NEW MEMBER INITIATION
The Phi Beta Kappa Society
Beta of Nebraska

Hixson-Lied Auditorium
Mike and Josie Harper Center
Creighton University
Omaha, Nebraska

April 25, 2014
PROGRAM

Processional

Invocation
Richard Hauser, S.J., Chaplain, College of Arts and Sciences

Initiation of Members-in-Course

Initiation of Alumni Members

Remarks
Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., President, Creighton University

Recessional

Reception
Harper Center, Hixson-Lied Auditorium second-floor foyer
History of The Phi Beta Kappa Society

On December 5, 1776, a group of young men who were then studying at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, met to create a secret society, at once intellectual and social in purpose. The President's greeting to new members in 1779 reads in part: "Here . . . you are to indulge in matters of speculation, that freedom of inquiry that ever dispels the clouds of falsehood by the radiant sunshine of truth . . . ." In their clandestine meetings, the members seriously debated a host of questions, such as "Whether a wise state hath any interest nearer at heart than the education of the Youth." The establishment soon afterward of chapters at Yale and Harvard insured that Phi Beta Kappa would survive the arrival of General Cornwallis's troops at Williamsburg.

A little over a century later, more than twenty-five branches of the Society were in existence, and it was felt that a national structure was needed to bring together the scattered chapters into some uniformity. In 1883, the organization known as the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa was founded; it has its headquarters today in Washington, D.C. From its offices come most of the ongoing programs and publications described in your Handbook for Members. In 1875, Phi Beta Kappa enlarged its membership to include women. The Society now has over 500,000 living members, elected over the years by the 270 chapters at colleges and universities throughout the country. In addition, more than fifty local alumni associations lend the Society their support and provide members an opportunity for a life-long relationship with Phi Beta Kappa and its activities and goals on the community level.

Phi Beta Kappa continues to take great pride in its origins. It retains a number of the symbols that were devised for it at the time when the American Republic was coming into being. The present Phi Beta Kappa key, for example, virtually reproduces the design originated by the young founders of the Society at William and Mary. On the front, it bears the Greek letters ΦΒΚ, the initials of the words Φιλοσοφία βίοι Κυβερνήτης, meaning "Love of learning is the guide of life." The three stars in the upper left-hand corner on this side symbolize the aims of the Society: Friendship, Morality, and Literature (or Scholarship). A pointing hand in the lower right-hand corner stands for aspiration. On the reverse side are inscribed the letters S and P, which stand for the Society's second motto, the Latin words Societatis Philosophiae, meaning "philosophical society." Below them appears the date of the founding of the first chapter: December 5, 1776; the member's name and electing chapter are engraved above.
Although Phi Beta Kappa ceased to be a secret society over one hundred and fifty years ago, tradition has preserved two “secret” signs which are shared with initiates. When members met, they greeted each other by drawing the backs of the index and middle fingers of the right hand across the lips from left to right, thus, apparently, affirming that their lips were sealed. They followed this sign with a handshake, one of the traditional forms of which will be revealed to you at the end of this ceremony of initiation. The Society’s symbols and purposes are now well known across the land. These purposes were eloquently summarized in the following statement by one of the Society’s most eminent members, Charles Evans Hughes, the late Chief Justice of the Supreme Court:

The particular interest of Phi Beta Kappa is in liberal education. . . . Intensive critical study of educational aims and methods has found nothing to take its place. It means the development by careful training of the capacity to appreciate what has been done and thought, the ability to make worthwhile appraisals of achievements, doctrines, theories, proposals. It is liberal because it emancipates; it signifies freedom from the tyranny of ignorance, and, from what is worse, the dominion of folly. . . . [Phi Beta Kappa] holds aloft the old banner of scholarship, and to the students who have turned aside from the easier paths and by their talent and fidelity have proved themselves to be worthy, it gives the fitting recognition of a special distinction.

