Where Art Meets Science
Biology major
Benyapa Khowpinitchai
discovers artful balance

Farewell to Pioneer
P.E. MacAllister ’40

Not Just
Another Phage
Waging war on killer bacteria in a Carroll biology lab
Timeless

Photographer Brian Redmond captured Main Hall looking brilliant in morning sunlight in early January, a scene familiar to generations of Pioneers.
The New Year moved us ever closer to an exciting anniversary for Carroll University. The 2020-21 academic year will mark our 175th anniversary.

We’ve already begun the countdown, planning numerous ways to celebrate our history and build upon our legacy as a true Wisconsin pioneer. Milestone anniversaries are significant and useful in that they require us to focus anew on our progress toward realizing our mission. They serve as an occasion to reexamine the yearning that inspired this institution’s creation and offer an opportunity to measure our work.

Most of the work at this institution, of course, is ongoing and incremental. In classrooms, laboratories and offices across our campus and the nearby Center for Graduate Studies, people work tirelessly to push the bounds of knowledge and to better the human condition. Sometimes those efforts are monumental, such as in the creation of new undergraduate or graduate programs, tailored to meet the needs of today’s students and employers. Other times they are smaller, human-scale interactions, such as a professor and student collaborating on an ambitious research project.

Our ongoing commitment to Carroll’s vision is underscored by the Carroll Ethos and its declaration of respect, integrity and stewardship. By the simplest acts of how we treat one another to the larger ways by which we endeavor to create a place that is welcoming and inclusive, we continuously honor the ideals and dreams of our founders.

You’ll find numerous stories of Pioneers in this issue of {FIRST}, individuals who inspire us, who move us and who challenge us to do better. We’ll meet an undergraduate biology student investigating the issue of multidrug-resistant bacteria, an alumnus pushing his own body to compete in a grueling cross-country skiing marathon for the 33rd time, and a remarkable 15-year-old embarking on his own Pioneer journey. Meeting their challenge is the best way we can honor our legacy; modeling our own work after our rich heritage and to communicate our vision for the future, but we should bear in mind that the Pioneer story is ongoing—and that new chapters are being written by remarkable people every day.

Next year’s anniversary will offer us numerous opportunities to acknowledge our rich heritage and to communicate our vision for the future, but we should bear in mind that the Pioneer story is ongoing—and that new chapters are being written by remarkable people every day.

{FIRST} Magazine tells the stories of pioneers, of Wisconsin’s first university and of the notable, creative and fearless men and women who push it forward—the alumni, students, faculty and staff of Carroll University—through true pioneering content and design.

Carroll University is Wisconsin’s first four-year institution of higher learning. This independent, co-educational, comprehensive university is grounded in the Presbyterian heritage and liberal arts tradition. The Office of Marketing and Communications publishes {FIRST} for alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends of this university. The opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the opinions of the editors or the official policies of Carroll University. We welcome your comments at editor@carrollu.edu.

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On the Cover | An artist’s rendering of a bacteriophage, a type of virus that attaches and kills bacteria. Read our article about a research project involving phages on page 14.
Carroll University will offer both recreational and competitive esports opportunities in its newly dedicated gaming facility, the Carroll Esports Center, opening this fall.

“The center will be the hub for all things esports on campus,” said Joe Loomis, Carroll’s first esports head coach. “I’m interested in building a community around video game competition, or those who are interested of all different majors and backgrounds who are interested in playing a certain game competitively or those who are interested in building a community around video game competition,” said Joe Loomis, Carroll’s first esports head coach.

“The Carroll Esports Center will be a place for students of all different majors and backgrounds who are interested in playing a certain game competitively or those who are interested in building a community around video game competition,” said Joe Loomis, Carroll’s first esports head coach.

Intramural leagues and tournaments will allow students to test and hone their skills in a more competitive environment, and they can potentially make their way to our competitive club team,” Loomis said.

The competitive team will receive dedicated coaching, analysis and support, will belong to the National Association of Collegiate Esports (NACE) and will play regularly in the Collegiate StarLeague and Tespa leagues.

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Thank You for Your Support of Carroll Scholarships on Giving Tuesday 2020!

$70k RAISED THROUGH FEEDING AMERICA \n9,141 VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVED IN WASHINGTON AND MOLINE

$2,335 RAISED THROUGH FEEDING WISCONSIN

$1,818 RAISED THROUGH WORLD MISSION[S]

525 PARTICIPANTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

Yersin’s gift creates an amazing legacy here at Carroll,” said McCarthy. “And the legacy will just keep growing because of this gift.”

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The late William “Billy” Yersin graduated from Carroll in 1963 with a degree in business administration and promptly joined the U.S. Air Force, where he spent his career. Now, two years following his death, the gift he bequeathed to the university is helping dozens of Carroll business students soar.

Yersin’s $5.5 million gift to Carroll University—the largest individual gift in Carroll’s history—will fund the Yersin Scholars program, providing aid and other support to undergraduates enrolled in the School of Business. It will also create an endowed faculty position.

Julio C. Rivera has been named the William B. Yersin Professor of Applied Business Analytics. He said the impact of the Yersin Scholars program extends far beyond the financial aid: “What we hope to create through the scholars program, more than anything else, is a community of undergraduates scholars.”

Rivera and Katie McCarthy, an assistant professor of applied business analytics and Yersin Fellow, say the program offers networking events, social opportunities and faculty support for participating students. In this, the program’s first year, there are 45 Yersin Scholars.

“The Yersin Scholars program will create a professional network for these students and develop a system for them here at Carroll,” said McCarthy. That network will grow as each incoming class adds new Yersin Scholars—Rivera anticipates 120-140 students once the program is fully enrolled.

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In the fall of 2020, Carroll University will be one of only three programs in the nation to offer a Bachelor of Science Degree in Neurodiagnostic Technology (NDT). The program will be offered in partnership with Advocate Aurora Health Care. Students will complete foundational prerequisite courses and the Pioneer Core at Carroll, followed by two years of hands-on courses at Aurora St. Luke’s Medical Center in Milwaukee.

NDT professionals obtain medical histories, perform neurodiagnostic procedures, record electrical potentials, perform intraoperative monitoring in surgical situations, and perform related therapeutic interventions. They develop rapport with patients during procedures, which can last from 20 minutes for a single nerve conduction study, to eight hours for a sleep study, to multiple-day admission for long-term monitoring.

The Carroll/Advocate Aurora NDT program will prepare individuals to take three of five professional exams. Currently less than 1% of NDT professionals nationwide hold three registrations and a bachelor’s degree in NDT. Because neurodiagnostic credentialing and accreditations are international, graduates are eligible for positions across the country, as well as internationally.

According to ASET, the Neurodiagnostic Society, there is a significant nationwide shortage of highly skilled neurodiagnostic technologists, and not enough formal education programs to address this shortage. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics projects a 0.2% growth for neurodiagnostic technologists in 2024.

