# CareerLink Summer 2015

Connecting the Career Development office with faculty, administrators, students and parents

#### Glenn Triezenberg retires after 27 years at Calvin



After growing up in South Holland, Illinois, Glenn Triezenberg came to Calvin College as a freshman in the fall of 1967. He graduated from Calvin in 1971 with a BA in English, before earning his MSW in 1973 from George Williams College in Downers Grove, Illinois.

Glenn then went on to practice social work in a variety of settings, including as a family therapist at Pine Rest Christian Hospital and director of medical social work services at Blodgett Memorial Medical Center. During this time, he earned his MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. Glenn also spent a couple years as an account executive with an executive search and

management consulting firm, before getting hired at Calvin College as a counselor in the Broene Counseling Center.

Given Glenn's background in therapy, social work, and executive recruiting, he was well equipped to be appointed Director of Career Development at Calvin in 1993, where he faithfully served until his retirement in March 2015. While Director, Glenn developed a comprehensive assessment system to track all of the activities of the Career Development office, which was implemented in 2005 and presented at a national conference. Because of this tracking, the Career Development office can report that last year, they provided over 2,900 career counseling appointments with students and alumni, the highest number of appointments since the assessment system was implemented. These appointments also had a 97% client satisfaction rate.

In addition to providing high quantity and quality career counseling, Glenn was also passionate about enhancing experiential education opportunities for Calvin students. One of the ways he did this was by founding the Calvin/YMCA of the Rockies Leadership Challenge Institute in 1998. In this program, hundreds of Calvin students have had the opportunity to spend a summer gaining work experience at Snow Mountain Ranch near Winter Park, Colorado, while growing in Christian discipleship and leadership skills through weekly seminars and small groups. Glenn also established the annual Business Careers Networking Reception, an event that has helped students connect with local business professionals for career advice and potential job or internship opportunities.

Another way that Glenn strengthened opportunities for students was through his role as Director of the Spoelhof Family Institute for Christian Leadership in Business. The Spoelhof Institute was instrumental in providing support for internship program development, increasing student participation so that today, 80% of graduating seniors have completed at least one internship during their years at Calvin.

Even with all of these noteworthy accomplishments, Glenn's true purpose and joy came from serving as a teacher and mentor to Calvin students. Glenn taught courses in Business, Social Work, Prelude, and Interim. He also mentored countless students, helping them discern their vocational direction and encouraging them to take the necessary steps to reach their goals. He was always ready to support students with "You can do this" or "I have confidence in you," if students ever were afraid or struggling with doubts.

After 27 years of faithful service to the Calvin community, Glenn's gifts in seeing the potential in others and cultivating a culture of excellence will certainly be missed.

Career Development main office:
Hekman Library 372

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Resource center: Hekman Library, 2nd floor

Summer Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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Katherine - DisArt Festival



lan - Association for a More Just Society



Zee - The Right Place



Gilbert - RGMI

Over 280 Calvin students completed a spring internship, giving them the opportunity to develop the professional skills employers are seeking in candidates.

Students: report your internship at www.calvin.edu/career for a chance to win \$15 to the Campus Store!

Additional internship photos are featured on our Facebook page.



Brett - Varsity News Network



Tiffany - Leukemia & Lymphoma Society



Josh - Grand Rapids Drive



Elizabeth - Lanio

In partnership

with students.

graduates,

employers, and

faculty, we offer

our hearts and

lives to do God's

work in God's

world.

Career

**Development's** 

**Mission** 

**Statement** 

#### Class of 2015: Transition-ready for employment or graduate school

Seniors who report their jobs or graduate school plans within 6 months of graduation receive a \$15 Campus Store gift certificate. (Seniors: report your post-Calvin plans at www.calvin.edulcareer). Some members of the graduating class are featured below. Congratulations, class of 2015!



Andrew Jo
Electrical Engineering Major
Edison Engineering Development
Program Participant - GE Aviation
Grand Rapids, MI
How found? On-campus interview



Kara Venema
Strategic Communication Major
Junior Account Executive
G&S Business Communications
Chicago, IL
How found? Internship

Luke Lindholm Business Finance Major Commercial Credit Analyst Mercantile Bank Grand Rapids, MI How found? Job fair



Terver Ubwa Accounting Major Information Integrity Technician Spectrum Health Grand Rapids, MI How found? Internship



Kathyrn Knox Social Work and Spanish Major Volunteer Peace Corps How found? Company website



Lindsey Ryskamp Business Marketing and Spanish Major E-Commerce Manager Michigan Industrial Tools Grand Rapids, MI How found? Personal connection