Creighton’s application to shelter a chapter was approved at the 43rd Triennial Council meeting in August 2012 in Palm Beach, Florida. The chapter, Beta of Nebraska, was installed November 29, 2012.
The Phi Beta Kappa Society
Beta of Nebraska
Charter Members

Charles F. Austerberry, Biology
Erin Walcek Averett, Fine and Performing Arts
Barbara Lynn Bittner, Grants Administration
Judith Bourma, College of Nursing
Charles B. Baymen, Economics
Kristie Briggs, Economics
Catherine M. Brooks, School of Law
Raymond Bucko, S.J., Sociology and Anthropology
Christian Burk, Undergraduate Admissions
Theodore E. Burk, Biology
James Jay Carney, Theology
Terry Clark, Political Science and International Relations
Lydia R. Cooper, English
Randall L. Crist, Mathematics
Marianne B. Culhane, School of Law
Alastair J. Cullum, Biology
Gintaras K. Duda, Physics
Fidel Fajardo-Acosta, English
Julia Fleming, Theology
Leonard J. Greenspoon, Classical and Near Eastern Studies/Theology
William W. Harrless, S.J., Theology
Jeffrey Hause, Philosophy/Classical and Near Eastern Studies
Edward A. Horowitz, School of Medicine
Kristine Dorn Karnes, School of Law
Bridget M. Keegan, English, Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
Tammy S. King, School of Law Admissions
Carol Christine Knoepfler, School of Law
Faith M. Kurtyka, English
Gary K. Leal, Psychology
Mary T. Longo, English
Michael L. Mullerby, Mathematics
Patrick P. Murray, Philosophy
Mary D. Nash, Reinert Alumni Memorial Library
Kent J. Neumeister, School of Law
Neil H. Norton, School of Dentistry
Chris P. Plonka, Philosophy
Mark V. Reedy, Biology
Jeanne A. Schuler, Philosophy
Janet E. Seger, Physics
Peter T. Silberstein, School of Medicine
Mary Helen Stefaniak, English
William O. Stephens, Philosophy/Classical and Near Eastern Studies
John R. Stone, Center for Health Policy and Ethics
Palma Joy Strand, School of Law
Thomas Svolos, School of Medicine
Patrick Swanson, School of Medicine
Mackenzie L. Taylor, Biology
Larry L. Tepley, School of Law
Jary R. VerMaas-Lees, Occupational Therapy
Mary Ann Vinton, Biology
Deborah L. Wells, Heider College of Business
Amy E. Wendling, Philosophy
Charles Wester, International Admissions
James Wunsch, Political Science and International Relations
Greg W. Zacharias, English

Chapter Officers

James S. Wunsch, Ph.D., President
Bridget M. Keegan, Ph.D., Vice President
Jeffrey P. Hause, Ph.D., Secretary

Faith M. Kurtyka, Ph.D., Treasurer
William O. Stephens, Ph.D., Historian
Kristie Briggs, Ph.D., Member-At-Large

Initiation Planning Committee Members

Lydia R. Cooper, Ph.D.
Leonard J. Greenspoon, Ph.D.
Proposed Members-in-Course

Luke Aeilts: Luke is a senior biology major and Spanish minor. He has been involved in various on-campus organizations, his favorite being Best Buddies. He has also been involved with several Creighton Center for Service and Justice service trips to Detroit and New Orleans, and he coordinated a service trip to Lincoln, Neb. Luke also does research on pollen development in an aquatic plant species native to Nebraska and received a Ferlic Research scholarship last summer. One of his favorite experiences at Creighton was spending a semester abroad in the Dominican Republic. After graduation, Luke plans to take a year off, but hopes to go to dental school in the near future.

Michael James Austerberry: Michael is a senior from Omaha majoring in atmospheric science with a minor in mathematics. He has been a freelance tutor for GED, high school and college students, in addition to serving a three-year term on his church council. Michael has completed two NASA internships: one at the Goddard Spaceflight Center outside Washington, D.C., and the other with NASA Airborne Sciences in Irvine, Calif. He is also an intern in Scientific Services at the U.S. Air Force Weather Agency. He currently serves as the Creighton Atmospheric Science Society president. After graduation, Michael plans to pursue a master's degree in meteorology and to apply to Navy Officer Candidate School, with dreams of becoming a naval aviator.

Olivia Babe: Olivia is a senior from Omaha majoring in psychology with a minor in dance. She does research in social psychology and presented her research in Chicago last year. She currently serves as treasurer of Psi Chi and is an active member of Gamma Phi Beta and Alpha Sigma Nu. Olivia enjoys mentoring high school students through her church and has had multiple internships working as a school psychologist and mentor. She currently volunteers at a Montessori school. After graduation, she plans to attend graduate school to pursue a degree in school psychology here in Omaha.