Carroll University, in partnership with Advocate Aurora Health Care, is currently seeking Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) accreditation for the 55 micro-neurodiagnostic technology (NDT) program.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Support Expands Presence

A new department at Carroll is coordinating the university’s efforts to create a welcoming and inclusive campus and foster meaningful interactions between people of diverse cultures, social identities, perspectives and experiences.

The new Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion houses Carroll’s Pre-College Programs, the Office of Global Education and the Office of Multicultural Affairs, according to associate dean Vanessa Pino (Pino) Topczewski.

Global Education offers immigration and cultural support for F-1 international students through globally focused programming to ensure a holistic university experience, including student orientation, off-campus employment workshops and student advising. International Student Services and Cross-Cultural Experience are both within the Office of Global Education.

Multicultural Affairs provides services that promote the success of our diverse student body and programs designed to enrich students’ intellectual, ethical and cultural development, including Pioneer Summer Bridge, mentoring, campus and community resources, workshops and heritage celebrations.

Pre-College Programs provide middle and high school students an opportunity to learn about careers, explore university life and gain academic, social and life skills that will help them succeed in a college setting.

At Carroll, we believe that college has its ups and downs but you can get through it, no matter how hard you work or how long you take. The college experience is important, we take pride in providing assistance if you need it. There are many people ready and willing to assist you. You are not alone on this journey!“

To celebrate the day, Carroll highlighted several first-generation students, both among current students and faculty and staff.

Angela Campos ’22

“My parents motivated me to attend college since I was young. My parents were only able to go to school to the secondary level as they had to take care of their family from a young age. They have always worked hard for myself and siblings to provide us the opportunities and schooling they were never able to obtain. They have always told me college was a privilege. My parents have always told us that no matter what, education is the one thing that nobody can take away.

They are the reason I work so hard. I cannot wait for the day when I am able to walk across the graduation stage and make their dreams come true.”

Jonnica Zaccaria ’21

“Growing up I saw how hard my parents worked to make sure we always had food on the table and a place to keep us warm and dry, which I am forever grateful for. But always wished I could make it easier. My mom often talks about how she has never been able to obtain. They have always told me college was a privilege. My parents have always told us that no matter what, education is the one thing that nobody can take away.

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For more profiles, visit: carrollu.edu/articles/social/2019/11/first-generation

In fall 2019, CU welcomed its second-largest incoming class ever!

793 TOTAL STUDENTS

34% WOMEN

33% INTERNATIONAL

36% FIRST GENERATION

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Board of Trustees

CARter honoRned

Darrell R. Carter, Jr., ’79, chair of the Carroll board of trustees and president of the Chicago Transit Authority, was honored with the 2019 Motorola Solutions Foundation Excellence in Public Service Award by The Civic Federation.

Carter has more than 30 years of experience in public service at the local and federal level. In his current role, he is responsible for the nation’s second-largest transit agency, which provides approximately 1.5 million rides on an average weekday and serves Chicago and 13 suburbs.

The Civic Federation is an organization that conducts research and reports on governmental budgetary matters in Illinois. Carter earned a B.S. in business administration and economics at Carroll.

Athletics

Make it Official

Michael Schuster was named Carroll’s athletic director in mid-December. In his role as Carroll’s interim athletic director, Michael successfully managed Carroll’s 22 DI-II athletic programs and ensured compliance with all NCAA, COCW and Title IX regulations.

During Schuster’s 12-year tenure with Carroll athletics, he has managed Carroll’s athletic facilities, student employees, sports information and game management. He has also worked with the office of Institutional Advancement to raise funds for athletics.
FOOTBALL
GREENFIELD NATIVE TO COACH PIOS

It’s a homecoming of sorts for Mike Budziszewski, named in January as the 30th head football coach. “After an extensive national search, I’m thrilled to welcome coach Budziszewski as our next head football coach,” said Michael Schulist, director of athletics. “Coach Budziszewski’s past success in the CCIW and extensive recruiting knowledge in the Midwest made him an ideal candidate, and an excellent fit to not only the football program, but our entire university.”

Budziszewski’s previous position was at Millikin University as the assistant head coach and offensive coordinator. During his tenure at the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) school, the team’s offense became one of the strongest in the conference, and was a top five offense this past season. In his three years, Budziszewski’s teams went over 19 school and CCIW records in pass completions, pass attempts, passing touchdowns, passing yards and receiving touchdowns.

Budziszewski’s experience extends into the NAIA at Presentation College in South Dakota as the assistant head coach and offensive coordinator. In 2010, Budziszewski was a finalist for the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Assistant Coach of the Year, in the same year the school ranked in the top 25 in all five offensive categories. In 2016, Budziszewski was a finalist for the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Assistant Coach of the Year, in the same year the school ranked in the top 25 in all five offensive categories.

Budziszewski earned his Bachelor’s degree from Winona State University, a master’s degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a doctorate in educational leadership from Winona State University.

CONGRATS
PROF NAMED PA OF THE YEAR

The Wisconsin Academy of Physician Assistants (WAPA) named A. Miranda Spindt, Carroll University clinical assistant professor and clinical coordinator of physician assistant studies, its PA of the Year at the 2019 Great Midwest Medical Conference in October.

Spindt joined the Carroll University faculty in August 2018 after 25 years of clinical practice in family medicine. She now practices as a volunteer provider in Waukesha for St. Joseph’s Medical Clinic, the state’s oldest free clinic and university partner.

Spindt said her passion is mission medicine, which she’s fulfilled by coordinating medical missions to Paia, Peru, for the last six years. There, the team treats patients with chronic illnesses, as well as provides pediatric and chiropractic care, eye clinic, a dearmoring clinic and patient education in wellness, hygiene and water safety. The team serves an average of 710 patients while on mission.

RANKINGS
NURSING PROGRAM BEST IN STATE

Carroll’s bachelor of science in nursing program has been ranked first in the state by RNCareers.org. The website rigorously evaluated 1,892 RN programs on a number of factors important to nursing students, including first-time NCLEX passing rates, faculty strength, accreditation, program offerings and more. RNCareers.org is led by a team of nurse educators, nurse practitioners, RNs and LPNs.

On the Wisdom of Memories

“I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now I am sure lives in you.” —2 Timothy 1:5

It’s funny how memories of our past can suddenly interrupt our present. I recently picked up an Andes Chocolate Mint from a box of candy on my office desk. The crisp chocolate took me back to my childhood, visiting my grandparents in South Carolina. I loved when we went for oyster roasts.

We would sit at a table covered in newspaper, a roll of paper towels and oyster knives ready, and dive into a stewing pan bimming with hot-oceaney flavors. The adventurous meal always ended with one Andes Mint each, a little foil-wrapped treat that somehow perfectly encapsulated the gift of the evening. I hadn’t thought of those oyster roasts in a long time, not until I spotted a bowl full of candy on a colleague’s desk.

