



Focus on the important. This was a tagline for North Park University a few years ago. It still lingers in my mind as a good way to remind me to focus on our students.

This issue of our newsletter will indeed focus on students. We are thrilled to announce a newly enhanced scholarship for graduate nonprofit students—the Jimmie Alford Scholarship—and a new prize—the Elom and Vera Nelson Prize—to be given to one or two outstanding SBNM seniors each year. Both represent a way to recognize excellence in academic performance of our students.

I also want to highlight our mentor program with our SBNM Advisory Board. The board members started the program as a pilot last year and this year we’ve placed 19 seniors who will be working with advisory board members on career and life issues. I’m proud of our advisory board volunteers for developing this program and hope that it will continue well into the future.

Please keep in touch with us as we work to prepare students for lives of significance and service. And if you are in the Chicago area, please watch for our various networking activities—including the Crystal Ball Dinner on February 7, 2014. This dinner provides you a great way to connect to our students and helps us focus on the important!

Wesley E. Lindahl, Ph.D.
 Dean



A Student’s Perspective

By: Mari Lamp

For this “Student-centric” issue of the SBNM Newsletter, I had the pleasure of interviewing several SBNM students and alumni across a variety of disciplines and degrees. Though their stories and experi-

ences are unique, they all found North Park to be an engaging and, at times unexpected experience. Common themes were an appreciation for North Park’s diversity, connectivity, and friendliness. I hope you will enjoy hearing their thoughts.

Sally Saed graduated with a BSE (Business and Economics) degree in ’12, and is currently pursuing an MBA with two certificates in Finance and International Business. Sally was awarded the SBNM Outstanding Senior Student award in May 2013. She is from Jerusalem, where her family still lives, and came to the US to study at North Park. She says, “When I was a senior in high school, I received a full scholarship from North Park to complete my undergraduate studies. Soon after, I chose to major in Business and Economics. After I graduated from the undergraduate program, I realized that completing my graduate program at the SBNM will definitely add substantial

“I found that the ways in which the faculty members structure the courses, activities and discussions actually encourages and enhances relationship building.”

Peg Berry, MHEA '10, MHRM '12

continues on page 2

value to my resume and knowledge in my field.” On her undergraduate experience, she says the number of international students she met at North Park was unexpected, and “I believe that the small size of North Park classes makes a big positive impact on the learning experience. The professors are very approachable and knowledgeable.”

John Barnabee is a current BSE senior with a concentration in marketing. He says, “What led me to North Park was the location of the school, which has given me many opportunities for internships. Being able to gain work experience in the field that I’ve chosen to study will give me an advantage once I’ve graduated. The most unexpected thing about getting this degree is how personable the experience was. Each professor knew who I was rather than being just another seat in a lecture hall at a major university.” Last summer, John had an internship at Sony Music Nashville, which has led to an opportunity to work with the Academy of Country Music Awards in Los Angeles after graduation. He plans to work with a major country music label in their marketing department.

Jakob Aronsson is one of our Swedish students, and will graduate in December 2013 with a BSE degree. He was recruited from North Carolina Wesleyan College by Coach John Born to play on the North Park soccer team, and says, “I knew from the first time I walked around campus that I would really enjoy myself here. The students are so outgoing and easy to get to know and the professors take the time to get to know you outside the classroom, which takes North Park to another dimension in my opinion.” Jakob says his best memory from North Park is “The game against our biggest rival, Wheaton, in 2012. The atmosphere was truly amazing during that game. It’s a day I will always remember.” After graduation Jakob plans to move back to Sweden to

gain some work experience, and then come back for his Master’s degree.

It’s exciting to see how the undergraduate students plan to use their knowledge from our

program to move into their professional careers. Many of them want to take advantage of North Park’s alumni grant, which gives undergraduate alumni a 20% tuition discount towards a graduate degree. At the graduate level, there is also a lot of diversity. The program primarily attracts individuals working full-time across a range of professions, and thus provides a strong cross-pollination in the student body.

Jonathan VanderBrug is currently pursuing an MNA (Master of Nonprofit Administration) degree, and will graduate in Dec 2013. On why he chose North Park, Jonathan says “The more I looked at SBNM’s MNA program, the more I was impressed. The professors

are insightful and accessible, and the courses are practical and comprehensive. Because it is hooked into the Chicago area’s nonprofit community, SBNM has a full grasp of the latest issues impacting nonprofit organizations. The school also offers classes at convenient times.” Jonathan also has a special tie to North Park, as his wife Kelly VanderBrug teaches in the Art department. On his time here, he says

“Each professor knew who I was rather than being just another seat in a lecture hall at a major university.”

