Alumni Membership Renewal in Full Swing

The year has gone by quickly, and it is once again time to renew your Alumni Association membership. Membership dues are for June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2011. If you have graduated in the past year, you were given a free one-year membership. We encourage you to take advantage of your complimentary membership by participating in our meetings, events and activities during the upcoming year.

Membership fees assist the Alumni Association in providing scholarships for our students, activities for our alumni and assistance with college needs. In return, you have access to the library and its services, discounts to Continuing Professional Education (CEU) events, activities, a quarterly newsletter and networking opportunities. To renew your membership, fill out the membership form on page 7.

Students Surveyed About Their Clarkson College Experience

By Chris Swanson, Institutional Effectiveness Coordinator

For two years, Clarkson College has engaged the services of Noel-Levitz to conduct their “Student Satisfaction Inventory” of all Clarkson College students. The 144 question survey is conducted online and asks students to assign importance and satisfaction ratings for academic and student services. The participation rate this year was 30 percent. The top five “strengths” identified were:

» My advisor is knowledgeable about requirements in my major.
» Nearly all of the faculty members are knowledgeable in their field.
» Content of required health care courses is valuable.
» There is a commitment to academic excellence on this campus.
» My academic advisor is approachable.

How would you rate your Clarkson College experience? Share your opinion by completing the 2010 alumni survey on page 8. The last survey question has been added so your opinion can be obtained.
**President’s Corner: Giving Back to Your Alma Mater**

During my terms as president, I have been fortunate to work with many dedicated individuals who continue to work unselfishly for this association and its membership.

My appreciation goes out to the College, Alumni Association board, Alumni Relations Coordinator Rita VanFleet, and the alumni members who continue to support the Alumni Association with their generous donation of time, talent and funding. The Alumni Association will start its student association in the near future. The Student Alumni Association will give current Clarkson College students opportunities to become more involved with the Alumni Association. More than ever, I am convinced that their involvement and enthusiasm will ensure future leaders for the Alumni Association.

I encourage you to take advantage of the many programs and services available to you through your Alumni Association; networking opportunities, educational seminars and so much more.

At the same time, I want to issue a challenge for you to give back to the institution that gave you your professional foundation. There are so many ways to get involved; volunteering, mentoring and renewing your annual membership are just a few of the many opportunities available to you.

I invite you to be a part of this association and to serve the students of today and tomorrow.

Thank you,

*Trish Weber*
Alumni Association President
402.552.3308 | webertrish@clarksoncollege.edu

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**Centennial Celebration Scheduled June 5**

In June, a celebration will be held to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Alumni Association. A luncheon will be held on Saturday, June 5 at Joslyn Castle in Omaha, Neb.

Prior to the luncheon, Ollie the Trolley will take guests on a tour and historic ride through central Omaha, visiting locations significant to the College and other historic sites. During the luncheon, the past presidents of the Alumni Association will be honored; a historical presentation will take place and uniforms will be displayed.

All alumni are invited to attend and participate in the celebration. Cost for the event is $20 for alumni and $10 for any past president.

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**Cox Family Donates to Endowed Scholarship Fund**

Clarkson College is honored to be the recipient of a recent donation made by Ira Cox in memory of his late wife, Virginia Griffith Cox. The donation, in the amount of $100,000, will be added to the Virginia Cox Endowed Scholarship Fund at Clarkson College.

“Virginia would be proud to see these talented students rewarded for their dedication and commitment to providing quality nursing care,” said Ira Cox. “Together [with the support of Clarkson College], we are honoring her vision of assisting exceptional students enter the nursing profession.”

The fund was established in 2004 by Virginia Griffith Cox, a 1953 graduate of what was then the Bishop Clarkson School of Nursing.

“The College is grateful to be the recipient of such a generous donation,” said Tony Damewood, vice president of operations at Clarkson College. “The funds will go to help future Clarkson College students who are pursuing an undergraduate nursing degree.”

The Virginia Cox Endowed Scholarship is available to Clarkson College undergraduate nursing students. The student must exhibit a passion for the nursing profession and demonstrate financial need. The scholarship recipient must also represent the Clarkson College values of learning, caring, commitment, integrity and excellence.