Kiana Block: Kiana is a senior from Kapolei, Hawaii, majoring in biology with a minor in public health. She currently serves as the vice president of the Creighton Mixed Martial Arts Club. She has worked as a teaching assistant for both general biology and animal physiology. She has dedicated her time to the greater Omaha community by volunteering as a tutor at Kellom Elementary School and the Hope Center for Kids. She is also a patient care volunteer at Alegent Creighton Health Creighton University Medical Center. She was a member of the Cortina Community, a service- and faith-based community, in her sophomore year. She has been actively involved in the Creighton Center for Service and Justice, going on several service trips, one of which she coordinated. After graduation, her plan is to attend medical school.
Amanda Brandt: Amanda is a senior from Kearney, Neb., majoring in journalism (public relations and news tracks) and minoring in French. She is the president of Creighton's chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America and also serves on the executive board of the Delta Zeta sorority. Amanda was an editor on The Creightonian for three semesters, and she was also previously involved with Welcome Week and several Creighton theater productions. She received a prestigious Omaha Press Club Foundation scholarship and was recently inducted into Alpha Sigma Nu. After graduation, Amanda intends to pursue a writing-intensive career at a newspaper.

Mark Byrne: Mark is a junior from Phoenix majoring in computer science and informatics as well as digital design and development with a minor in German studies. He currently works as a software developer for a network analysis and big-data research group in the Department of Political Science. He is also a full-time AFROTC cadet. He serves as the flight commander for the UNO Detachment and as a commander for the Arnold Air Society Squadron, which is an honorary professional service organization affiliated with AFROTC. After graduation, Mark will serve as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force.

Andrea DeCino: Andrea is a senior from Denver majoring in biology with a minor in English. She served as treasurer for her sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma, and improved financial understanding by 25 percent. She has been a biology teaching assistant for the past year, has tutored chemistry for two years, and is an active hospice volunteer. Last summer, she traveled to Tanzania on a medical mission trip, where she aided local doctors and provided care for native tribes. After graduation, she plans to attend Creighton University School of Medicine with a focus in anesthesia or oncology.

James Doyle: James, a third-generation Creighton student, is a junior biochemistry major, biology minor from Topeka, Kans., who also plans to double major or double minor in philosophy. He is in his third semester of conducting research in the chemistry department and dental school. Currently, he is investigating the possibility of promoting remineralization in tooth enamel using orthodontic cement, a project that he will continue to develop through the summer months. In addition, he serves as the president of Creighton's Catholic Student Organization, is a member of Creighton Students for Life, and teaches religious education classes every Sunday morning at St. John's Church on campus. James continues to discern whether he will attend medical school or enter formation for the Catholic priesthood.

Jonathan Ermer: Jonathan is a junior from Sioux Falls, S.D., majoring in Spanish and biology. Jonathan is a member of the Honors Program, an inductee of Alpha Sigma Nu, and a participant in the Cortina Community. He serves as a biology teaching assistant and taught freshmen as a decurion.
in the Ratio Studiorum Program. He is currently an executive member of the Spanish Club and brings educational and diversity programs to campus as the chair of Creighton in Common on the CSU Program Board. He attended fall break service trips to Kansas City and West Virginia and is also a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity. Jonathan plans to attend medical school after graduation.

**Kaitlyn Fischer:** Kaitlyn is a junior from Omaha majoring in chemistry with a minor in mathematics. She has previously done water quality research, but is currently researching the prevention of recurrent cavities. She has been a teaching assistant for general chemistry labs for two years and is a former member of Creighton's university chorus. She is currently a member of Alpha Phi Omega, a co-ed service fraternity, and has participated in two service trips sponsored by the Creighton Center for Service and Justice. As a freshman, she received the Outstanding General Chemistry Student Award and has been a frequent member of the Dean's Service Honor Roll. After graduation, she plans to attend graduate school for a Ph.D. in physical chemistry and then teach at the university level.

**Rachel Fisher:** Rachel is a senior from Rochester, Minn., majoring in biology and Spanish. She is involved in several activities at Creighton, including volunteering and writing for the Student Daily Reflections website. She spent her entire junior year studying abroad in Seville, Spain, where she was able to improve her Spanish, assist in teaching English to young Spanish students and travel extensively. She is now serving as a study abroad peer advisor in the Office of International Programs. She is also an intern at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo, where she works at the aquarium. After graduation, Rachel hopes to gain employment in the environmental biology field, where she can work for the conservation of marine environments and continue improving her Spanish-speaking abilities.

