

**RESEARCH SUPPORT:** Hope has received a fourth consecutive award for student research from the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation of Irvine, Calif.

Hope is one of only 14 institutions nationwide to receive a "Beckman Scholar Award" for 2005. Hope also received awards in 1998, the year that the program began, and 2000 and 2002.

The foundation established the Beckman Scholars Program to enhance the training of the nation's most talented and gifted undergraduates in chemistry and the biological sciences by providing sustained, in-depth laboratory research experiences with faculty mentors. The recipient colleges and universities were chosen out of an initial pool of nearly 800 institutions across the country.

The \$70,400 award to Hope will support a total of four students across the next three years as they conduct research in biology, biochemistry/molecular biology or chemistry. The award will support the students as they conduct research with faculty members full-time during two summers and part-time during the intervening school year.

This year's proposal from Hope was written and submitted by Dr. Michael Silver, who is the Frederick Garrett and Helen Floor Dekker Professor of Biomedicine and Chemistry at Hope.

**OUTSTANDING CHEF:** Todd Van Wieren, executive chef of the Haworth Inn and Conference Center, has been named "Chef of the Year" by the Greater Grand Rapids chapter of the American Culinary Federation (ACF).

He was recognized during the "Grand Culinary Affair" held at Grand Rapids Community College on Tuesday, Jan. 25, which was sponsored by the chapter and *Grand Rapids Magazine* to recognize the restaurants presented with 2004 dining awards by the publication as well as the top chefs, educators, students and other culinary professionals honored by the chapter.

The "Chef of the Year" award recognizes an outstanding culinarian who works and cooks in a full-service dining facility, who has demonstrated the highest standard of culinary skills, and has given back to the profession through the development of students and apprentices.

Van Wieren, a Certified Executive Chef, is the original chef of the Haworth Inn and Conference Center. He is employed by Creative Dining Services, the management company that oversees Hope's hospitality program.

He manages a kitchen staff of 20 full- and part-time employees. The Haworth Center kitchen prepares meals for conferees at the center year-round, as well as for students who dine in the student dining room during school-year weekdays.

**FITTING TRIBUTE:** Lasting contributions to multiple communities prompted a gift to a project that will also serve in a variety of ways.

Freedom Village Holland Retirement Community donated \$50,000 to the Richard and Helen DeVos Fieldhouse in honor of Dr. William Vanderbilt Sr. '61. The building's display concerning cross country at Hope—one of several alcoves chronicling athletic history at the college—will be named in his honor.

Dr. Vanderbilt, who is executive director of the Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeland Area, was the founding executive director of Freedom Village, spearheading the effort to develop the com-

## Celebrating a standard

**There are many ways to measure scope and impact, and volume worked well as a starting point.**

During the college's annual "Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Creative Performance," the main ballroom of the Haworth Inn and Conference Center was filled to capacity.

The event, first held in 2001, is designed to spotlight the quality and importance of student-faculty collaborative research at Hope. Some 180 students made poster presentations presenting the result of research and original work on 120 projects. They represented all four of the college's academic divisions: the arts, humanities, social sciences, and natural and physical sciences.

Specific departments and programs with projects highlighted included accounting, art, biochemistry, biology, chemistry, communication, computer science, education, English, the geological and environmental sciences, kinesiology, mathematics, modern and classical languages, music, nursing, physics and engineering, psychology, sociology and social work, and women's studies. The projects also included cross-disciplinary research, such as between communication and sociology and social work, and biology and engineering.

Table upon table and row upon row, the students crowded into the huge room, their number exceeded only by the other members of the Hope community who came to learn about and congratulate them upon their work.

The quantity presented during the January 29 celebration represented only a portion of such activity at the college. It also tells only a part of the story. More significant is why Hope focuses on collaborative research and creative work in the first place: because it is an exceptional educational tool.

The lessons abound. There is, of course, the opportunity to learn more about the discipline—with the bonus of knowing something no one else yet



**Combine liberal arts breadth as an institution with research emphasis as a philosophy, and the result is that even one of the largest rooms on campus can only just manage to host an event celebrating the plentiful and diverse results. Nearly 200 student researchers and performers, and many more members of the Hope community, gathered at the Haworth Inn and Conference Center main ballroom in January to learn about and celebrate the students' work.**

knows. There is the opportunity to learn how research is conducted, and how it is used, and how it travels from collection to application. There is also the opportunity to discover research as a potential career focus.

"I think it's awesome," said senior Audra Jobin of Spring Lake, Mich., who is a sociology and social work major. Jobin didn't begin her Hope career planning to get involved in a research project, but she's glad she did.

"I didn't expect to be doing this, and it's a great experience," she said. "I've learned a lot in the process."

For Jill Pinter, a senior chemistry and physics major from Belleville, Mich., participating in research has been transformational—and is an experience that she highly recommends.

"I most definitely recommend a research experience to anyone thinking about doing scientific work," she said. "I see myself as a model for all inexperienced, uncertain students who come in with nothing but a genuine interest in

science. I'm proof that simply by making us aware of opportunities that exist, we can truly blossom beyond what anyone, including ourselves, could ever imagine."

Pinter originally planned to participate in research for only a semester, to gain laboratory credit toward the college's American Chemical Society-certified Bachelor of Science degree, but what she experienced quickly changed her mind. She discovered that she enjoyed the process and the accompanying sense of discovery.

Ultimately, after graduate school and working at a national laboratory, she hopes to find herself back at a liberal arts school, as an instructor. She said that she is thinking in terms of a program that is not yet as strong as Hope's, so that she can help build it up to the caliber that has benefited her. "The experience I have had as an undergraduate at Hope has stretched me in ways I never thought possible, and I want to make this experience available to everyone," Pinter said. ✍

munity, which opened in 1991. He was previously a member of the Hope kinesiology faculty for 21 years (1967-88), with teaching responsibilities in the area of the sociology and psychology of physical activity and sport, and chaired the department for 13 years.

He coached six different sports during his tenure at Hope, including cross country for 17 years.

*Editor's Note: Freedom Village—located just three blocks north of campus—figures prominently in the story on page 14. The feature examines Hope's appeal as a center of cultural activity for retirees, many alumni, who choose to make Holland their home.*

### Faculty Kudos

Jackie Bartley, adjunct assistant profes-

sor of English, is author of *Women Fresh from Water*, a chapbook of poems being published this spring by Finishing Line Press.

"Bartley reveals to us the seamlessness of the worlds we wander in," says Jack Ridl, who is both a poet and a Hope faculty colleague. "Like her women in water, we must learn to 'live with' those worlds not by dominating, but by cooperating with the elements that make us who we are, and by surrendering to skill and trust."

The poems in the new collection take place in or around water as it weaves a constant thread through the lives of girls and women. Nevertheless, it is a book for both genders as it explores the nature of living and growing old in a world that is simultaneously lovely, dangerous and perplexing. According to author and Hope professor Dr. Heather Sellers, "In old movies, grade

school, and locker rooms [Bartley] pulls out a kind of underwater music. Think swimming pool; dive into this volume again and again, refreshed each time. Truly wonderful poems."

President Dr. James E. Bultman '63 has been elected to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU).

He was elected to the board during NAICU's annual meeting in Washington, D.C., in February. He will serve a three-year term representing private colleges from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin.

President Bultman has been an active leader in higher education circles. Present memberships include the Michigan

(See "Campus Notes" on page seven.)