all of the mock interviews, it was the best thing I did to prepare for the interviews. In several of them I had very similar questions to what we went over! I am so so grateful and have been recommending you to all of my pre-health friends going through their interviews! Thank you again!

Thank you for being SO kind to me during my time at Hope. Might have seemed small to you but it made a world of difference to me!

After much reflection, I am leaning towards MSU CHM as the best fit for my medical education. Thank you so much for your mentorship throughout writing my personal statement, activities essays, and the rest of my application. Your support as advisors made a meaningful difference in my journey toward becoming a physician and I am incredibly grateful.

”

ALUMNI (continued)

“

It's an honor to be part of your website and give a testimonial for other students to hear and I hope that it contributes to the growth of your program. The experience I gained from the consulting engagements has truly set me up for success, and I continue to reap the rewards. Talking in front of leaders in a composed and organized manner is one of the most noticeable traits I developed as a result of my tenure.

I've been in a reflective space this week, as Tuesday (6/10) marked two years since I moved back home to Kenya from Holland. It's crazy how time flies! I think about my five years in Holland so fondly, they were truly some of the richest and impactful years I've had yet - and you played a role in that. This is to say thank you again and also to invite you to a short catch-up time, as I'd love to update you on what I've been up to over the last two years.

I'm excited to update you that I have just accepted and begun a new position as a Research Science Analyst with Mckinsey's Future Mobility Center to help advance EV technology and affordability worldwide. While this is a step away from local social/public sectors, I am excited to contribute to a more affordable and sustainable future through electrified innovation. For now, I will continue working from Detroit but plan to relocate to Chicago later this summer. Thank you so much, Megan, for your willingness to support me in my job search, introducing me to leaders in your network, and sharing your own professional journey. Your dedicated time and guidance has helped me find the beginning of my next chapter, and for this I cannot thank you enough.

”

EMPLOYERS

“

Thank you for the Hope College swag you mailed to me. As the summer approaches an end, I wanted to thank you for the numerous opportunities to be on campus during the 2023-2024 year. We had great success hiring four Hope students to intern with us this summer. All four students enjoyed themselves and truly valued the real-life experiences they acquired during their 12 weeks. Again, thank you for your continued support and partnership as we continue to recruit not only interns but potential future leaders for our company! Looking forward to being back on campus this fall.

I received the nice note that you sent regarding my strengths-based leadership interview. Thank you for taking the time to write and we have some notable Hope graduates in our leadership ranks.

The students clearly catch the vision of the care they wish to provide and share the same values, something hard to find in his industry. They went out of their way to meet with me over the summer and were extremely knowledgeable and hospitable. Your pre-health interns knock it out of the park every single time.

”

EMPLOYERS (continued)

“

We recently had the pleasure of interviewing one of your students, Owen. We were impressed and have extended an offer to join our team. If you know of anyone else who may be looking for opportunities, we have a variety of positions (we recruit from liberal arts, business, science, and engineering disciplines), and would love to meet more of your students.

It was a pleasure to work with the CFL team and to participate in this program. I greatly appreciate your efforts in making Remember Niger's entry possible at the last minute! I truly cannot say enough good things about the students and their performance. I share your optimism that the recommendations will have a lasting and positive impact on Remember Niger. I look forward to continuing our collaboration and wish you and the team all the best.

Our team was thoroughly impressed with the Hope CFL student team. They were professional, curious, diligent, and focused at every phase in the project. Their coach and subject matter experts were truly knowledgeable and experienced in their respective fields and helped the students propose relevant, actionable, and affordable solutions to the problem we presented. We can't recommend the CFL program highly enough and look forward to the possibility of partnering again with them in the future.

”

PROFESSORS & COLLEAGUES

“

As a busy semester began, it was easy to view a two-day retreat as an unwise luxury. But it proved to be a lifegiving sabbath - a pause for reflection, celebration, and community. Thank you for this gift.

Truly, thank you all for your leadership and care throughout this experience. I badly needed it! And I'm not exaggerating when I say that I wish we could have had a little longer---maybe not "a few more days" (unrealistic??), but another couple hours or an afternoon session to debrief/process would've been really helpful. I loved the experience of sharing our autobiographies and offering/receiving feedback cards. I didn't have a chance to look at mine until after I was home and, by then, was basically out of retreat mode and back to the real world. But the simmering and brewing is ongoing, I can assure you. Anyway, in addition to my resounding "MORE, PLEASE!" I hope you hear my deep gratitude and hearty affirmation of your efforts to extend your resources and care to staff. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

THANK YOU so much for coming to our section of FYS yesterday. That was my first time getting to receive a presentation from you and I was blown away by what a great job you did and how engaging you made it for the students. Thanks for being awesome at your job. Hope is lucky to have you!