**Nicholas Franz:** Nicholas is a senior chemistry major from Mundelein, Ill., on the biochemistry track. He currently serves as a vice president for Alpha Sigma Nu and is a member of Order of Omega and Phi Delta Theta fraternity. Nicholas has been heavily involved in New Student Orientation, serving as a guide, executive and eventually coordinator for Summer Preview over the past three years. He has also been a member of the Freshman Leadership Program and the Cortina Community and served on the Appropriations Committee for the Creighton Students Union. Nicholas currently does research in organic chemistry, focusing on synthesis and characterization of potentially bioactive molecules, for which he received a Fermi Summer Undergraduate Research Scholarship. After graduation, he plans to attend pharmacy school in pursuit of a Pharm.D. degree.

**Renner Charles Fujiiwara:** Renner is a chemistry and biology double major from Honolulu. During his time at Creighton, he has participated in a variety
of activities, but his most significant experience has been the opportunity to work alongside Eric Haas, Ph.D., as well as Michael Nichols, Ph.D., and David Sidebottom, Ph.D. He is focusing on utilizing fluorescence correlation spectroscopy to study the dynamics of proteins in simple sugar solutions. Last year, he was awarded a Ferlic Summer Undergraduate Research Scholarship. In his free time, he enjoys exercising, reading and listening to classic rock and metal from the 1970s and 1980s. Renner plans to attend dental school after graduation.

Hayley C. Geisterfer: Hayley is a senior from Fort Collins, Colo., majoring in biology with a minor in medical anthropology. She researches the pathogen interactions of a type-III secretion system using a plant model and the bacteria Pseudomonas syringae. During her undergraduate career, Hayley has volunteered in the emergency department of Alegent Creighton Health Immanuel Medical Center, tutored at All Saints Catholic School, become a certified phlebotomist, and married her husband Christopher. In addition, she has been a teaching assistant for both genetic and microbiology undergraduate labs, and recently welcomed her son Jude into the world. After graduation, Hayley plans to take a year off to stay at home with her son before beginning medical school in the fall of 2015, where she plans to pursue a specialty in surgery.

Sara K. Gentzler: Sara is a senior from Gretna, Neb., majoring in journalism (public relations and news tracks) with an emphasis in developmental psychology. She has been involved in Creighton’s Backpack Journalism program, for which she went to Uganda to help film and produce an award-winning short documentary in 2011. She returned there the following summer to student-direct another short documentary. Sara conducted an Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research grant project that produced a multimedia website on the reintegration of former child soldiers, which won a national award for online digital storytelling. She interned with the prestigious American Society of Magazine Editors program last summer in New York, where she worked for Parents magazine. She has mentored a young girl through Big Brothers Big Sisters since freshman year and is active in her sorority, Pi Beta Phi, for which she served as vice president of communications for one year.

Zachary Alexander George: Zachary is a biology and Spanish double major from Woodbury, Minn. During his time at Creighton, he has been a chemistry and biology tutor, biochemical researcher, intramural fanatic, and a Ratio Studiorum decurion. He regards immersion trips to Costa Rica and Bolivia as his most important experiences at Creighton because of the commitment to learning in an unfamiliar culture while living in solidarity with the local people. Serving the global community during these immersions reinforced his ambition to further explore Latin America. Next year he intends to teach high school biology through an organization called Alumni Service Corps. Zachary
hopes to eventually attend medical school and specialize in cardiology while continuing to develop his Spanish-speaking ability.

Xavier Glover: Xavier is a junior from Deadwood, S.D., majoring in biology with a minor in Italian language and cultural studies. He is a Gates Millennium Scholar and has served as a Ratio Studiorum decurion for freshmen. He is currently a member of Alpha Sigma Nu and Phi Sigma, Creighton's biological honors society, and the secretary of the Creighton Biology Club. Xavier volunteers at the Alegent Creighton Health Creighton University Medical Center in patient transport and has been involved with various service activities in Omaha, focusing on mentoring high school students who wish to attend college. He has been on the Dean's List every semester and is a two-year recipient of the Student Support Services Magis Award. After graduation, he hopes to attend medical school.