John Barnabee, BSE senior

“My best memories were the times when I and other students were able to share specific challenges from our own nonprofit leadership experience and have in-depth discussions about what we learned from those experiences.”

Peg Berry graduated in 2010 with

an MHEA (Master of Higher Education Administration), and then in 2012 with a MHRM (Master of Human Resource Management). Of her degrees, she says, “Throughout my years in higher education I found that higher education and business are interrelated in many areas. I combined the two master’s degrees to acquire a broader perspective and higher level of understanding of the complex partner relationship of education and business.” Peg took most of her classes online, and says that was also a deciding factor in her decision. “Initially I thought developing relationships with faculty and fellow students would not be possible through online learning. I found that the ways in which the faculty members structure the courses, activities and discussions actually encourages and enhances relationship building.” Peg is currently pursuing high level administrative positions, and may go on to complete a Ph.D. in Education.

David Antillon is currently in the MBA program, and takes many of his classes at the Grayslake campus, close to his home. He says, “In my organization there are opportunities opening constantly, and education is one of the most decisive factors for those positions. In the future I want to be considered for a manager’s position and I want to be prepared for such an opportunity.” David stated that he also appreciates the way students can share work experiences amongst themselves, and the warm personal connection with his professors. These thoughts from David sum up the influence of his North Park experience: “North Park education opened my eyes to a different perspective on life. When I started the program, I was thinking of my personal benefit, but now I desire to be a benefit to those around me.”

We extend our sincere thanks to these student and alumni for their willingness to sharing their thoughts. Not only has SBNM been a positive factor in their lives and careers, they have been a blessing to us as well. ■

“The professors are insightful and accessible, and the courses are practical and comprehensive.”

Jonathan VanderBrug, MNA '13



Spotlight on Alumni: Bill Sauter

Bill Sauter holds the distinction of being SBNM's oldest living alumnus, having graduated from the first MBA class in 1993 at age 70. Bill was born and raised in Brighton Park on Chicago's Southwest side, and currently resides in Park Ridge. As a young man at the start of WWII, Bill enlisted and served in the Air Force as a Lower Ball Gunner, flying B17 Flying Fortress planes. He went on over 50 missions while serving, and received a Distinguished Flying Cross for saving the lives of 2 of his companions while risking his

own. After the war, Bill went into sales at a manufacturing company.

Fast-forward to 50 years later, when Bill was the VP of Sales at Libert Corp., which sold environmental equipment for computers. Never content to sit around, he heard about North Park's new weekend-only MBA program (at that time, the program was run only on Fridays and Saturdays). He enrolled in the program, and found himself in the midst of a much-younger crowd. Bill says the group "taught me a lot about what the younger people were thinking", and that there was an especially strong bond between teacher and students during that time. Prof. Lee Sundholm, who still teaches at SBNM today, was one of Bill's professors. At his graduation party, Bill's friends presented him with letter from Northwestern University, University of Chicago, and Lake Forest College's MBA program directors, who all congratulated him on his accomplishment.

Eventually, Bill retired from his corporate position, and went on to get his real estate license at age 77. He worked in the field until the housing market collapsed, at which time he says "I didn't want to take customers away from those who really needed it." Still not content to sit around the house, Bill now volunteers twice a week at O'Hare Airport, where he assists people as a Travelers Aid. Ken Schaeffe, who works on the SBNM Admissions team, and worked closely with Bill during his years here, says that "Bill is a wonderful example of an individual who has led a Christian life of service and significance." We couldn't agree more! ■

Alumni Career Updates

Christina Ferraro (MBA '08, MNA '06)

Christina recently took on the role of Senior Services Manager at the City of Evanston Levy Senior Center. In this role, she has focused on special projects such as the City of Evanston joining the World Health Organizations' "Age Friendly Cities" project. Congratulations Christina!

Tim Hargesheimer (MBA '10)

Tim was recently promoted to the Associate Account Director at New Control Direct & Digital. In this role, he will manage the account for VISA and its issuers nationwide. Congrats, Tim!

Laurel Ransom-Kulig (MNA '13)

Laurel has become the Literacy Coach for Thornton Township High School, where she will work in the area of talent development and outreach programing. Good luck, Laurel!