For more information about Clarkson College scholarships, visit www.clarksoncollege.edu/Current_Students/Financial_Aid/Clarkson_College_Scholarships/.

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**Scrapbook Day a Success**

Eighteen people gathered on Saturday, Feb. 27 at Archivers located at Village Point in Omaha to work on scrapbooking projects. The participants were able to use Archivers’ scrapbooking tools and craft their pages in the spacious work rooms. Novice to experienced scrapbookers participated, and expert tips and tricks were shared throughout the day. Creativity abounded, and it was fun to look at the progress each participant made with their pages.

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**Want to contribute to the alumni scholarship fund?**

Making a donation to help future Clarkson College students is as easy as renewing your alumni membership. Simply fill out the membership form on page 7 and place the amount you’d like to contribute next to “Contribution to the Alumni Scholarship Fund.”

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**Come celebrate with us!**

Reserve your spot today by calling Rita VanFleet at 402.552.3516.

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**Alumni Asso CiAtion leAdership**

402.552.3516.

VanFleet at calling Rita today by your spot with us!

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**Financial Aid/Clarkson College Scholarships/**

Visit www.clarksoncollege.edu/Current_Students/Financial_Aid/Clarkson_College_Scholarships/.

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**Mission**

Preparing students to professionally provide high quality, ethical and compassionate health care services.
From Grief to Service: Upholding a Mission to Serve Others
By Ann Hagenau, M.S., RT (R) (M), Radiologic Technology/Medical Imaging Instructor and Alumni Association Board Member

July 22, 2005 started out to be a beautiful, bright day. What could possibly go wrong? The answer to that question, unfortunately, was absolutely everything. One phone call received that afternoon would change my life forever. My 18 year old son, Christopher, was under water at Linoma Beach and could not be found. I knew at that moment that he was already gone. One chapter in my life had closed.

Allowing this chapter to close was one of the hardest things I have ever had to do. Christopher was a bright, caring person. He had strong morals and values based on a truly admirable character. This character was reinforced by his Catholic faith and education. He excelled in academics and served as a quiet influence to those around him of the higher effect on Christopher. Even our community. During the spring semester of his senior year, Christopher was placed at Field Club Elementary School to work with children in need. CHRS seeks to provide assistance to children and families in need. CHRS’ main goal is to show others that there are people who care, and by sharing this message of hope, to make a difference in their lives. Those who are helped by CHRS are from lower socioeconomic families in Omaha, Nebraska and surrounding areas. They have limited or no financial resources. The children often have no coats or shoes and only a very few articles of clothing. By providing basic essentials for these children in need, CHRS fosters an environment of hope. Underprivileged children at Field Club Elementary School were the initial focus of the foundation. Needy children are identified by teachers and counselors at the school. They complete a form provided by the CHRS Foundation indicating clothing and shoe sizes. The foundation then purchases a complete seasonal wardrobe for the child.

To promote social welfare, CHRS sponsors school activities that reward students for acting responsibly and actively participating in classroom learning. Each quarter, CHRS sponsors a lunch to reward Field Club Elementary School students for perfect attendance. At the end of each school year, CHRS provides bikes and helmets to students who have earned them through good behavior and scholastic achievement. To promote social welfare, CHRS sponsors school activities that reward students for acting responsibly and actively participating in classroom learning. Each quarter, CHRS sponsors a lunch to reward Field Club Elementary School students for perfect attendance. At the end of each school year, CHRS provides bikes and helmets to students who have earned them through good behavior and scholastic achievement. Qualifying students are entered into a school-wide drawing in which 28 bikes and helmets are awarded.

To learn more about the CHRS Foundation, visit www.chrscharity.org.

The night of Christopher’s wake, I received a call from the counselor at Field Club Elementary School. She wanted to tell me about my son. It was at this moment that a bond was formed and an idea began to take shape; an idea that would eventually lead to the formation of a charitable organization. We, his family, have taken on the mission that Christopher was not able to accomplish. We have created a foundation to help underprivileged children.