Morgan Gold: Morgan is a senior from Littleton, Colo., majoring in biology with a minor in French. She researches the impact of hippocampal microRNA genes on the fear response of two different mouse strains in correlation with the work of Deniz Yilmazer-Hanke, Ph.D., in the Department of Biomedical Sciences in the School of Medicine. She currently volunteers in the emergency room and on the surgical trauma floor at the Alegent Creighton Health Creighton University Medical Center. She volunteered in an orphanage in Costa Rica in 2009 and continues to send aid to the facility. After graduation, she plans to attain a year of paid clinical experience in phlebotomy and then attend medical school.

Michael Grzelak: Michael is a junior from Green Bay, Wis. He is a member of the Honors Scholars Community at Creighton and he is majoring in biochemistry with a minor in biology. He researches van der Waals cluster photodissociation and cyanogen radical production with Bradley Parsons, Ph.D., of the Department of Chemistry. He was awarded a Ferkic Summer Undergraduate Research Scholarship for his research. When he is not studying chemistry or doing research in the laboratory, Michael spends his time working on campus or volunteering at Completely Kids, an after-school program for elementary school children in the downtown Omaha area. He also volunteers in the emergency department at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. After graduation, he plans to attend medical school.

Jennifer Hartjes: Jennie is a junior from St. Paul, Minn., majoring in biochemistry. She is a member of the Honors Program, a CURAS student ambassador, and a Clare Boothe Luce Scholar. Through the Department of Chemistry and the School of Dentistry, she is currently researching new dental materials that can aid in preventing the demineralization of tooth enamel. She is also the co-captain of the Creighton Women’s Tennis Team and earned All-Conference accolades in the Missouri Valley Conference her sophomore
season. In addition, she was named MVC 1st Team Scholar Athlete, ITA Scholar Athlete, MVP, and Most Inspirational Player. She is a regular volunteer as a tennis coach for the Nebraska Special Olympics. After graduation, she plans to obtain her Ph.D. in nutritional biochemistry. Her post-doctoral plans include conducting research in biochemistry and/or pursuing a career in patent law.

**Elizabeth Hines:** Elizabeth is a senior from Davenport, Iowa, double majoring in English (British literature specialization track) and biology. She has researched forests on the Iowa-Nebraska border, for which she received a Ferlic Summer Undergraduate Research Scholarship. She presented her research at the Ecological Society of America conference in Minneapolis last summer. She currently serves as an executive for Delta Zeta sorority, has served as vice president of academic affairs for the College of Arts and Sciences Student Senate for two years, and is a member of the Greek life honor society, Order of Omega. She also tutors in the English department and is a teaching assistant for the biology department. After graduation, she plans to pursue a graduate degree in science and continue writing.

**Brooke Jensen:** Brooke is a senior from Eden Prairie, Minn., majoring in English with a minor in biology. For the past two summers, she has participated in a clinical research project examining the effects of bariatric surgery on healing from treatment for spine injuries. She hopes to publish an article on those findings in the near future. She also traveled to Nicaragua in May 2012 on a medical service trip to help construct free clinics and to learn about Nicaraguan culture and local medical practices. Her activities at Creighton include volunteering at Creighton Alegent Health, working as a chemistry tutor, and participating as a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority. Following graduation, she plans to attend the University of Minnesota medical school.

**Rachel Kuntz:** Rachel is a senior from Eagan, Minn., majoring in biochemistry with a minor in history. She does research in the chemistry department; working on the fabrication of microelectrodes. In her free time, Rachel volunteers in the Creighton Center for Service and Justice (CCSJ) as a member of the Service and Justice Trips Core Team and serves on the fundraising committee. Rachel has been on four CCSJ service trips, three of which she co-coordinated. In her sophomore year, she participated in the Cortina Community performing community service around Omaha. Last semester, Rachel co-led a weekly service site to Completely Kids in Omaha. Recently, she was inducted into Alpha Sigma Nu. After graduation, Rachel plans to attend the Creighton University School of Medicine.