Something as simple as a candy can transport us through time and space, summoning memories once thought lost. Confronted with a setting, a smell or a situation, we may suddenly find ourselves transported to a time long ago. I see this in Carroll when longtime alumni visit campus. The old rooms of Voorhees, the trees on Main Lawn or the sound of bagpipes on Alumni Day may bring to mind classmates and friends, personal adventures and milestone moments. These memories loop the past and present together. We see our lives from a different vantage point, as if standing at an overlook, regarding the view.

Memories make up who we are. Even memories nearly forgotten leave their imprint on our brains, their resonance in our hearts. Communities and organizations are shaped by memories too. Our shared history leads to our present, and those who have lived through significant portions of that history bear a very particular kind of wisdom. They are our memory, the caretakers of our collective story.

Carroll University recently lost one such caretaker. P.E. McAllister’s journey with Carroll spanned decades—see his full remembrance on page 26. He cared for students, an alumnus, a trustee, a friend, and, at times, even a critic. He passed on his memories in board meetings and stories and decades—

THE REV. ELIZABETH McCLARD
FOR CHRIST AND LEARNING

For Christ and Learning is the English translation of “Credo a Litteris,” Carroll University’s motto.

NEW HIRE
CTO BROUGHT ON BOARD

Mohammad Samarah, Ph.D., has joined Carroll as the university’s new chief technology officer. Samarah, who has almost three decades of experience, began his role in January. Dr. Samarah has been a professor of computer science and big data analytics at Florida Polytechnic University, where he was a founding member of the university’s graduate program for the College of Engineering and College of Innovation and Technology.

Samarah has been widely published in medical technology and has presented his research at international conferences in Malaysia, New York and China. He holds a bachelor’s degree in computer science from Northern Arizona University, and a master’s and Ph.D. in engineering/computer science from Florida Institute of Technology.
Office Hours

His office looks like it belongs to a religious studies professor— the one long wall lined with bookshelves, stacked with books on theology, philosophy and comparative religion, competing for space with manila folders overstuffed with 15 years’ worth of students’ papers.

It doesn’t much look the office of a mechanical engineer, which was Grimshaw’s first career (he toiled at a GM plant in Ohio), until another, higher calling came along and he enrolled in seminary school, eying a second career as a Presbyterian minister. He served a year as a minister in Indiana but still had a feeling he wasn’t yet in the right place. He went back to school, to Vanderbilt University, where he obtained a Ph.D. and then to Carroll, to teach. This is his 16th year. “It’s a good fit for me,” he said. He has found his calling.

Mystery of the Mounds

In the words of Carroll’s second president, Dr. Walter L. Rankin, “Wisconsin… is the state of the Effigy Mounds, and Waukesha County is one of the most highly favored regions in the state for the number, variety and significance of its mounds.” The area surrounding Carroll once housed over a dozen independent mounds. Two effigy mounds can still be found on campus, on opposite corners of Main Lawn.

Carroll’s remaining mounds have been dated as far back as 750 A.D., though some of the mounds that have since been lost may have originated as long ago as 100 B.C. Formed through an arduous process of hauling dirt to the mound sites basket by basket, the mounds are surrounded by mystery. They are not linked to the Potawatomi tribe who once occupied Carroll’s current grounds, but little else is known about their provenance. There’s been speculation that the Menominee, Ho-Chunk, or perhaps even both tribes played roles in the building process.

A greater mystery than the mounds’ creators, though, is their purpose. While some mounds may have been mortuary structures, it appears that they were used for more than burials. One suggestion is that they acted as territory markers, playing a role in boundary renewal ceremonies. They also may have denoted different clans and lineages corresponding to their various sizes and shapes. Another thought surrounding their purpose is that they indicated sacred lands visited exclusively for ritualistic practices, as the mounds were discovered a distance from Native American living areas. Though their exact purpose remains unknown, it’s certain that they weren’t used for mundane activities.

Carroll’s effigy mounds are an important part of the university’s rich history. They provide a lens into the lives and cultural values of the Native Americans who made Waukesha their home. Today, signs mark the two remaining mounds, reminding observers that the mounds are sacred spaces and should be treated accordingly.

For more information about the 50th Anniversary Pioneer Golf Classic, please visit carrollu.edu/alumni/golf.
Finding Art in Science

The events that shape our lives—that send us off in one direction or another—are often difficult to discern. When so much of life seems random and ruled by chance, the forks in the road appear vague, if at all discernible.

For Ben Khewpinticha, whose life has seen more than the usual twists and turns, the most recent fork in the road was quite memorable, however. It featured a goat.

This fork, the latest of many for Ben—short for Benyapa—arrived in a medical laboratory, where researchers were exploring the effects of carbon dioxide inhalation using goats. Ben, an intense and amiable senior, was overjoyed to see more than the usual twists and turns, the most recent fork in the road would be euthanized and its brain harvested.

“Scientists hold as critical in our gaining a proper understanding of the world,” she explained. “It provides that balance. When I’m done studying for a paint for a while and that gives me balance.”

Art professor Pacia Sallomi has seen Ben’s paintings develop. “Ben is quite humble about it. But I am very proud of her…when she returned (from Harvard), she told me that they had told her that one aspect of her application that helped her stand out was her art project—a serious exploration of her feelings and conflicts about scientific research on animals,” said Sallomi.

But before you learn where this fork took her, you should know a bit more about the journey Ben undertook just to get to that research lab.

It began in Thailand, with a creative and ambitious young woman trying to figure out her future and where in the world she belonged. She loved art and had hopes of becoming a cartoonist. At 16, she moved on her own to Tokyo, to attend high school and study art.

“I would say, once I have a goal, I tend to be very motivated to achieve it regardless of what it takes,” she explained. In Tokyo, the art classes exposed her to a broader world of art and led her to reconsider her aspirations. After a year, she returned to Thailand.

“That’s when I shifted to a completely different field,” she said. She had come to a fork in the road.

This other lifelong interest, in biology, was sparked by her study of human anatomy—the muscles, bones and organs of the human body. But pursuing a career in biology would require a tremendous leap. She took tests to receive her GED and began researching schools outside of her home country and came across Carroll. A university she had never heard of, in a town she had never heard of, in a country she was only familiar with through media. But she had financial aid, and her determination. Off she went.

That first year was not easy, Ben recalled. The culture shock many international students typically experience was compounded by the fact she hadn’t really attended high school in the traditional sense.

“It was hard, adjusting to the new environment. And not going to high school meant I was unfamiliar with even the basic things, like hanging out with friends. It was a completely different culture. It would be a lot for anyone to deal with,” Ben doubled down.

That’s what really drove me,” she explained. “I know I lacked a lot of experiences, so I pushed myself.”