Established in 2005, the CHRS Foundation is an organization that seeks to provide assistance to children and families in need. CHRS’ main goal is to show others that there are people who care, and by sharing this message of hope, to make a difference in their lives. Those who are helped by CHRS are from lower socioeconomic families in Omaha, Nebraska and surrounding areas. They have limited or no financial resources. The children often have no coats or shoes and only a very few articles of clothing. By providing basic essentials for these children in need, CHRS fosters an environment of hope. Underprivileged children at Field Club Elementary School were the initial focus of the foundation. Needy children are identified by teachers and counselors at the school. They complete a form provided by the CHRS Foundation indicating clothing and shoe sizes. The foundation then purchases a complete seasonal wardrobe for the child.

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CHRS participates in other activities as needs arise. Examples include the purchase of a specialized stroller for a handicapped child, payment of utility bills to keep electricity on, purchasing of food and the donation of money to a family whose three children were in the hospital awaiting transplants. CHRS has also worked with students in the Radiologic Technology program at Clarkson College to provide Thanksgiving meals and Christmas presents for needy families. It is truly a privilege to be able to provide assistance to families in need. CHRS is run entirely by volunteers. Our income comes from donations and fundraising efforts. Our main fundraising activities involve concession stand work. We have operated concession stands during the College World Series, Shrine Circus and Lancer hockey games, and in return, receive a portion of the sales as a donation to the foundation. It is our hope to continue Christopher’s legacy and maybe even expand our efforts to other schools in the future.

“I don’t understand how people can be prejudiced.
These children are my friends”
— Christopher Hagenau

To learn more about the CHRS Foundation, visit www.chrscharity.org.

Christopher and two friends took the hot dogs and left to enjoy the rest of the night. I didn’t think much of this until I later received a phone call from Christopher. He was going to be a little late for his curfew. He and his friends were at Gene Leahy Mall handing out the hot dogs to homeless people.

Christopher’s high school, Creighton Prep, was the vehicle that introduced him to the needs that exist in our community. During the spring semester of his senior year, Christopher was placed at Field Club Elementary School to work with children three days a week. This experience had a profound effect on Christopher. Even after graduation, he still returned to the school to continue his work with these children. Field Club Elementary School has a large population of children in need. Christopher saw the needs of underprivileged children as a call to help. Shortly before his short life ended, Christopher had vowed to become a teacher and work with needy children. In his own words, “I don’t understand how people can be prejudiced. These children are my friends.”

It is often said that when one door is closed, another one is opened. The next chapter in my life was about to begin. This one was also preceded by a phone call.

Above: Craig, Christopher and Ann Hagenau at Christopher’s high school graduation
May 22, 2005, Christopher Hagenau in a senior photo.

At left: A recent wardrobe purchase for two children in need; a thank you note from a Field Club Elementary School student.

www.chrscharity.org.
Spring Semester Begins with Welcome Back Events

By: Mikaela Kripe, Marketing and Public Relations Intern

Students returned to class Jan. 11 after a month without early morning clinicals or late night study sessions. To help ease their way back into college mode, Student Activities Council (SAC) hosted a breakfast, lunch and casino night for the students, making the welcome back a little warmer.

Around 200 members of the College community took advantage of the free bagels, muffins and fresh fruit offered at the breakfast, and an estimated 300 attended the lunch, which was catered by Hong Kong Café.

Casino night drew in more than 100 students. Faculty and staff members volunteered as dealers for games like blackjack, roulette and craps. Prizes such as a Play-Station 3, an iPod, gift cards and themed baskets were all given away in a raffle drawing.

Above: Students students Lori Haney, Erin Nielsen and Mandy Redell at the Welcome Back Lunch; Financial Aid Counselor Bailey Nelson waits for students to place their bets while playing chuck-o-luck.

Alumni Association of Clarkson College Membership Form

Please accept this invitation to join the Alumni Association of Clarkson College. Your participation in helping meet the purpose of the organization “to be the link between the College, the Alumni and the greater community by acting as an ambassador, image builder and advocate” is welcomed.