**Scott Laurenzo:** Scott is a senior presidential scholar from Johnston, Iowa, majoring in psychology with a minor in biology. He has been actively involved in the Creighton community for four years. He was a member of
the Cortina Community during his sophomore year, served as a College of Arts and Sciences representative to the Creighton Students Union, has been an executive and coordinator for Welcome Week, is a member of Psi Chi International Honors Society, and is in the Order of Omega Greek life honors society. Additionally, Scott has coordinated and led several retreats through Campus Ministry, has participated in two fall break service trips, and has worked as a biology teaching assistant for two years. He participated in a faculty-led program to Lima, Peru, during the summer of 2012. After graduation, Scott will attend medical school in the fall.

Eric Magliulo: Eric is a junior from Kailua, Hawaii, majoring in biology and minoring in Spanish. He volunteers regularly at William Yates Community Center in the ESL program and has been doing so for three years. He is pursuing a career in medicine.

David Martin: David is from Burlington, Wisc., and is a theology and psychology double major. He studied abroad in the Dominican Republic for a semester, is the chaplain for Phi Delta Theta, and was a member of the Cortina Community program. He is currently a resident advisor in McGloin Hall. After graduation, he plans to travel to South America.

Rebecca Moynihan: Becca is a senior from Schaumburg, Ill., pursuing a double major in mathematics and secondary education. She works as a tutor for local high school students and Creighton math students through the Office of Student Success. She is a member of the Creighton Honors Program, Alpha Sigma Nu and Pi Mu Epsilon, the mathematics honor society. She is involved in research through the math department that focuses on the analysis of factors that contribute to educational success. She has also served as a decurion for Ratio Studiorum. She volunteers as an assistant basketball coach and in the classroom as a teacher’s assistant. Becca plans to begin teaching in the fall of 2014 before pursuing a master’s degree.

Sarah Noles: Sarah is a senior from St. Louis majoring in computer science and mathematics. She is a recipient of the Clare Boothe Luce scholarship for women in science and mathematics and is researching applications of quantum computing on cryptography, specially quantum key distribution protocols. She has served as a volunteer for the Creighton University Educational Opportunity Center and the Boys and Girls Club of Omaha. She is in her second year as an intern at ConAgra Foods in the information technology department. After graduation, she plans either to take a full-time position at ConAgra or pursue graduate studies in the field of computer science.

Benjamin Olsen: Benjamin is a senior from Fort Collins, Colo., majoring in biology with a minor in medical anthropology. He assists Marc Rendell, M.D., with research at the Creighton Diabetes Center, investigating vasoactive agents that increase blood flow in rat models. The findings of this research
will translate into more effective treatment of the symptoms associated with inadequate blood circulation in diabetic patients. Additionally, Ben played an integral role in re-establishing the Creighton Men's Club Soccer team and served as the president from 2011 to 2013. He has served and mentored children at Kellem Elementary and Completely Kids throughout his four years at Creighton. Ben also enjoys intramural sports, playing the drums, and reading a wide variety of books. He plans to attend medical school next fall and earn a combined MD/MPH degree.

**Kellen Leigh O'Neill:** Kellen is a senior from Englewood, Colo., majoring in biology and minoring in business administration. She researches how nicotine affects the migration of neural crest cells in chicken embryo development and serves as a teaching assistant for the developmental biology lab. Currently, she volunteers at the Completely Kids after-school care program in Omaha and has also served as a volunteer at Alegent Creighton Health Creighton University Medical Center. She coordinated a service trip to Morton, Miss., with the Creighton Center for Service and Justice and has participated in other service trips to a Native American reservation and Managua, Nicaragua. Playing Texas-style fiddle music is a hobby of hers, and she has played violin with the Creighton University Orchestra as well as the pit orchestra for the musical production, *Phantom*. She will be attending medical school in the fall.

**Crysta Price:** Crysta is a senior from Chicago double majoring in international relations and economics. She has been doing faculty-led research applying social network analytics to human trafficking for three years. She is an IC-CAE (Intelligence Community Center for Academic Excellence) scholar. She volunteers at Polaris Project, a nonprofit organization working to end human trafficking.

**Laura Renner:** Laura is a junior from Shoreview, Minn., majoring in Spanish with minors in behavioral sciences and biology. Currently, she tutors high school students from the Omaha area in the Classic Upward Bound program. In addition, she is working on a research project that studies the impact of nicotine on oxygen metabolism rates in chicken embryos. She also started and now leads a Bible study in her sorority, Gamma Phi Beta. Last spring, she participated in a service-learning semester abroad in the Dominican Republic, where she served at a home for children with disabilities. Following graduation, she hopes to go to medical school to become a physician who works with people with disabilities.