Daniel Paulson History and Business Finance Major Vanderbilt University Law School Nashville, TN



Abigail Fincel Biology Major University of Iowa College of Dentistry Iowa City, IA





Adam Quinones Media Production Major Associate Technical Director Wheaton Bible Church West Chicago, IL How found? Internship



James Lamine Computer Science Major Software Engineer Indeed Austin, TX How found? Online

Kathryn Ardinger Math Major Actuarial Technician Auto-Owners Insurance Lansing, MI How found? Internship



Alyssa Carrasco Psychology and Spanish Major Domestic Assault Response Team Member - 61st District Court Grand Rapids, MI How found? Networking





Sonya Sulayman Elementary Education Major Mandarin Immersion Teacher Zeeland Christian School Zeeland, MI How found? Student teaching



Troy Ellens
Nursing Major
RN: Orthopaedics & Joint Replacement
Spectrum Health
Grand Rapids, MI
How found? Personal connection

Ranuka Sinniah Biochemistry Major NIH-IRTA Fellow/Researcher National Cancer Institute Frederick, MD How found? Networking



Zion Lee Chemical Engineering and Biochemistry Major University of Minnesota Chemical Engineering Program Minneapolis, MN





Katerina Parsons
International Development Studies and
Writing Major
Research & Communications Facilitator
Association for a More Just Society
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
How found? Personal connection



Jamie Cheeney
Business Human Resources Major
Human Resources Employment
Specialist
Kamps Pallets
Walker, MI
How found? Career counselor/faculty

#### Alumni network helps philosophy grad with job search

The Calvin network is alive and well, as Jesse Roberts '13 can testify. Thanks in part to a referral from a fellow Calvin alum, Jesse was able to obtain his position as a paralegal at Wagenmaker & Oberly, LLC, a boutique law firm in Chicago specializing in nonprofit law.

"When I decided I'd like to try and get a paralegal job, I was told by the career office to try and utilize uKnight (Calvin's online alumni directory), which I would recommend to everyone," Jesse says. "I had the luxury of not being limited



geographically, so I sent hundreds of e-mails addressed to Calvin alumni working in the legal field in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Philadelphia ... asking if his or her current practice had any openings or if he or she could refer me to another firm. I had great feedback, with about 35-40% of the alums replying to me, and I was eventually referred to a partner of the firm where I currently work."

Working as a paralegal for a firm that specializes in nonprofit law has been very rewarding for Jesse. His job is to be the "hands and feet" of the attorneys, assisting their clients from start to finish with legal issues pertaining to their respective nonprofit projects. This could mean visiting the Secretary of State's office to file incorporation documents, or working with clients to finalize their bylaws, or helping them secure income or property-tax exemption, or even assisting them with articles of dissolution.

Jesse enjoys interacting with clients and acknowledges they are "some of the most caring people I've ever met." However, Jesse's favorite part of his job is working with his colleagues at Wagenmaker & Oberly.

"They're willing to work with me and be patient, and encourage me as I continue to learn and get better at my job," says Jesse. "I have the privilege of working alongside some of the best attorneys in the business, which I think will prove to be an invaluable resource as my career in the legal field progresses."

As a graduate of Calvin's philosophy program, Jesse has advice for other humanities majors: "You're more marketable than you even realize. You know how to read carefully, write thoughtfully, think critically, and learn quickly; employers want people with your skills," he says. "So, if you've given up on grad school or teaching, or simply want to apply your skills in a different way, I would suggest you think creatively on what you'd like in a career, and how to best market yourself. And again, use uKnight – seriously, it's awesome."

### CAREER DEVELOPMENT

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"Like" us on Facebook to stay up-to-date about upcoming job fairs, events and other helpful career resources! www.facebook.com/ calvin.career.development

## We offer a variety of services for students and alumni:

- Career counseling
- Major selection
- Career testing
- Internships
- •lob fairs
- Practice interviews

• lob search assistance

- •Resume and cover letter critiques
- Web-based job posting system

#### **Career Development Staff**

Meredith Segur, Career Counselor and Interim Co-Director

Beth Cok, Internship Program Manager and Interim Co-Director

Laurie Lemmen, Internship Program Coordinator

Bonnie Speyers, Career Counselor Lydia Frens, Career Counselor

Karen Brewer,
Department Assistant

Kristy Dykhouse, Recruitment Coordinator

Questions or suggestions? Call or e-mail Meredith Segur, (616) 526-7675 or msegur@calvin.edu. Available online at www.calvin.edu/career