”

PROFESSORS & COLLEAGUES (continued)



Alas, you win the prize of being my favorite Boerigter Center person and this means that you get random emails from me! Seriously though, thank you for being so good at your job! I love sending students over to you and love the ways you help them feel more grounded.

Great final presentation today! It gives us a lot to think about and it might even be the launching off point we needed. I was very impressed by the students today and throughout the project. What a mature and talented group! But their people and communication skills stood out the most... They were comfortable and confident in both formal and informal conversation. Significantly more comfortable than I was back then. You and the team continue to do great things at Hope College and I am happy and grateful we can play a small part in it.

I have just completed the process of submitting course grades for Fall 2024 and I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to teach a fourth class, FYS, as an overload. I do not want to take your kindness for granted, nor fail to acknowledge the privilege and opportunity you granted to me. Truth be said, that class became my favorite over the course of the semester. The joy of going back to teach FYS after all these years and the fulfillment of working with freshmen --- helping them with vocational choices, registration, and class conversations on a variety of issues --- was deeply sustaining to me both physically and spiritually. I also want to thank Ryan for his support, encouragement, and direction over the course of the Fall semester. He is a great director of the program. My transition to the new FYS structure was seamless.

It was great to have the chance to connect with you again and so helpful to learn more about the Boerigter Center's CFL model and related courses. Every time I learn more about the work you all are doing at the Boerigter Center, I am so impressed with everything you have developed and are providing to Hope students. It is such an asset to the campus.

Thank you for all you do to support our students gaining valuable experiences in and out of the classroom to enhance their Hope College experience and prepare them for their future and life after Hope. You touch so many students and positively impact them for life! You are appreciated!

I just wanted to take a moment to say "thank you" for encouraging me to engage my students with the Career Fair. They had to write a paper on their experience, detailing their research of at least three organizations in advance, prepping questions, and then writing a reflection on their experiences. Almost to the student, they all articulated their nerves or ambivalence prior to the event. Afterwards, each one wrote sincerely regarding what a great learning experience the event provided them. Many were surprised at how beneficial just the act of engaging people was for them in terms of personal growth. The many freshmen in my class expressed how the event raised their awareness of the value of networking and were grateful to be exposed to this early in their college career. Great work on the event and thanks again. I look forward to the fall event!

This was amazing. The preparation that you gave us and that our faculty have to pass on to their first year students is a distinguishing characteristic of Hope.



STUDENTS

“

I hope you are having a wonderful summer! I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude for all your support over the past months. The internship opportunity that I was pulling my hair out for about nine months ago has turned out to be an incredible experience. It has been transformative, both professionally and personally, and I am truly grateful for your encouragement and guidance throughout the process.

Thanks again for meeting with me! It was so helpful. I feel free, and even more excited for my future!

I wanted to thank you for your tips and assistance with the mock interview last week. We had a great conversation on Friday, and I feel confident about how it went. Your work is valued.

Thank you for organizing the Hope alumni to come back last Thursday in class! I really appreciated that as I made a few great connections by talking to some people in the industry!

I really loved the retreat and thought it was a great opportunity to meet other athletes and learn more about becoming a student leader!

I thought that the retreat was very well organized, I also really liked how each attribute to servant was presented by a different person.

I really liked the different speakers we got to hear from. I thought it was cool to hear from different people I have seen around campus, but never talked to. I also liked how we got the opportunity to reach out to them and they genuinely want to help us.

I feel like before the retreat if someone asked me what a leader does/looks like, I wouldn't be able to give them a good answer. Now I do and I know the ways to implement them.

I thought the retreat was really helpful and sparked a lot of meaningful conversations about the direction we wanted to take our team in.

I just wanted to say thank you so much for meeting with me yesterday! Hearing your story and talking about IO Psych and HR was really helpful for me as I continue to explore my own pathway. Thank you for sharing contacts and opportunities with me as well- I'll be looking into UW and connecting with Alecia and Leah. I really appreciate you going out of your way to help me out! I look forward to talking with you again throughout the year!