**Christopher Salvatore:** Christopher is a senior psychology major from Phoenix. He has been a teaching assistant since his sophomore year, working in both the psychology and chemistry departments. He is currently researching the effects of D-amphetamine on rats pretreated with nicotine in adolescence. Having been dedicated to volunteering since he earned the rank of Eagle
Scout in high school, he has volunteered at Habitat for Humanity, Sienna/ Francis House, St. Vincent de Paul and Creighton Alegent Health since his freshman year. He has also participated in a medical mission trip to Costa Rica, where he helped to set up free clinics in underserved communities. He earned the 2012 PolyEd Undergraduate Award for Achievement in Organic Chemistry, given to the top organic chemistry student each year. After graduation, he hopes to attend medical school in the fall.

**Daniel Sotelo Leon:** Daniel is a senior from Thornton, Colo., majoring in chemistry with a minor in biological physics. He transferred to Creighton in the fall of 2012 for his junior year and started research with Dr. Xian-Ming Chen in the Department of Immunology and Microbiology. He has continued volunteering in the Omaha area. Daniel plans to start medical school in the fall of this year at Stanford School of Medicine.

**Gretchen L. Stulock:** Gretchen is a senior from Denver, double majoring in English and secondary education. She has been a part of the Freshman Leadership Program, the Cortina Community, and has studied abroad in the Dominican Republic with the Encuentro Dominicano service-learning program. Additionally, she is an officer in the Jesuit Honor Society Alpha Sigma Nu. Gretchen is involved in music at Creighton as a cellist and pianist in musicals at Creighton and the Omaha Community Playhouse and music ministry at St. John's. She also plays in a string quartet. Currently, Gretchen is a student teacher in Central High School's English Department. Following graduation, Gretchen hopes to find a teaching position in Colorado where she can share her passion for language with her students. After a few years of teaching, Gretchen hopes to attend graduate school, study at a Spanish language school, and continue traveling.

**Kelly Sullivan:** Kelly is a senior from DeKalb, Ill., majoring in justice and society, with minors in Spanish and social entrepreneurship. She has been very involved with Creighton’s Center for Service and Justice through her participation in four service and justice trips, her involvement in the Sustainability and Migration Ignatian Advocacy Groups, and her trips to Washington D.C. for the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice. She is involved in the Cortina Community service learning community and leads a group to a weekly service site. In 2012, she served as vice president of service within the Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity. In spring 2013, she spent a semester abroad in the Dominican Republic through the Encuentro Dominicano Program. She is also a member of the Jesuit Honor Society and Alpha Sigma Nu. After graduation, Kelly plans on doing a year of service.

**Erin Triplet:** Erin is a senior, originally from Watertown, S.D. She is a biology major and Latin minor and is a teaching assistant in the Department of Biology. Erin is very involved in research; most recently she created deletion
clones by removing promoter elements of the Klebsiella pneumoniae carbapenemase (KPC) antibiotic resistance gene in three genera of Gram-negative bacteria. Currently she is working to assess changes in gene expression and translation under normal conditions and with drug treatments. She is a member of the Creighton Honors Program, a recipient of the John F. Sheehan Biology Scholarship and a Clare Booth Luce Scholar. Erin plans to spend a year working as a researcher at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., before beginning a Ph.D. in neurobiology.

**Katie Truitt:** Katie is a junior biology major and public health minor from Omaha. She is the vice president of Creighton’s Pre-Medical Society and is an active member in her sorority, Delta Zeta. Katie is also a Presidential Scholar and in the Honors Program. She volunteers regularly with Best Buddies of America and Completely Kids after-school program. Katie works on-campus as a biology lab teaching assistant, chemistry tutor, and campus representative for Kaplan Test Prep. She also works off-campus as a phlebotomist and medical screener at a plasma donation center. Her main undergraduate research involved using gene-based therapies to increase the functionality of cochlear implants. This summer Katie has been selected to participate in a medical internship in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Katie hopes to attend medical school in fall 2015.
Proposed Alumni Members

Robert Proulx Heaney, BS'47, MD'51: Robert Proulx Heaney, M.D., John A. Creighton University Professor and Professor of Medicine, has worked for nearly 60 years in the study of osteoporosis, vitamin D, and calcium physiology. He is the author of three books and has published over 400 papers, chapters, and reviews in scientific and educational journals and books. The major theme of his work has been quantitative physiology — for example, the elucidation of how much vitamin D is necessary to produce the nutrient's canonical effect on calcium absorption; how much vitamin D is metabolized each day; how much vitamin D is synthesized in the skin and the degree to which skin pigmentation modifies that synthesis; how much vitamin D is stored, and the extent to which input levels modify that change.