In her biology coursework, she immediately dove into research, focusing on animal behavior and working with spiders and, later, rats. She said those experiences, along with the emotions she felt observing the research on goats, helped turn her research interests toward the cellular level. Another fork.

“So I shifted to biomedical research,” she said, “because I was able to think that my research could actually be helping someone. It could be curing a disease or it could bring about less suffering.” She even spent the summer of 2019 at a paid internship at the Harvard Stem Cell Institute, working as a lab technician.

In the meantime, she hasn’t totally abandoned art. In fact, she’s embarked on a new creative project exploring the use of animals in research, borne out of her experiences in the research lab.

“My current project started there, with me expressing my emotions about the issue, she said. “As a researcher, you have to be objective, but what do you do with your subjective emotions?” The art is her way of dealing with her feelings.

“Science classes can be very intense. Art provides that balance. When I’m done studying, I can go paint for a while and that gives me balance.”

She told me that they had told her that one aspect of her application that helped her stand out was her art project—a serious exploration of her feelings and conflicts about scientific research on animals,” said Sallomi.

“I think her example demonstrates why a deep study in the liberal arts for non-majors enriches life, engages us on other levels of experience and expands our understanding of the world,” Ben agrees. “Not only does painting serve as a way to explore my emotions—this project integrates my inspiration as an artist into my work as a medical scientist,” she noted. “As I advance in my career, I am well-behaved with paint, and this series progresses as I continue to explore how art and science can be complementary of one another.”

This summer, after graduation from Carroll with her major in biology and her minors in art, biochemistry and math, Ben is headed back to Harvard, and back to the research lab that employed her last year. She’ll work as a lab technician for the summer and likely through the following year, laying the foundation for what she hopes will be the next step in her journey, admission to graduate school at Harvard.

The admitting process is rigorous and competition is fierce. But Ben figures she’ll be armed with recommendations from the head of the research lab at Harvard—not to mention her own, unending drive.

It’s what has gotten her here, to a university on the other side of the world from her home country, about as far removed from her beginnings as one can imagine. And while there have been many forks on the way here and surely more to come, they don’t faze Ben. She has always had her eyes on a distant horizon.
Picture yourself in a small boat afloat on an open, angry ocean. The waves are building and beginning to wash over the bow. And your boat is springing holes. Many holes. We live in a sea of bacteria. Really, a world of bacteria. These microscopic, single-celled organisms are everywhere on our planet, in its soil, its water, even its air. In total, the mass of bacteria on Earth outweighs that of plants and animals. And they are even inside us. The cumulative bacteria in you or I may weigh as much as three pounds—about the weight of our brains. In fact, there are far more bacterial cells in your body than human cells, engaged in an intricate, symbiotic dance.

For most living things, and for us in particular, bacteria can be either good bacteria or bad bacteria. The good bacteria in a very real sense help keep us alive, recycling nutrients, playing a vital role in the decomposition of organic matter and in removing toxins. Our own guts are host to millions of them—maybe 500 or more different types. These gut bacteria are critical to how we digest food and the amount and type of nutrients we gain from eating. Other bacteria are used in the production of fermented foods, such as yogurt, cheese and vinegars, among others.

As for bad bacteria, well, you probably know them as germs, though the truth is that bacteria aren’t inherently good or bad, just opportunists. Google “bacteria,” though, and you’ll be flooded with stories about flesh-eating bacteria, Legionnaires’ disease and other deadly infections. Pathogenic bacteria are parasites responsible for a host of problems in the plant and animal kingdoms. They can cause blight and wilt in plants, affecting food crops, and deadly diseases in livestock. And they are a frightening adversary to human life, bringing with them disease, infection and even death. At times, a lot of death. One of the most important advances in modern medicine was the development of effective antibiotics. These antimicrobial agents attack and stymie the growth of bacteria. While some types of antibacterial agents have been successfully employed for centuries, it was only in the last century, with the development of penicillin, that doctors had an effective and reproducible tool to fight infection. The discovery led to the creation of additional antibiotic medicines and other antibacterial agents, such as disinfectants and soaps. It was a miracle. A lifeboat. The world finally had an effective way to fight off bad bacteria. Doctors and farmers and manufacturers went all in, and who could blame them? There were so many infections and illnesses to fight. The new arsenal of antibiotics was a potent tool that could neutralize many harmful bacteria. It must have seemed as though humankind had at last turned the corner in its struggle against pestilence, plague and general uncleanliness.


We’re running out of options in the fight against problem bacteria. Antibiotic overuse and misuse has triggered an explosion in antibiotic-resistant bacteria. The search for the next weapon is taking place in laboratories across the world—and here at Carroll University. Pioneer Scholar Kate Gentry and biology professor Christine Schneider are examining bacteriophages, parasitic viruses that infect and eventually kill host bacteria, to see if they hold any hope.

Not Just Another Phage

By Malcolm Mcdowell Woods
Pseudomonas aeruginosa is one such superbug. It's ubiquitous in the natural world, seems to do quite well in man-made environments and, thanks to our interference, is rapidly selecting for multidrug-resistant strains. In fact, it's an opportunistic little bug that's been implicated in hospital-acquired infections and other serious illnesses, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It can attack and infect the lungs of cystic fibrosis patients, in particular, spreading a biofilm across the surface of the lungs that impairs critical lung function. As its resistance to antibiotics grows, so does its danger.

Academic research serves more than one purpose, of course. Through scientific inquiry, humanity's knowledge base is raised and we learn more about the world we inhabit, our place in it and the organisms and elements with which we share it. And research like the work being done by Schneider and her students is helping us better understand our struggle to keep abreast of that rising tide of superbugs. In fact, the research being performed right now in that first-floor lab in Jaharis might just isolate that bacteria killer that renders P. aeruginosa harmless.

Or not. But either way, the research is a success. “We want to understand the process,” said Gentry. “Expanding our knowledge is the key. So far, nothing has worked. Obviously, in research you aren’t always going to find the results you are seeking, but finding out what doesn’t work is important, too.” All findings add to the knowledge base.

And then there are the students at the center of the research. They gain advanced clinical research skills, develop working relationships with faculty, gain exposure to potential careers and see their self-confidence grow immeasurably.

In October, Gentry presented her findings at the North Central Branch meeting of the American Society for Microbiology, earning a third place for her presentation. It was a great opportunity for an undergraduate student. She may have a chance to share the research findings again during her spring semester in Spain. Then she’ll return to Carroll for her senior year. And to the lab. And to the search. “I think that’s a really unique thing about Carroll,” Gentry noted. As she’s spoken with students from other colleges, she’s come to appreciate the level of dedication to undergraduate research shown by Carroll faculty. “Getting to work one-on-one with a faculty member doing important work is such a great opportunity. It was a huge time commitment for professor Schneider. She was here in the lab all summer. And I’m not just a lab hand, we actually collaborate on this.”