Thank you so much for all your help and answering my questions! It really calmed my stress and I am also looking forward to continued planning.

”

STUDENTS (continued)

“

I just want to let you know that you have helped me so much in the application process and thanks to you I recently heard from Drexel University that I got accepted! Thank you again, for well preparing me for this application process and for answering all my questions. Most of my questions were out of nervousness, but every time you've calmed me down, so thank you for that as well. I wanted to email you to thank you for meeting with me Monday. You were so helpful and encouraging, so thank you. I also appreciate you introducing me to Theresa. Thanks again and have a great fall break.

Thank you so much for meeting with me today! I learned so much about the programs available and the different possibilities for my major and future career! I feel so much more knowledgeable about where I can go with my degree and am much more prepared to register for my classes next semester.

I truly appreciated our conversation yesterday. You have been a valuable resource and mentor throughout my college career thus far. I am thankful for your dedication and commitment to students and your role at Hope.

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me today! Your tips & guidance on how to prep for an interview were extremely helpful. I am excited to use that to help me now and in the future. I appreciate you!

A simple thank you for your presentation at my IDS class on the different domains and further understanding our Clifton Strengths Test results! You are an illuminator!

I just wanted to reach out and thank you both for all your help with applying to optometry school. The application course and all your advice definitely helped me to be a more competitive applicant. With that being said I wanted to let both of you know that I decided that I will be attending Indiana School of Optometry next year! Thank you again for all that you guys do!

I wanted to reach out and say thank you again for the mock interview. I unfortunately had technical difficulties with my virtual interview, but it still went great. I had an in person interview in Dallas that your guidance greatly helped me on! There were multiple questions I wouldn't have been ready for without our practice, and I was also able to deliver concise CAR answers. I received offers from both firms and decided on the firm that I interviewed with in person. Thanks again and keep up the great work you are doing for us.

I was thinking about your presentation on my walk out of class today and felt called to reach out. Thank you for coming and speaking today. I'm planning on going into business/leadership, and your talk was very reassuring and inspiring!

I just wanted to say that your speech today was very moving and inspiring for me.

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STUDENTS (continued)

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I wanted to extend a thank you for your help in the resume and internship application process. I have been interviewing throughout the semester, and I just recently accepted two offers- one for this summer and one for the next summer! Thank you for helping refine and tailor my resume toward these accounting positions and for your help with the internship tracking resource to keep my options organized.

Thank you. CFL has been such an amazing opportunity and I am so thankful I have gotten to be a part of it.

I just wanted to give you a brief update on my internship search and thank you for your help with connections and mock interviews this fall. I have just accepted an offer from GFS for their HR compliance internship. I am super excited!

So in a pretty quick turnaround, I interviewed Tuesday, and Gentex just called me and gave me an offer to intern for this summer there which I accepted. Super excited to get started there. Thank you for all the help with the interview prep stuff; it definitely paid off.

Good news!! I will be in Holland all Summer as your newest Events and Conference Coordinator!! Thank you so so much for directing me to this opportunity. I am very very excited to work with the events team and tell you all about it in the future :).

Emailing you from my car - my interview went great! I took a pause after I was asked a question, and I was conscious of all my “um”s! They said we will receive an email on Monday already, so I will keep you posted!

We met a few months ago because I was looking for some internship advice. I wanted to reach out and say thank you for your help! I was able to get a position working in the Business Services office as a student accountant for the summer! I'll be able to get some hands-on accounting work, which I am really looking forward to. After that I am planning to apply for some winter 2026 internship openings as well. Mary Templeton has been a huge help...thank you for suggesting I reach out to her!

I stopped by your office this afternoon to tell you, but I realized you were working remotely... I was accepted! 🎉 Thanks again for your continued support and interest in my application!

I'm incredibly grateful for a program like this—one that not only helps us develop valuable skills but also provides hands-on experience, connects us with key players across various fields, and offers opportunities to engage with organizations and companies in both the corporate and nonprofit/for-profit sectors!

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STUDENTS (continued)

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I just wanted to say thank you for your help with both ENGS 070/080 and the mock interviews. I feel much more confident going into engineering interviews having had practice and knowing some of the questions I can expect. Thank you for your time and care for my internship search; I'm incredibly grateful for you.

Thank you so much for taking the time to meet with me yesterday, even though you are getting over being sick! You were so patient and helpful, and I learned a lot of really helpful elements to make my resume stronger.