At the same time, he has engaged in nutritional policy issues, has helped redefine the context for estimating nutrient requirements, and has focused attention on the inadequacy of drug-based research designs for the evaluation of nutrient efficacy. Dr. Heaney developed a now widely acclaimed set of standards for the evaluation of nutrient effects. Over his career he altered two basic paradigms of nutritional biology, showing, first, that nutrient deficiencies produce long-latency disease as well as their classical acute disorders; and, second, that low bone mass is a marker for osteoporosis, not the main cause of its bone fragility.

His national and international awards include the Frederic C. Bartter Award (American Society for Bone and Mineral Research, 1994); the E.V. McCollum Award (American Society for Clinical Nutrition, 2003); the Scientific Prize of the Institut Candià – France (2003); the McCollum International Lectureship (American Society of Nutritional Sciences, 2004); the Atwater Award (USDA's Agricultural Research Service, 2008); and the Legends of Osteoporosis Award (National Osteoporosis Foundation, 2008). He was named Health Citizen of the Year (Omaha) in 1984 and in 2003 received the Laureate Award of the Nebraska Chapter of the American College of Physicians. Creighton University has awarded him the Alumni Achievement Citation (1980), the Research Career Award of the School of Medicine (1991), and the Lifetime Achievement Award for Research (2013).
Alejandro Portes, BA'65, Ph.D.: Alejandro Portes, Ph.D., is Howard Harrison and Gabrielle Snyder Beck Professor of Sociology at Princeton University and Distinguished Research Professor at the University of Miami. He is the founding director of the Center for Migration and Development at Princeton. He formerly taught at Duke University, the University of Texas-Austin and Johns Hopkins University, where he held the John Dewey Chair in Arts and Sciences. In 1997, he was elected president of the American Sociological Association, a position he held until 1999. Born in Havana, Cuba, he came to the United States in 1960. He was educated at the University of Havana, the Catholic University of Argentina, and Creighton University. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. Portes is the author of 220 articles and chapters on national development, international migration, Latin American and Caribbean urbanization, and economic sociology. He has published 36 books and special issues. His books include City on the Edge – the Transformation of Miami (California 1993), co-authored with Alex Stepick, which in 1995 won the Robert Park Award for best book in urban sociology and the Anthony Leeds Award for best book in urban anthropology; and Immigrant America: A Portrait, 3rd edition (California 2006), designated as a Centennial Publication by the University of California Press in 1996.

His recent research has focused on immigration and the American health system, the role of institutions on national development, and the adaptation process of the immigrant second generation in comparative perspective. In 2001, he published, with Ruben G. Rumbaut, Legacies: The Story of the Immigrant Second Generation and Ethnicities: Children of Immigrants in America (California 2001). Legacies is the winner of the 2002 Distinguished Scholarship Award from the American Sociological Association and of the 2002 W.I. Thomas and Florian Znaniecki Award for best book from the International Migration Section of ASA. Ten volumes of his collected essays have been published in English, Spanish and Portuguese. His most recent articles have appeared in the American Sociological Review, Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences, International Migration Review, and Population and Development Review.

Dr. Portes is a former fellow of the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences and of the Russell Sage Foundation. He has received honorary doctorates from the New School for Social Research, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the University of Genoa (Italy). He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a member of the National Academy of Sciences. In 2008, he received the annual Award for Scientific Reviewing (Social and Political Sciences) from the National Academy of Sciences. In 2009, he was elected to the American Philosophical Society. In 2010, he received the W.E.B. DuBois Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award from the American Sociological Association and, in 2012, he was inducted as the James Coleman Fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences.
Thank You

Our sincere gratitude to the faculty, staff, administration and students of the Creighton community for dedicating time and talents to this collaborative effort.

Special Thanks

A special thanks to Pam M. Yenko and Brian A. Martens for their work and their dedication to making this event a success.