Raymond Prendergast (MBA '13)

We congratulate Ray on his recent promotion to become Dean, College to Careers, at Daley College. Read the press release about Ray's promotion [here](#). Ray was also featured in an Executive Profile segment in the Chicago Tribune this past September. The article noted how Ray leveraged his experience and unique background to move into his current position. A copy of that article is available [here](#). Congratulations, Ray!

Mark Washington (MBA '00, MATS '02)

Mark will assume the role of National Coordinator of MBA Ministry for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship in Jan, 2014. He will be providing strategic vision for the national movement of Christian MBA students and faculty at leading universities. Blessings, Mark!

Leeann Wright (MNA '12)

Leeann has taken the position of Associate Director of Development at Indiana University Northwest. We're proud of you, Leeann!

Alford Scholarship raised to \$200,000

We are excited to announce the additional gift of \$100,000 this year from the estate of Jimmie Alford, which raises the funds of the Alford Scholarship award to \$200,000. This generous gift was facilitated by Maree Bullock, the wife of the late and much-beloved SBNM Professor Jimmie Alford. The interest from this gift provides financial support for graduate students pursuing a degree or certificate in nonprofit manage-



Jimmie Alford and his wife, Maree Bullock

ment. Students who have demonstrated academic excellence are selected by SBNM faculty and staff. Because of this additional support, we are able to raise our number of scholarship recipients from one in past years to four recipients in 2013. This year's recipients are Maria C. Camacho, Katherine Douglas, Mark Ellefson, and Samantha Lipscomb. Each of these students has excelled in the MNA program. We offer our sincere thanks to Maree Bullock for providing such an excellent service not just to the SBNM programs, but to North Park's mission of equipping each student with the ability to thrive. ■

Farano and Nelson Award Winners

SBNM is proud to recognize the recipients of two of our in-house awards. Jennifer Ziegler was named this year's recipient of the Mark Farano Memorial Scholarship. Each year, the Farano scholarship is awarded to a graduate student who demonstrates strong academic performance and leadership capability. Jennifer is currently pursuing a Masters of Management degree, and anticipates graduating in 2015. She is a Wisconsin native, and is currently the Associate Director of

Annual Giving at Lawrence University.

Russell Leblanc was named this year's Elom and Vera Nelson Prize winner for the Outstanding Senior with a major in Business and Economics. Russell will graduate this December with concentrations in marketing, finance, and economics. The Nelson Prize was established this year to honor a senior in the SBNM program who shows great promise. We're proud of you Rusty! ■

Delta Mu Delta Board Award

We are pleased to announce that Jordan Burghardt was awarded the Board Award by Delta Mu Delta, the National Honors Society in Business. This award includes a \$1000 scholarship that helps defray school expenses. Jordan received her BA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and is currently completing an MNA degree at North Park. She works in the nonprofit medical association field, and is looking forward to the future opportunities her North Park education will provide. ■

Homecoming/Networking Events

This year marked the 20th anniversary of SBNM's first graduate class. We celebrated with a reception during Homecoming weekend, and saw many familiar faces, including our oldest alumnus, Bill Sauter (see article on page 3). Ken Schaeffe, Don Cassiday, and Lee Sundholm said a few words. Many thanks to the Alumni Department for making this happen.

Additionally, On November 13th, we hosted a Fall Networking Night at the Old Town Pour House, where alumni, students, and staff gathered to network in a relaxed social atmosphere. Despite being a chilly night, the turnout was great. Our thanks to everyone who made it out. ■

Upcoming:

*2014
Crystal Ball Dinner*

Save the Date for Friday, February 7th when SBNM Faculty will offer their market predictions for the future year, and we will find out who gets to take home the Crystal Balls!

The Work of Mentoring

By Mari Lamp

This is the 2nd year that SBNM has partnered with the Advisory Board to provide a mentorship program for students entering the workforce, and the program has seen a huge increase in participation over last year. The idea for this program came from SBNM Advisory Board members themselves, and leadership has been provided by member Scott Stenmark. The primary purpose of this relationship is for older, more experienced individuals to help a student learn where they will fit best in the workplace, to offer guidance on understanding their career options, and to offer their professional network as a resource for the student.