Alumni Association dues are $25 per year. The membership is June 1 through May 31. Dues should be received no later than August 31. You will receive the Alumni Times quarterly, invitations to alumni events and periodic special mailings. Anyone who graduated 50 or more years ago receives a free membership and is included in the “Nifty Fifty” category. If you graduated 50 or more years ago, please return this form marked “Nifty Fifty.”

About You

Your name: ____________________________
Maiden name (if applicable): ____________________________
Spouse’s name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City: ____________________________ State/Province: ____________________________
Zip: ____________________________ Country: ____________________________
Home phone: ____________________________
Cell phone: ____________________________
Work phone: ____________________________
Home e-mail: ____________________________
Current employer: ____________________________
Business address: ____________________________
City: ____________________________ State/Province: ____________________________
Zip: ____________________________ Country: ____________________________
Current position/title: ____________________________
Class of: ____________________________ Nifty Fifty: Yes ☐ No ☐
Degree(s) earned: ____________________________

Class Notes (Printed in the January/February and July/August issues)

Please let us know what you are doing now. Tell us about your job. Do you have a family? Have you had any interesting experiences you’d like to share?

Membership Information and Dues

Alumni Association dues are $25 per year. Make checks payable to “Alumni Association of Clarkson College.”

Membership dues (membership year: June 1 – May 31): $25
In Memory of (name): ____________________________
In Honor of (name): ____________________________
Additional Information

I would like to invest in the future of Clarkson College by:
☐ Being a guest lecturer.
☐ Spending time assisting with alumni activities, student mentoring or tutoring.
☐ Supporting endowed scholarships in support of student attendance at Clarkson College.

I would like to receive more information about:
☐ Tax-deductable gifts

Total amount enclosed: $ ____________

Please send your payment and the completed membership form and survey (on page 8) to Alumni Coordinator, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131.

Omicron Epsilon Chapter Membership

By Judi Dunn, M.S., R.N., CPP, Director of Professional Development

Clarkson College nursing alumni are reminded that once members are inducted into Sigma Theta Tau, their membership is ongoing. To maintain an “active” member status, yearly chapter and international dues must be paid. Members may hold dual memberships between chapters and may also transfer memberships from one chapter to the Clarkson College Omicron Epsilon chapter if they wish. Nursing alumni interested in finding out more about membership in this international nursing honorary are asked to contact Judi Dunn at 402.552.6123 or dunn@clarksoncollege.edu.

It’s not too late to purchase an alumni cookbook!

Enjoy more than 250 recipes and help support students, alumni activities and your alma mater. To purchase a book, send $18 via check or money order (made out to “Alumni Association of Clarkson College”) to Alumni Coordinator, Clarkson College, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131.
Alumni Association of Clarkson College Survey

Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey below. Your input is greatly valued and assists the Alumni Association in providing programs and activities for alumni members, meeting regulatory requirements for the College and updating alumni information.

Alumni Events

Please rank the following topics in order of importance to you (with one being the most important and six being the least):

- Continuing Professional Education (CEU) events
- Community involvement activities
- Alumni Day and weekend activities
- Social events
- Increased communication
- Member benefits

Please list any continuing education topics that would be of interest to you:

Post-Graduation Information

Do you have any career or personal stories that would make for interesting future articles in the Alumni Times newsletter?

- Yes — please describe: ________________________________
- No

Do you use the College-offered Webmail for alumni?

- Yes
- No

If no, would you be interested in using it?

- Yes
- No

How would you rate your satisfaction with your Clarkson College experience? Please rank the following attributes from one to four in order of your experience at the College (with one being the strongest):

- Academic advising
- Faculty quality
- Course content
- Academic environment/excellence

Thank you for participating in our survey!

Your input is greatly appreciated.

CEU Event: Pandemic Issues and Ethics

Health care professionals are invited to participate in an interactive educational event structured to enhance their understanding of issues and ethical considerations related to pandemics.

Event Details

Date: Saturday, Sept. 18, 2010
Location: Room 308, Clarkson College
101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb.

Objectives:

Attendees will be able to:

- Demonstrate how historical issues have benefited H1N1 planning.
- Identify current community pandemic strategies.
- Examine the planning process and finalized plans.
- Evaluate a pandemic plan’s overall effectiveness.
- Identify ethical issues surrounding isolation and quarantine and how they directly impact patients.