I just wanted to update you that I got the position at DTE! Thank you so much again for your help.

I just interviewed with the University of Illinois Chicago Dental School this morning. First off, I crushed it. Second off, she asked about an ethical situation I've been in and I spoke on how my experiences have not given me a vast amount of situations. As well as when I'm in a situation like that, I don't think of it as a moral dilemma because the right choice is clear cut. She expressed how correct I was that these situations are "clear cut". So I guess the mock wasn't all for nothing. Just wanted to reach out and say thank you!

I wanted to give you an update on my internship search for the summer. I did fantastic during my interview with Carla! She offered me the position the evening of my interview. Thank you so much for connecting me with Carla! This is the best possible outcome for me.

I wanted to let you know that I accepted a job offer at a small startup in Denver. I got connected with it through a Hope alum who I reached out to on LinkedIn. Thanks for your help throughout this process, I really appreciate it!

Thank you for meeting with me and helping to guide me towards finding an internship for this upcoming summer. I am super excited for my opportunity with Trane Technologies and your guidance and help was a huge resource for me in my search.

My talk with Carlos yesterday was more of a placement meeting so I am officially in! Thank you for all of your help getting me this position. I am meeting with them in person on May 19th and will have a better idea of my responsibilities.

Thank you for being the best boss ever! Your kind, empathetic, and supportive spirit has left a huge impact on me those past couple semesters. Thank you for getting me through tough times, being so accommodating, and just a genuinely kind person. I'll miss seeing you during my shifts at the Boerigter Center. Thanks for everything.

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STUDENTS (continued)

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I have been recently looking back at freshman year and not a day goes by where I don't think about your amazing FYS class. I truly think that it has set me up to put more effort in my academics as well as step out of my comfort zone to try new things. You and your teaching really made my first year of college so amazing and set it up for me to have a bigger perspective of my future. I wanted to say thank you for your amazing work and encouraging me to try new things. I also want to thank you for being such an amazing advisor and dealing with my indecisive mind, I know I was a mess haha! I am very thankful for you!

I would like to thank you for your time spent helping me to prepare for my interview at MedStar Georgetown, D.C. I really appreciate you looking up the hospital's values beforehand and simulating a very accurate interview with me. I got offered a job there on the first floor I interviewed for and have now accepted it! Thank you so much!

I wanted to let you know that I was offered the science teacher job at Adams City High School! I accepted the offer yesterday. I have a lot of learning ahead of me, but I'm excited. Thank you for helping me prepare for the interview.

I wanted to share that I got the job! I will be starting May 27th as the Design and Development Coordinator for Chicago, New York, and Nashville at 360 Destination Group! My first interview was 2 weeks ago and she only asked; tell me about yourself and why you want the role(so I'm glad we practiced that). I then had to complete a mock proposal for the second interview and present my work. It was cool, I designed an event in Nashville and created a mood board. I was up against just one other candidate and they let me know Friday that I got it! I just wanted to say again, thank you for your help with this whole process and share the good news!

Thank you for absolutely everything you did for me, you have spent so much time helping me with everything I needed and coached me through a couple tough semesters. I am so beyond grateful that you were my advisor and I will miss meeting with you for our check ins. You are truly a gift at Hope college and I am praying my sister might get you for her advisor this year! Thank you again for helping make hope feel like home.

A few months ago, you were incredibly helpful in guiding me through my cover letter for Congresswoman Scholten's office. I remember you had asked me to keep you updated on the outcome. While I wasn't selected for the position with Congresswoman Scholten, I'm excited to share that I was offered an internship with Congressman Huizenga. I have been loving it so far. I wanted to thank you again, as everything I learned during our session on cover letters played a key role in my application for Congressman Huizenga's office in Holland. I truly appreciate your support!

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ABOUT THE BOERIGTER CENTER

Hope's Boerigter Center for Calling and Career, opened in the fall of 2018, is a college-wide initiative that seeks to inspire students to engage in lifelong practices of career development by emphasizing discernment, preparation, and pursuit. Programming for the Boerigter Center is designed to enable all Hope students, beginning in their first semester, to understand their strengths, engage in experiences that directly connect to career preparation, discern vocational and life goals, and ascertain clear next steps toward their future. The Boerigter Center was made possible by a major gift from SoundOff Signal in honor of founder and chairman George Boerigter, who is a 1961 Hope College graduate, and his wife, Sibilla.





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