By all accounts, it’s been a successful experiment.
Life Changer

Like other Carroll students, Marissa Garretto ’17 gained a lot from her cross-cultural experience (CCE). These trips are a critical piece of a Carroll education, designed to provide students with an immersive introduction to a culture which differs from their own.

For her CCE, Garretto spent two weeks in Japan, exploring how that culture artfully balances tradition and modernism. Many students describe their CCEs as truly transformational opportunities—by experiencing and navigating a foreign culture, the students learn as much about themselves as the land and people they are observing.

Garretto, who had long been interested in anime and other aspects of Japanese culture, discovered a yearning to learn even more about Japanese life. “I learned a lot on that trip about myself, Japan, and America,” she said. “The CCE opened the door to learning about another culture I was only semi-familiar with. The CCE was too short, though, and all I could think about was how to get back to Japan. It left me wanting to learn more.”

So, she went back. Garretto, a graphic communication and photography major at Carroll, put her career on hold and is currently spending a year or so living in Japan, teaching English.

Carroll’s Office of Marketing and Communications documented Garretto’s cross-cultural experience in Japan. View video from the trip and learn more about the experience at carrollu.edu/cce-japan.

GARRETTO

The university recognized three outstanding employees as the 2019 recipients of the Ethos Awards. The awards are given to individuals who exemplify in their daily work and lives the tenets of the Carroll ethos: Respect, Integrity and Stewardship.

Tony Aker | Respect
“Tony works tirelessly to recruit student-athletes to Carroll and the football program. He becomes as knowledgeable on each student’s gifts and helps each student shine, given their strengths. I can see this as Tony speaks with his student-athletes both on and off the field. He truly honors the dignity and worth of each member of our diverse community by building relationships of trust. Anthony’s students work hard because he works hard. They go the extra mile because he goes the extra mile. Student-athletes want to achieve, succeed and shine because of Tony’s leadership.”

Scott is the associate vice president for enrollment and student affairs. He graduated Carroll in 2016.

Dawn Scott ’98, M.Ed. ’17 | Integrity
“Dawn is a role model for us all who embodies every characteristic of the Carroll Ethos and uses the Ethos to inform her work and interactions with others each day. She works tirelessly to support the mission and goals of the university and never gives less than 100% in anything she does.”

Dawn puts her team and the university above herself unexpectedly stepped in to a role to lead the enrollment team and made the restructuring of an entire once as seamless as possible to keep the team moving forward and exceed recruitment goals.”

Dawn is the assistant vice president for enrollment and student affairs.

John Vitale | Stewardship
“John is a stellar example of what it means to be a Pioneer. His stewardship of relationships with the residents of Kilgour and his dedication to making the building a better place for them to live is truly awe-inspiring. A few examples of his stewardship of relationships include leaving Post-it Notes on the doors of the residents who were a part of a show to congratulate them and leaving treats for residents on special holidays and during final exams.”

John is a physical plant utility worker.

GET YOUR COLOR ON!

Time to bust out those crayons and get to coloring this scene of Pioneer Pete lounging on Main Lawn. Once you’ve done, submit it to the Office of Marketing and Communications for judgment. Please no glitter or glued-on items.

Submit your entry by April 1 to: Editor Marketing and Communications 100 N. East Avenue Waukesha, WI 53186

Winners will be announced in our next issue. This is just for fun, so there will be no prizes beyond the eternal fame and glory of appearing in the pages of First.
HUSTLE. THINK. AND GLIDE.

His father’s advice has worked out pretty well for Jeff Cummisford ’73

HUSTLE AND THINK.

Work hard, be prepared, and then be present. Pay attention and figure out what you need to be doing. Do it. If you lined up alongside Jeff Cummisford ’73 on the football field for the Pioneers in the early ’70s, you’d likely recognize the approach, if not the exact words.

It’s a philosophy he learned from his father, and clearly it still serves him well. On Feb. 22, it all goes well and the snow sticks around, Cummisford will compete in the Kuat Sled Dog Racing event/period.tab world-class/space.tab athletic/space.tab event/period.tab... 

This will be the 46th running of the cross-country ski marathon, a 50- to 55-kilometer race from Cable to Hayward in northwestern Wisconsin that draws upwards of 10,000 people to compete in several events over a long weekend. Since he first stepped up to the starting line, Cummisford has missed racing twice—once when he was recovering from a snowshoe accident and once when the race itself was canceled due to lack of snow.

“IT’S THE BOSTON MARATHON OF CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING,” he said, “a world-class athletic event.”

Why keep at it? “Each year is different. The snow is different. The temperatures can be zero or 45 degrees,” he said. “Each year, you get a new story.”

Cummisford didn’t ski as a child. Football was his sport. Though just 5’9” and 160 pounds, Cummisford excelled on the field. At Carroll, he recorded 18 career interceptions and was co-captain of the team in 1972. In 2002, he was elected to the Carroll Athletics Hall of Fame. “I’m not a big guy but I was a good player and I played with really good guys,” he said. “My dad had this philosophy: hustle and think.”

Following that has made me a better athlete and a better person throughout my life.”

In a roundabout way, Carroll had a role in his discovery of skiing. He met his wife, Lynn Tonjes ’73, at a square dance in the school’s ballroom in his freshman year. “My biggest accomplishment at Carroll was having Lynn select me,” he said.

In his sophomore year, she took him skiing. A few years later, his sister-in-law’s husband introduced him to cross-country. He was bitten by the bug. And then came the Birkes.

“If truly becomes Birkefever for me,” he noted. His son, Kevin, competes as well, as do several Carroll alumni and classmates of Cummisford, including Don Becker ’73, Rick Wheeler ’73 and Jay Woodward ’72. “In fact, Jay and I finished within a minute of each other a good 1- times and never saw each other the whole race.”

It took Cummisford six hours and 32 minutes to finish his first race, using the traditional method in which skiers zoom along in parallel grooves in the snow. His fastest time came 32 years ago, when he completed the 50K skating course in two hours and 48 minutes.

He may have slowed down slightly, but his drive is as strong as ever. When you complete your 20th Birke, you’re recognized as a Birchlegger and given a special purple racing bib. Cummisford, who passed that milestone years ago, is now vying his 40th. But he’s not done there. Worldloppet is an organization that promotes cross-country skiing around the globe and comprises 20 ski marathons on six continents. Compete in 10, and you’re recognized as a Worldloppet Master.

“I now have six of them,” Cummisford said. He hopes to add two more—in Austria and Italy—before this Birke. And to keep going. He keeps in shape by skiing when he can and by mountain biking in warmer weather. He and wife Lynn also remain involved with Carroll, and hosted an alumni snowshoe hike at Prairie Springs this February.

“My dad has this philosophy: HUSTLE AND THINK. FOLLOWING THAT HAS MADE ME A BETTER ATHLETE AND A BETTER PERSON THROUGHOUT MY LIFE.”