The SBNM Advisory Board consists of alumni and non-alumni professionals working in the business and nonprofit fields, and can provide invaluable expertise to those students seeking guidance upon graduation. The program began with a small trial of graduate students, and has since moved to the undergraduate senior class. Each senior student is invited to participate by creating a write-up of their professional interests, and they are then matched with an appropriate mentor based on these interests. This year we have 19 student-board member pairings, and are excited to see how these relationships develop.

One participating senior, Iwona Staszal, says “The idea of a mentor is also very exciting because it gives me the opportunity to meet new people and make connections.” The Advisory Board also felt that this type of one-on-one input would be a meaningful way to make a difference in the path of a student. We are thankful to have such an engaged Board, and look forward to watching these relationships grow over the year. ■

Intentional Engagement: Serving as the Nonprofit Leadership Campus Executive Director

By Pam Schilling

One of my colleagues recently asked me, “...nonprofit...I don't get it?” He was speaking about my new role as North Park's Campus Executive Director for the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance. The confusion likely came because most of my business experience and teaching

is focused on the for-profit sector. Good question! So, I shared my intentional pursuit of this opportunity and what motivated me. If you don't know, the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (NLA) is a national organization, with the mission to strengthen leadership in the social/nonprofit sector by facilitating a prepared workforce. The NLA offers a professional certification and facilitates internship and job opportunities for students. Given our overall focus at North Park and our distinctive education in nonprofit management at the undergraduate and graduate level, this is an important opportunity for our students.

When I began thinking about taking on this role, I was captivated by a couple of things regarding the NLA and the Campus Director role. First and foremost, I saw an opportunity to work closely with our students in a different way, beyond the classroom. It is also a small group of students, but one that is highly engaged and with a growing interest on our campus. I also valued the chance to engage more in the social/nonprofit sector as so many of my students are pursuing these roles or work in this industry currently—there is a convergence of the for-profit and non-profit worlds that I felt would be a great partnership.

This role also involves two things that really connected with me. One is the intersection between academics and careers; the second was the element of career coaching. Both are passions of mine and the chance to feed that passion in a different way was exciting.

Very shortly after stepping into this role, I found I gained an entirely new perspective about North Park and our students. The members of the Nonprofit Leadership Club (our campus student group organized around those interested in nonprofits and the certification) have diverse degree pursuits, but a common passion for pursuing careers or activities in service to others. There was also an energy and clarity. Students talked about internships and how the nonprofit organizations sought out North Park students because of the strong track record and reputation. The final thing I felt was inspiration gained from interactions with these students. It reminded me about the hopes and dreams as young adults, wanting to tackle the challenges of the world, and having big aspirations. That energy is contagious!

This is a defining year for the Nonprofit Leadership Club at North Park. The NLA national conference is in Chicago (January 2014) and we have 25 representatives from North Park attending. This is amazing and is five fold the number of previous attendees at this conference! This is a wonderful opportunity to increase awareness of North Park and the wonderful students who exemplify who we are and seeing our distinctives in practice. ■



Nonprofit Leadership
Club members

Meet the faculty—John Born

Welcome to the School of Business and Nonprofit Management! We are thrilled that you have joined us and we certainly look forward to learning more about you during this interview. Can you tell us a little bit about the journey in your life that led you to North Park University?

It's an interesting story. I was working on my master's at the University of Richmond in Virginia, and in order for me to complete my program, I was required to complete an internship. My parents lived in Milwaukee at the time so I tried to get an internship near them to save some money. I was fortunate enough to earn a 3-6 month internship at Marquette University. I ended up working there full-time for 2 years. My next job was at the Milwaukee School of Engineering, and I started out as the part-time, head men's soccer coach. I coached part time for about a year and a half, and was then promoted to the full-time position of head coach/assistant athletic director, where I served for another 2 years.

While I was at the Milwaukee School of Engineering, the head soccer coach position opened at North Park. I knew Jack Surridge, who was and still is the Director of Athletics, and I decided to apply for the position. I've been here 15 years since then. My title and responsibilities have changed a lot throughout those 15 years—from the head men's soccer coach and assistant to associate athletic director, and now to assistant professor of sports management and head men's soccer coach. I always tell my students that when it comes down to it, networking is extremely important.