Agenda:

7:30 a.m. — Sign in and welcome
8 a.m. — “Overview of Past and Present Pandemics”
- Philip Smith M.D., FACP, FIDSA
  Chief of infectious disease at The Nebraska Medical Center and director of biosecurity, biopreparedness and emerging infectious diseases

Sharon Medcalf, R.N. M.Ed
Biopreparedness education program director at the University of Nebraska Medical Center

8:30 a.m. — Event break

9:30 a.m. — “One Major Medical Center’s Emergency Preparedness Plan”
- Shelly Schwedhelm, R.N., M.S.N.
  Director of emergency/trauma/disaster services at The Nebraska Medical Center

9:45 a.m. — “Exploring the Ethics of Isolation and Quarantine”
- Kristin A. Watkins, MBA
  Librarian and grants coordinator center for preparedness education at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Creighton University

10:45 a.m. — Evaluations and event wrap up

Health care professionals are invited to participate in an interactive educational event structured to enhance their understanding of issues and ethical considerations related to pandemics.

Continuing Education Information

Health Care Business & all others

3.75 education hours awarded.

Nursing

Clarkson College is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Nebraska Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. Clarkson College is an approved Iowa provider #345. 4.5 Iowa nursing contact hours. 3.75 ANCC/NNA contact hours awarded NE09-12C9-5.

Physical Therapy

3.5 contact hours approved by the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association.

Radiologic Technology

4.0 Category A contact hours approved by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists.
Alumni Archives Work Continues

Alumni have been assisting in initial organization of the documents, pictures and artifacts kept in the archives room. Joining in the initial phases of organization are Carla Dirkschneider, Annette Leroy, Mary Margaret Schaffner (honorary alumnae), Rita VanFleet, Trish Weber and Penny Wilcox. Initial work consists of identifying contents of the boxes that have been stored. Once all of the boxes’ contents have been listed, the next step will be to begin organizing the pictures. There are numerous graduation, class, activity and miscellaneous pictures that need to be systematically organized.

Carrie Wiener, curator at the Durham Museum, spent an afternoon with the volunteers looking at the historical items and giving advice to help preserve and conserve the artifacts. Based on Wiener’s knowledge, proper archival supplies have been ordered so the historical items can be shifted from cardboard boxes to archival boxes. This will enable fragile books and documents to be stored safely. Dr. Louis Burgher, Clarkson College president, is supportive of this endeavor, and funding for the archival supplies came from the president’s office.

We need your help!
To lend a hand with these historical items, contact Rita VanFleet at 402.552.3516 or vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu.

Scebold Promoted to Assistant Director of Undergraduate Nursing

Clarkson College is pleased to announce Jody Scebold has been promoted to assistant director of undergraduate nursing at Clarkson College.

In her new role, Scebold will be responsible for developing and maintaining the schedule of classes and coordinating clinical experiences in correlation with coursework for the baccalaureate and practical nursing classes, labs and clinical. She will assist the director of undergraduate nursing in initiating and maintaining professional accreditation and assuring state regulations governing undergraduate nursing are met.

Scebold has been with The Nebraska Medical Center for over 10 years, joining Clarkson College in 2006 as an undergraduate nursing instructor.

Scebold earned her associate’s and bachelor’s degrees in nursing from College of Saint Mary and recently earned her master of science in nursing from Clarkson College in 2009. She has been a member of the National League of Nursing since 2006 and secretary for Nebraska League of Nursing since 2009. She is also a member of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.
**Search Engine Donation: An Easy Way to Contribute**

It is now possible to donate to the Clarkson College Alumni Association each time you search the Web or shop online!

GoodSearch.com, a Yahoo-sponsored search engine, will donate about a penny to your cause every time you surf the Web using their search engine.

GoodShop.com has more than 600 online merchants, including Amazon, Best Buy and Toys R Us. When you use GoodShop.com for your online shopping, a percentage of each purchase will go to the Alumni Association.