HUSTLE AND THINK.

It’s the same philosophy that has driven his business life. Back in his days at Carroll, he realized he needed to find a job to help pay the bills. A business professor directed him to what was then Waikeshia Savings and Loan, where he worked as a teller while finishing his studies.

“I took that road all the way to the top,” Cummisford told the Pioneer magazine in a 2003 article. He remained at the savings and loan for 18 years, becoming the head of lending, before accepting an offer to work for TCF Bank. In 1997, he founded Amerihome Mortgage, growing it from 24 employees to 154 employees operating in nine states. He retired three years ago after 43 years in the banking industry.

Along the way, he has remained active and involved with Carroll, where he met his wife and found his way to that banking career. He served on the board of trustees for eight years and, in 2009, was awarded the P.E. MacAllister Distinguished Alumnus Award for Service to Carroll.

Business, life, school, football, skiing—his father’s advice paid off. HUSTLE AND THINK.
While 15-year-old Anthony Sikorski faces the same challenges any adolescent does, he is not your typical teenager. Most 15-year-olds don’t attend college, receive presidential recognition or create course materials for future collegiates scholars. Sikorski, who also has cystic fibrosis, adrenal insufficiencies and Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, was just 14 when accepted by Carroll University, 100 N. East Ave., Waukesha, WI 53186.

Sikorski was also drawn in by the structure. “It’s very impressive. I’d like the fact that three influential adults in his life are Carroll alumni. Nurse Kristi Kirk ’91 and biology teacher Douglas Drumm ’91 from Arrowhead High School, where Sikorski attended, along with piano teacher Joseph Lecher ’07, are all Carroll graduates he is close to. Sikorski said he has found Carroll welcoming. “Even before the official academic semester started, people from the biology department said I could do some informal research,” he stated. The research he and Dr. Todd Levine are conducting will be used in assignments for future biology students. In addition, biology lecturer Dr. Christine Schneider has discussed a lab position with him. He’s excited, as Schneider’s research deals with bacteria that can cause lung infections among cystic fibrosis patients.

After Carroll, Sikorski hopes to attend medical school, “inspired almost exclusively by my medical conditions.” Should his age bar him from attending medical school immediately, Sikorski might opt to pursue a doctorate and perhaps become a geneticist to help people dealing with illnesses such as his. As for his own health, Sikorski said “if people can hear me talk about my medical problems, talk about it once, and then bring it up in the future, I prefer it.” He doesn’t want pity. After all, his ailments aren’t things he can change or control.

“I’m just very fortunate things have worked out the way they have,” he said. “Could things have worked out better? Certainly. Is it a pressing thought on my mind? No. The present is well enough. I have no regrets about anything you put yourself to work and show dedication and resilience in the field you choose, life generally has a way of rewarding that.”

Awards, Anyone?
Do you know a Carroll graduate who has excelled in their profession, in their community, as a young alumna/us, or in their service to Carroll? If so, please consider nominating Carroll graduates for the following awards in 2021:

- Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement
- Distinguished Alumni Award for Community Service
- P.E. MacAllister Distinguished Alumni Award for Service to Carroll
- Graduate Of The Last Decade Award

Visit carrollu.edu/alumni/awards to nominate someone today! The deadline for 2021 nominations is May 31, 2020.

Heather Dugan Hartley ’12 studied desert and marine landscapes through ecological and social field methods in Raja. A community access instructor at Bridges Rehabilitation Center, Hartley lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, and is a graduate student in Miami University’s Global Field Program.

2013
- Sara (Thorna) Meyer ’09, promotion and event manager at Carroll, and her husband, Zac ’08, welcomed a baby girl, Jodie Sue, on Sept. 19, 2019.
- Samantha Betancor ’10 studied the ecology of seagrass ecosystems, with a focus on the Pallas’ cat, Przewalski’s horse and participatory conservation media in Mongolia, Betancor, an outreach coordinator at North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores, lives in Hubert, North Carolina, and is a graduate student in Miami University’s Global Field Program.

2012
- Elizabeth Jorgensen M.Ed. ’09 has authored a book, “Wis, Green, Go: A Family’s Journey to the Olympic Gold,” The book, co-written with her mother, Nancy Jorgensen, follows her twin Gwen Jorgensen’s journey to a gold medal in the 2012 Olympic triathlon in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

2009
- Ryan S. Russell ’96 welcomed a baby girl, Pearl Marylee, on Oct. 3, 2019, she joins her half-sister, India Marie, and son Freyja, the cat, and Pablo Lopez, the bearded dragon.

- Tyler Roberts ’15 and Mallory (Birch) Robers ’18 were married Oct. 15, 2019, in Madison, Wisconsin, with many Carroll alumni in attendance. She is currently a sonegrapher with Aurora Health Care and he is a dentist with Aspen Dental.  

2015
- Mallory (Hanlon) Clark ’12 and her husband, Tyler, welcomed a baby boy, Emmett Darrin, on Aug. 12, 2019.

- Melissa (Dudapesty) Flood ’08 married Kasey (Kallien) Sikes on July 13, 2019.
- Todd Levine is conducting a lab with him. He’s excited, as Schneider’s research deals with bacteria that can cause lung infections among cystic fibrosis patients.

- Seth Dalman ’15, son, Jenna (Scudder) Dalman ’14, head Sept. 14, 2019, in Elyria, Wisconsin. The two met while working at WSSC in 2012. Maid of honor was Kathleen Hall ’13 and best man was Kevin Rasmussen ’13.

- Kathy (Hager) Dalman ’82 was inducted into the Louisville Rugby Club Hall of Fame at the club’s 10th anniversary reunion over the Labor Day Weekend. Dalman had been a past president, captain and select player for the International Rugby Federation of Ireland.

- The Michael and Mary Jaharis Science Laboratories building. This fall, Sikorski was also drawn in by the field you choose, life generally has a way of rewarding that.”

- Pioneers

- Class of 1989

- Class of 1985

- Class of 1977

- Class of 1984

- Class of 1983

- Class of 1981

- Class of 1980

- Class of 1982

- Class of 1979

- Class of 2001

- Class of 2000

- Class of 2002

- Class of 2003

- Class of 2004

- Class of 2005

- Class of 2006

- Class of 2007

- Class of 2008

- Class of 2009

- Class of 2010

- Class of 2011

- Class of 2012

- Class of 2013

- Class of 2014

- Class of 2015

- Class of 2016

- Class of 2017

- Class of 2018
Marching Toward the Future

By Martha Shumaker

A year ago, the Pride of the Pioneers worked toward their primary objectives: to entertain the crowd and have fun. But there were several big-picture goals dangling before the group’s members as Keating looks to the future of his athletics bands program.