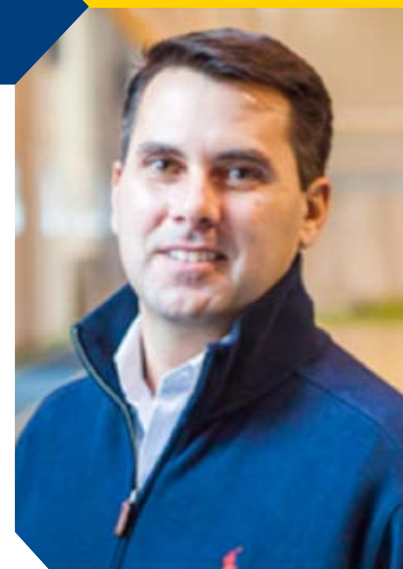
What led to your interest in soccer and coaching?

I have been coaching soccer since I was about 15 years old. I served as an assistant coach when I was a teenager, coaching children who were 7 and 8 years old. The head coach was 17 years old. I really loved the experience, and I had an opportunity to make a little extra money doing what I loved. It never once dawned on me that I would be coaching as a profession. I had always imagined myself going into the business world. However, the opportunity to be a coach fell into my lap and I have been happy and quite fortunate since.

Do you believe that coaching has a positive influence on your teaching abilities and your ability to better connect with and understand your students? How does coaching influence your teaching style?

Absolutely! The lessons I have learned as a coach have definitely helped influence my teaching style and ability to better connect with my students. Coaching has helped me to be comfortable in front of groups, and it has given me the ability to articulate and speak in public with confidence. It has also helped me to better relate to the college students. I am more in tune with pop culture and technology

—because I have to be in order to effectively reach my students. Coaching gives me the ability to be around my students in a non-classroom setting, where they are able to speak freely. I am also able to use lessons from the field in the classroom. From a discipline standpoint, as a coach, I set expectations from the very beginning, so this spills over into the classroom as well.



The mission of North Park is to prepare students for lives of significance and service through education in the liberal arts, professional studies, and theology. How do you see soccer, or team sports in general, supporting that?

Through the lessons learned outside of the classroom on various projects, the mission of North Park gets incorporated in the classroom. The men's soccer team, as with all of our teams here at North Park, will do service projects every year. Over the last 6 months the soccer team has done a fundraiser for Leukemia awareness as well as hosted a Special Olympics event. This is a perfect example of helping prepare students for lives of significance and service.

The new undergraduate Sports Management concentration was just launched in the Fall of 2013. Has there been a buzz among student athletes about the new concentration?

There definitely has been a lot of interest in the Sports Management concentration. I have had a good amount of students coming to my office, indicating that they would like to be a business major with a sports management concentration. However, some students do not realize how difficult it is. When I show them the curriculum, they realize that they are in for a challenge. Most of the interest in the program comes from student-athletes.

Outside of teaching and coaching soccer, what do you enjoy doing? What are your hobbies and interests?

I am a very simple guy. I love sports, teaching, coaching, and business. I love to golf and I enjoy traveling. My wife and I take a few trips every year. We have family across the country that we visit. We will be heading to Florida in a few weeks to visit my parents and sister, so I am looking forward to that. ■

The Axelson Center Welcomes Liz Markel

Liz Farina Markel joined The Axelson Center team in October of 2013 as Associate Director, where she will manage the center's marketing and communications strategies, and play a key role in content development and financial management for the center's workshops, symposium and boot camp events. She comes to the center from the American Library Association, where she spent five years as Marketing and Programs manager for two divisions of the association serving reference librarians, library consultants, special populations librarians (librarians serving people with disabilities as well as incarcerated adults and youth) and state libraries. Her prior work experience also includes McGraw-Hill's Higher Education division and the Active Transportation Alliance, formerly the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation.

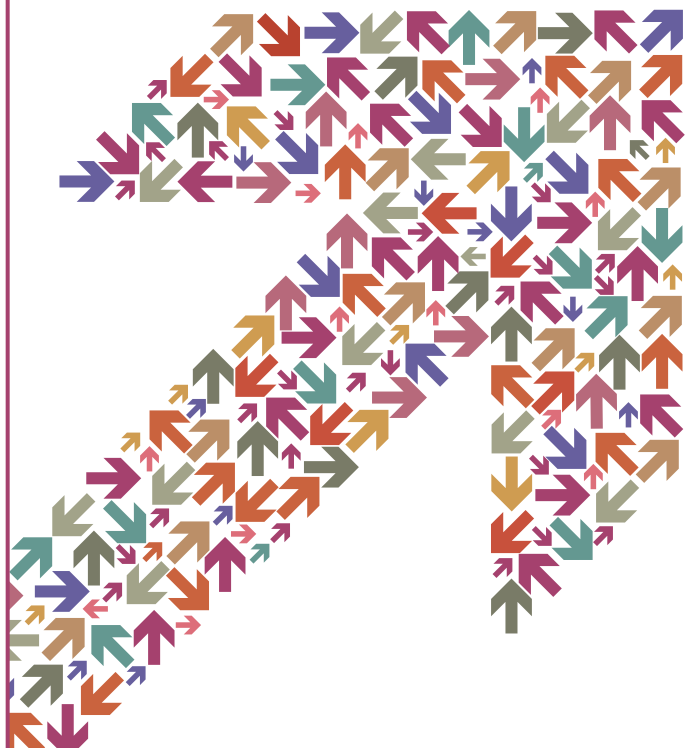
Liz has a Master's in Advertising from Michigan State University, but decided to return to school this past January and begin the MNA program here at North Park. She's always loved school and