Simply go to GoodSearch.com,
» Click underneath “Who Do You Good Search For?” and enter “Alumni Association of Clarkson College” as your designated cause.
» Hit the yellow “verify” button, and
» Begin your Internet search or online shopping!

If you prefer to use a toolbar for your searching needs, download the GoodSearch toolbar at www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/model. This allows you to utilize the GoodSearch search engine like any other major search engine, such as Yahoo, Bing or Google.

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**Students Utilize Cadaver Lab to Get Up Close Look at Anatomy**

By Kelsey Archer, Assistant Director of Marketing and Public Relations

Clarkson College students who enrolled in the Cadaver Applications in Anatomy course get an up close look at basic human anatomy through cadaver dissection and lecture.

“This is an awesome opportunity for our students,” said Mary Balken, general education and anatomy faculty member. “Seeing the real thing makes such a difference in teaching and learning anatomy. A two dimensional picture in a book will never be able to replace seeing the actual structures embedded in the context of the surrounding structures.”

The general education course is an upper-level elective option available to all Clarkson College undergraduate and graduate students. Offered in the spring and summer semesters, the course proposes to add depth and detail regarding anatomical structures and systems already familiar to the students.

“I took this class because I always wanted to dissect the human body. I felt this would be a great way to test and enhance my anatomy knowledge. I did not get this opportunity while taking my anatomy and physiology class at another college,” explained Joanna Fastje, nursing student.

Instead of viewing anatomical images in a textbook, students are able to get an up close and personal look. A partnership with the University of Nebraska Medical Center allows Clarkson College students to get an experience typically reserved for medical students.

Students are also able to apply what they are learning in the classroom and in the cadaver lab to work they will be doing after graduation.

“When it comes to X-ray, we are expected to look at the outside of a patient that may be fully clothed, covered in a blanket or draped in surgery and take good images of anatomy on the inside. This can be a challenge at times, and although basic anatomy shouldn’t change, we encounter anomalies, disease processes that change various things and devices that have been surgically implanted. Getting an idea of what things really look like inside a body and getting hands on experience with disease is very beneficial,” said Jessica Janovich, radiologic technology and medical imaging student.

For some students, the format of the course is a better fit for their learning style.

“I’m a very visual person, and getting this experience helped me to visualize what I’m looking for before I take the X-ray,” Janovich said.

...Getting an idea of what things really look like inside a body... is very beneficial — Jessica Janovich, RT/MI student

“Aside from the anatomy aspect, I have gained a true appreciation for the people who donate their bodies to help those in the medical field; it is a very generous gift.”

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**Wanna "Friend Me" and Other Professionalism Skills**

By Pam Schwab, Health Care Business Management Assistant Professor

What do we mean by "professionalism skills?" Ask the 60 students, alumni, faculty and staff members who got together in February for the Clarkson College Professionalism Workshop.

Developed by the MB 811 Communication grad student as a service project, eight unique interpersonal skills were presented and practiced by undergraduate students. While difficult to define, “professionalism” is the behavior and attitude presented in our everyday interactions with others—the things we don’t get paid for but can make all the difference in our success as professionals.

New college graduates and other professionals often discount the importance of interpersonal skills in the workplace. The College continually receives feedback from alumni in the community that our students have adequate technical skills for their first job in all areas except professionalism.

The eight sessions presented at the workshop included: social capital, working in teams, telling your story, active listening, giving and receiving constructive feedback, dealing with difficult people, interview skills, and the “good, bad, and ugly” of social networks. Each 25 minute session was comprised of a brief PowerPoint presentation, followed by a hands-on, experiential activity to allow the students to practice what they learned.

The workshop concluded with a reception where participants networked, won attendance prizes and enjoyed snacks. The Alumni Association of Clarkson College and a grant from the Midwest Consortium for Service-Learning in Higher Education contributed to the success of the event. Other local businesses who made contributions included Ashley Lynn’s, Bruegger’s and Jimmy John’s.