“We are intensively working toward continued growth in numbers,” said Brett Keating, director of athletic bands. “It is also crucial that we thoughtfully develop the cultures within all athletics band programs and their identities as perceived by the university and public,” he said.

A few developments to be implemented next year focus on service—to the university, to the community and to the students. Keating hopes to enhance the band’s presence with more performances during the game and more fan interaction. He is hoping to engage local marching band programs for teaching and performance opportunities, not to mention inviting more future Pioneers to campus.

It’s also important to Keating that his students are provided effective leadership training and support applicable to life after Carroll. In the meantime, it’s all Keating can do to provide for the band members.

“The Pride of the Pioneers have enjoyed a tremendous season,” Keating said. “These are 44 of the most incredible humans. They’re passionate, kind, enthusiastic, resilient and keen on excellence, and they have welcomed me into the Pioneer family with open arms and warm smiles. I do not possess the words to describe the gratitude and admiration I have for them.”

2019 was a year of growth for the Carroll University Pride of the marching band, and with that growth comes change and a little bit of risk. They did, after all, adopt their brand-new white uniform pants smack in the middle of hot chocolate season. But it’s all worth it, said Brett Keating, director of athletic bands, who joined Carroll over the summer to kick off the year of change.

Aside from the updated uniforms, which Keating says has given the band a pop of brightness and a modern edge, both the marching band and the pep band have grown significantly during his pioneer year at Carroll. In the 2019-20 academic year, the Pride of the Pioneers grew 23 percent, while the Pioneer Pep Band have experienced a growth of 25 percent.

“This growth is due to the hard work and support of a lot of people across campus—from leadership to student affairs to the marching band members themselves,” Keating said. “They are the driven and most active assets for recruitment. Under Drum Major Anthony Tretel’s leadership, these Pioneers have done a marvelous job increasing numbers for both the Pride of the Pioneers and the Pioneer Pep Bands.”

While Keating and his students flourish in the midst of this growth this year, he’s already looking ahead. He said he’s proud of the hard work exhibited this year as the band members worked toward the group’s primary objectives: to represent the university, support the team, entertain the crowd and have fun. But there are several big-picture goals dangling before the athletics bands program as Keating looks to the future.

IN MEMORIAM

1930s

Philip H. Allen '39 passed away Oct. 25, 2019, in Annapolis, Maryland, at the age of 87. He is survived by his wife, son and grandchildren.

1940s

Miriam (Reinhart) MacAllister '40 passed away Oct. 28, 2019, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at the age of 80. She was preceded in death by her twin sister, Martha “Marty” S. (Schneider) MacAllister '40.

1950s

Martha “Marty” S. (Schneider) MacAllister '40 passed away April 8, 2019, in Waukesha, Wisconsin, at the age of 90. Martha was preceded in death by husband, Orland W. MacAllister '49 and is survived by son Mark R. MacAllister ’96.

Charles W. Hart '50 passed away July 27, 2019, in San Jose, California, at the age of 93.

Catherine “Kay” (Gray) Accola ’50 passed away Aug. 1, 2019, in Baraboo, Wisconsin, at the age of 90.

Robert G. Preston ’50 passed away Oct. 2, 2019, at the age of 94.


Shirley J. (Shields) Boback ’54 passed away Oct. 3, 2019, in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, at the age of 82.

James W. Ebenroth ’58 passed away Sept. 1, 2019, in Mequon, Wisconsin, at the age of 82. He served as executive officer, president of the Carroll Board of Trustees for many years.

John P. Pope ’59 passed away Feb. 5, 2019, in Bothell, Washington, at the age of 94. He is survived by his brother, Warren Pope ’59.

Dale H. Berg ’59 passed away May 21, 2019, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, at the age of 83.

1960s

Phil A. Quaid ’61 passed away Sept. 25, 2019, in Annapolis, Maryland, at the age of 80. His brother, Stephen Quaid ’69, also attended Carroll. Phil received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Service to Country and Community for his decorated career in the U.S. Navy and his charitable activities to support our veteran programs.

Sally J. (Shelstad) Miller ’61 passed away Aug. 8, 2019, in Burlington, Wisconsin, at the age of 80. She was preceded in death by her twin sister, Sue (Shelstad) Pepper ’61.

June C. (Meister) Hutton ’63 passed away Sept. 10, 2019, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, at the age of 77.

Nancy L. (Plauffer) Spalding '64 passed away June 12, 2019, in Crystal Lake, Illinois, at the age of 77. Her husband, Thor, Fjellstedt '63, and son, Tommy S. (Pfeiffer) Stone '68, both attended Carroll.

Roger F. Teuscher ‘64 passed away on Aug. 3, 2019, in Cape Coral, Florida, at the age of 77. He is survived by son (Teuscher) Leanna ’79 and daughter Heidi (Teuscher) Sigala ’92.

Karen L. (Matthews) Townsend ’65 passed away July 2, 2019, in Sanford, North Carolina, at the age of 71. Her husband, Bill Townsend ’64, attended Carroll as well.

David R. Isabell ’65 passed away July 24, 2019, in Waukesha, Wisconsin, at the age of 70. He is survived by his daughter, Kristen (Isabell) Hayes ‘93, her wife, son and granddaughter.

Don L. Wiltern ’68 passed away Aug. 2, 2019, in Elkhorn, Wisconsin, at the age of 77.

1970s

Hannelore Schmidt ’70 passed away June 12, 2019, in San Antonio, Texas, at the age of 71.

James Ward ’71 passed away May 28, 2019, in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, at the age of 70. His mother, Helen (Carroll) Ward ’50 (deceased), and sister, Joan (Ward) Brennan ’68 and Judith (Ward) Scott ’76 also attended Carroll.

Michael J. Fritz ’72 passed away Oct. 23, 2019, in Old Fort, North Carolina, at the age of 68. His wife, Betty (Williams) Fritz ’74, and brother Joseph Fritz ’73 (deceased) both attended Carroll.

Steven F. Fritzzer ’73 passed away Aug. 28, 2019, in Tucson, Arizona, at the age of 68. He was a founding board member for the Courage Classic, a bicycle ride that supports the Child Abuse Intervention Program, raising over $100,000 for the program.

Daniel P. Buehler ’74 passed away Sept. 10, 2019, in Mequon, Wisconsin, at the age of 67. His sister, Betsy Buehler ‘72, attended Carroll as well.

1990s

Theodore Schuenemann ’90 passed away May 5, 2019, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at the age of 60.

Georgiana “Georgie” (Kupil) Kratz ’90 passed away Sept. 6, 2019, at the age of 71.

Don J. (Kusmier) Saracco ’97 passed away Oct. 19, 2019, at the age of 45. His mother, Jolene (Hopfenperger) Kusmier ’59, and aunt Patricia (Hopfenperger) Ross ’67 both attended Carroll.