the nonprofit sector, so the program was a perfect fit; even more wonderful and fortuitous was the opportunity to join the Axelson team and expand her career to serve the entire nonprofit sector.

Outside of work, Liz has diverse interests and stays busy as an active gardener and volunteer with Peterson Garden Project, with multiple sports including cyclocross, triathlons and half-marathons, a thriving freelance photography business and as much international travel as her budget will allow. Recent trips abroad include Peru, New Zealand and Zambia, and she is looking forward to exploring Istanbul in March with the SBNM trip. She is a six year resident of Albany Park, along with her husband and faithful hound dog mix, Ariel. ■



Next Practices



Best practices are critical to nonprofit management, but savvy nonprofit leaders also keep their eyes on the horizon. Join the Axelson Center for Nonprofit Management for its 15th Annual Symposium as we explore **Next Practices**: a forward-looking management approach that will keep your organization strong and responsive.

What you'll find at this year's event:

- A full day Pre-Conference Institute focused on **human capital**, addressing the important question: "How can we maximize our investment in people?"
- **Thoughtful speakers and panelists** who will challenge your perspective on vital elements of the nonprofit sector, including innovation, fundraising and sustainability.
- **Networking opportunities** with hundreds of leaders, professionals and volunteers at the Midwest's largest nonprofit management conference.
- **Celebration!** We'll reveal the winners of the 2014 Alford-Axelson Award for Nonprofit Managerial Excellence and the 2014 Excellent Emerging Organization Award at our annual luncheon.

Registration opens early 2014! North Park University students and alumni receive discounts on registration rates.

THE AXELSON CENTER
FOR NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT

15th Annual Symposium for
Nonprofit Professionals and Volunteers
June 2-3, 2014 | Hyatt Regency Chicago

Monday, June 2, 2014: Pre-Conference Institute
Tuesday, June 3, 2014: Symposium Day and Resource Center
New Location! Hyatt Regency Chicago, 151 East Wacker Drive
www.northpark.edu/symposium

Lives of Significance and Service
NORTH PARK
UNIVERSITY
CHICAGO

STUDENT NAME	COMPANY/ORGANIZATION
Alexander Adielsson	Roosevelt Elementary School PTO Organization
Cassandra Baker	Focus Pointe Global
Nick Burger	Overflow Coffee Bar
Zachary Curl	Covenant Retirement Communities
Dilan Danha	JVS Chicago
Gregory Drain	Chicago Bears
Hannah Gaskins	Covenant World Relief
Dennis Gkotsis	Koenig & Strey Real Estate
Lisette Gregorio	Axelson Center, NPU
Robin Hals	Goals 4 Ghana
Katharine Hovorka	Swedish Covenant Hospital
Melissa Hughes	Philips Lighting Electronic Co
Justin Klinefelter	Swedish Covenant Hospital
Jill Lundeen	Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Charles Moran	Covenant Trust Company
Emily Mosburg	World Relief Chicago
David Palm	American Homeowner Preservation
Kimberly Reitzel	Swedish Covenant Hospital
Iwona Staszal	Forest Villa Extended Healthcare
Jonathan Williams	ICM Properties
Anna Withers	Sarah's Circle
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**International Trip 2014:
Istanbul, Turkey**



The 10 day trip in March, 2014 (over Spring Break) to one of the world's most historic cities promises to be a wonderful and captivating cultural and educational experience. The trip includes visits to Turkish

corporations, globally focused nonprofit organizations, and universities. For more information, [click here](#), or contact Chris Nicholson, cnicholson@northpark.edu, 773-244-5518.