The satisfaction survey completed by 100 percent of the participants indicated “Top 2” box scores of 100 percent and 97 percent for “Topics helpful to my life and career plans,” and “Likelihood of recommending to a friend,” respectively. What students liked most about the seminar included, “Learning I need to protect myself on [social] networks,” “Classes like these are rarely offered but give a lot of helpful tips” and “Students facilitating the sessions — knowing they don’t have all the answers but using their experiences to help us be prepared.” Participants also offered advice on opportunities for improvement: “More advertising” “A session on resume-writing” and “More one-on-one attention.”

Based on the success of the workshop, faculty and staff have begun planning for summer and fall workshops, including a webinar for students who cannot attend on campus and expanded sessions.

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**Financial News from John Hancock**

In today’s society, it is important to have a strong financial plan that encompasses a variety of areas. The John Hancock Financial Network has partnered with the Clarkson College Alumni Association board to offer additional benefits to the Alumni Association members as a resource.

We are looking forward to offering financial workshops/sessions and newsletter articles on financial topics, discounted insurance programs and social networking events.

Health insurance is a hot topic, and there is a lot of uncertainty about where it is headed. We all want to have affordable quality health insurance. Many of us have coverage through our employers, which is based on the group’s general health and claims experience. Many employers have started offering health savings account (HSA) plans or options with higher deductibles to lower the premiums.

The health care debate continues, we will help you understand any changes that take place and welcome your questions.

We look forward to meeting you at our open house for the Alumni Association on Tuesday, May 4 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at our office located north of Westroads Mall at 9900 Nicholas St. Suite 200, Omaha, Neb.

Questions? Contact us!
John Schraut, CLTC
jschraut@jhnetwork.com
402.758.1313 ext: 28

Nathan Larsen, CLTC
nlarsen@jhnetwork.com
402.758.1313 ext: 13

Heartland.jhnetwork.com
Each day an Italian tour guide took the group to different sights. At each location, the guide retold historical events so effectively that it felt like the ATA group was reliving each site’s era.

Every city on the tour had its own ambience, and many found Siena to be a favorite. It was quite an experience to be in the stands of the Roman Coliseum and look down upon the arena where the gladiators fought. Learning about the famous horse race, Il Palio, in Siena was fascinating. Siena is divided into 14 districts with each district having an animal or bird as its “mascot.” Ten of the 14 districts participate twice each year in a horse race. The 10 participants are determined by lottery, and the most recent winner was the Owl District.

The staff from the college of nursing in Siena gave the group a wonderful overview of its curriculum and an in-depth tour of the hospital system. The tour gave participants the ability to compare the Italian government-run health care system to our system in the United States.

Shopping for leather goods in Florence was a favorite of many. Vatican City and the Vatican Museum abounded in history, religion, beautiful art and architecture. The work of Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel was fantastic, and seeing Michelangelo’s “David” in person was an amazing experience. Walking the streets of Ostia Antica and Pompeii demonstrated the level of cultural sophistication that existed more than 2,000 years ago. Cuisine tasting was fun with numerous types of foods and gelato having been sampled by the end of the trip.

Throughout the trip, Italians were extremely gracious to the ATA group. Communicating was not a problem, as most of the natives spoke a little English, and some were even fluent. Their willingness to assist whenever needed was truly appreciated.

Art, architecture and adventure is the best way to summarize the trip. Many new friendships were formed among the members of the group. The sights of Italy were breathtaking. The energy of the people and the finality of life and death is inherently recognized when working with cadavers. One advantage of using cadavers is the ability to see the many variations amongst humans and the need to be prepared for this in the clinic. Finally, the gift that these donors provide is immeasurable and usually students will feel a connection to their cadaver,” Balken said.

As part of the Cadaver Applications course, students reflect on their first encounter with a cadaver and final thoughts when they complete the course. Some students talk about what their cadavers have taught them and even contemplate whether they would consider donating their own bodies to science.

“Diagrams and images in a textbook cannot capture the true nature of the living body and its quirks,” Janovich said. “There are so many variations out there, and it’s a whole different way of learning through visualization, touch and exploration. We could pull on some of the tendons and watch the digits move. It was exciting, and I love learning about how things work.”
It’s time for the annual alumni membership drive!
Renew your Alumni Association membership and continue to reap its benefits throughout the rest of the year. Don’t miss out on your chance to keep in touch!
See page 7 for more details.