Faculty and friends

Robert G. Black, former band member, passed away Oct. 10, 2019, at the age of 74. He was a professor emeritus of Spanish and also served as vice president of academic affairs at Carroll.

Thomas J. DroUGHT passed away Aug. 15, 2019, at the age of 61. Drought is a former Carroll trustee.

Anna M. Ivanov passed away Sept. 7, 2019, in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, at the age of 90. She was married to UCLA law professor, emeritus economist of economics and business. Anna worked at Carroll in the chemistry department.
Dr. Pete Settle centered his life around his family, and when he taught, his students became a part of that family. “He was there for every kid. They weren’t nameless, faceless kids in a lecture. They were real people and he treated them as such,” said Jan, his wife of 49 years. For years, Settle’s students knew of his wife, Jan, only as “the old woman,” and his two daughters, Krondor Settle as ‘Cricket’ and Butkus, respectfully. The latter showed the love for his daughter but also the Chicago Bears, pulling the nickname from Dick Butkus, a former linebacker of his favorite team.

A professor emeritus of communication at Carroll, Settle passed away Oct. 3 following a brief illness. He first came to Carroll in 1974, joining Dr. Joe Dailey and the late Dr. Joe Hemmer as a team of three academic advisor to the U.S. Olympic Speedskating Team while they studied at Carroll and trained at the Pettit National Ice Center. In his obituary, his family thanked Dr. Barb King ’87, an associate professor of communication at Carroll, remembers Settle as a “masterful teacher” who was skilled in attracting and retaining students. “You once took a class with Pete, chances were you were going to sign up for another class,” she said.

The Rev. Rebecca Iverson ’99, now a hospice chaplain, visited with Settle as he lay ill during his final days, reading to him stories and messages from fellow Carroll alumni. She said, “He found great joy in his family and teaching and students. He was always ready with a smile and a hug if you needed it or a joke.” At Carroll, Settle also served as faculty president, as advisor to the Communication Club, as “King of the Madrigals” with his wife, Jan, as queen for holiday Madrigal Dinners, sorority “mom” for Delta Zeta, and as academic advisor to the U.S. Olympic Speedskating Team while they studied at Carroll and trained at the Pettit National Ice Center. In his obituary, his family thanked Dr. Barb King ’87, an associate professor of communication, said of Settle, “His way (of teaching) was particularly personal. He liked to emphasize the ways that ideas impacted real lives. The illustrations in his classes often came from the experiences of his family and friends.”

By Linda Spice ’89

Professor Emeritus Settle Passes Away

A TRUE PIONEER

P.E. MacAllister ’40 1918-2019

Pershing Edwin (P.E.) MacAllister ’40, whose insight, generosity and hard work created a remarkable legacy at Carroll University, passed away Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2019, in Indianapolis, Indiana, at the age of 101.

A 1940 graduate, P.E. has been one of Carroll’s most stalwart and visible supporters. Not only had he served 56 consecutive years on the Board of Trustees, he was the single largest donor in Carroll’s 174-year history. He also had been an ardent fundraiser for Carroll, helping to raise millions of dollars.

Throughout his time here, he knew 11 of Carroll’s 15 presidents and made immovable contributions to the campus. P.E. has had an immense impact, from MacAllister Hall to establishing the MacAllister Fellowship, the most prestigious scholarship awarded at Carroll. He provided funds that resulted in new construction, academic chairs and building renovations. And, while his generosity touched many aspects of Carroll, his singular desire was to help the university’s students.

As a student at Carroll in the late 1930s, he kept himself busy, exploring much of what Carroll had to offer. He studied history—his major—and minored in English and speech. He played the clarinet in the music department and joined a fraternity. He ran, both for the college track and field team and for Student Senate.

He once said his success in business was directly linked to his Carroll education. “A fundamental principle of a liberal arts education is that you learn how to learn; you gain the basis upon which you can build the rest of your life.” And successful he was.

P.E. defied his plan to become a teacher after graduation, instead joining the U.S. Army Air Corps—spending months overseas during World War II. After leaving the corps in 1945, he began work with his father at MacAllister Machinery in Indiana. He took over the company at age 32 after his father suffered a stroke, and MacAllister Machinery ultimately became the state leader in agriculture and heavy machinery equipment.

He was also successful in many other arenas. After being nominated by Carroll, in 2014 he received the national Ernest T. Stewart Award from then-Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, which celebrates Hoosiers who exhibit wisdom, judgment and grace. In 2009, P.E. was named a “Living Legend” by the Indiana Historical Society, an honor shared with Karl Voight, Jr., John Mellencamp and David Letterman. And, in 2008, he was appointed by President George W. Bush to serve as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Arts for the JFK Center for the Arts.

“Carroll will forever be family, a comforting second home for all who have inhabited its halls. I remain indebted to this place, for the ways it shaped me and still does now. We are always Pioneers. We embrace that legacy proudly; this tradition of service and giving. I am grateful my life has enabled me to support Carroll’s mission over the years.”

— P.E. MacAllister ’40

P.E. truly led a remarkable life. His legacy will live on at Carroll, not just in bricks and mortar, but in the passion and commitment to lifelong learning shared by the students, faculty, staff and alumni of the university.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Becky, and his second wife, Fran. He is survived by his son, Chris, daughters Sandy MacAllister and Laurie MacAllister Davis, and multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A 1940 graduate, P.E. has been one of Carroll’s most stalwart and visible supporters. Not only had he served 56 consecutive years on the Board of Trustees, he was the single largest donor in Carroll’s 174-year history. He also had been an ardent fundraiser for Carroll, helping to raise millions of dollars.

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If you ever wonder whether the money donated to support scholarships at Carroll makes a real difference, you could ask Brittany Miller ‘22. Every dollar helps.

Brittany is intent on doing something with her life that makes healthcare more affordable and accessible for all. At Carroll, she has found the perfect double major—public health and healthcare administration—to prepare her for her future. But she is only at Carroll because it was her most affordable option, due in large part to the scholarships she was offered.

Still, Carroll might have lost this bright star last year when bills started to mount. That's when she found out about the Opportunity Scholarship. President Cindy Gnadinger created the Opportunity Scholarship Fund to provide a lifeline for those students from diverse backgrounds who are traditionally underrepresented in higher education and who may need additional help bridging the financial aid gap.

It has made all the difference for Brittany, allowing her to remain at Carroll and to continue following her dream. And for that, she'd like to thank you.

“It may sound cheesy,” she said, “but thank you. I know you don’t have to do this, but it does make a difference.”

For more information on the Opportunity Scholarship Fund and how you can help make a difference, contact James Rychner, assistant vice president for development, 262.524.7240.
FROM THE CARROLL ARCHIVES

Sing On

The Carroll University Archive Collection at the Todd Wehr Memorial Library is as large as one might expect from a 174-year-old university. Its contents range from the profound to the profane and many things in between such as a 1919 printing plate carrying the Carroll alma mater.