

## Diverse Paths of Leadership and Innovation Spring 2019 Schedule

### February 1

#### **Jeff Dickey-Chasins '81**

Jeff Dickey-Chasins graduated with a **degree in English** from Grinnell College in 1981. He spent a decade in magazine publishing, launching several magazines for programmers as well as a book division, CDs, a seminar series and trade shows. Dickey-Chasins then became the first marketing director for Dice.com, the world's largest IT job site, growing its revenues from \$7 million to \$65 million in 3 years. After spending some time in the-learning industry - where he launched and expanded an online compliance training system for large ecorporations - he became an independent consultant. Dickey-Chasins specializes in working with online job sites and related recruiting services, and has clients across the globe. He has also been active in the Grinnell community, leading the drive for a new public library, which opened in 2009. He has written and published fiction for many years, and is also an aspiring furniture maker.



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### February 8

#### **Beth Sauerhaft '85, Ph.D. Sustainability & Sustainable Agriculture Expert**

**Experience:** Beth Sauerhaft is a Sustainability Strategist with a PhD in arid land agroforestry who has worked in both the public and private sectors. Beth advises organizations on strategies to mitigate environmental and social risk in fashion, food and beverage, farmland investment, ocean sustainability, education and agriculture. Prior to this, Beth worked as the Senior Director of Corporate Sustainability at PepsiCo where she introduced



sustainability to the innovation, budget and strategic planning processes in Corporate R&D and developed pilots/programs targeting enhanced social or environmental sustainability of dairy and arable crop supply chains. Before joining PepsiCo in 2007, she worked for the US EPA as the Deputy to the Agricultural Counselor. In that position, she provided policy advice to the Agricultural Counselor, the Administrator and other EPA managers on a variety of agricultural issues cutting across functional responsibilities of the Agency and brought diverse stakeholder voices to the agricultural rulemaking process. Prior to working at EPA, Beth worked at the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service where she held national leadership responsibility for Atmospheric Resource Quality Management issues and before that was a District Conservationist in New York where she worked with farmers to implement Farm Bill programs and put conservation practices on the ground. Beth was on the Board of Directors of the Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation from 2011- 2015 and chaired her town's Sustainability Advisory Board from 2010-2013. Beth earned her Ph.D. from Texas A&M University; has a Masters of Environmental Management from Duke University in Natural Resource Ecology; and, a **BA degree in American Studies** from Grinnell College.

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## February 15

### **Dan Weeks '80**

**Editorial Director, Editor The Iowan magazine at Pioneer Communications, Inc.** Dan Weeks grew up in New England, earned a **BA in American Studies from Grinnell College** in 1980 and a MA in Nonfiction from the University of Iowa's

Graduate Writing Program in 1984. He's since worked as a staff and freelance magazine feature and profile writer, photographer, editor, and editorial manager, first for small regional magazines, then for the Better Homes and Gardens family of magazines but also for The Grinnell Magazine and, currently, The Iowan magazine. He's written or edited more than a dozen books, including the Discovery Channel bestseller *Deadliest Catch: Desperate Hours*, a collection of sea stories from Bering Sea crab fisherman, and *A Hand To Guide Me*, an anthology of essays on mentorship by American luminaries.



## Also February 15

### **Todd Holloway '02**

#### **Sr. Director of Global Data and Personalization Science at Nike**

Todd also teaches Applied Machine Learning in UC Berkeley's MS Data Science program, and Artificial Intelligence Management in UCLA's MBA program. Previously he was Director of Content Science and Algorithms at Netflix, and Head of Data Science at Trulia. He is a graduate of College class of 2002.



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## February 22

### **Kun-Hong Lu '95**

**Gold/Green introvert.** Kun-Hong Lu graduated from Grinnell College with a **B.A. in Sociology** in 1995. While in college, Kun connected with her deep desire to ease human suffering. She obtained Masters in Social Work degree from University of Michigan in 1998. She then worked in San Francisco for seven years, providing counseling and case management services in community mental health settings. Kun moved back to Grinnell in 2006 and worked as a therapist at the Poweshiek County Mental Health Center. She established her private practice, Kun-Hong Lu, PC, in 2008, and has been providing psychotherapy in this setting since. Kun finds her career in mental health deeply satisfying and fulfilling. She sees counseling as a powerful way to facilitate healing and connection with our inner most strengths, clarity, wisdom and joy. She enjoys the independence and flexibility in her private practice, and appreciates being a student of life through service. Kun is passionate about family life with her husband Jeff and their daughters Sofia, age 11 and Lily, who will turn 4 in June. She enjoys practicing Tai Chi and Aikido, photography, gardening, and teaching Qi Gong.



## Also February 22

### **Bruce Weindruch '78**

**“Creating a Business Model from Scratch - Living the Liberal Arts’ Life”** Bruce received his **B.A. in American Civilization (major) and Education (minor)** from Grinnell in 1978. He received his teaching

certificate in the State of Iowa. He attended the George Washington University/Smithsonian Affiliation Ph.D. program, where he concentrated on decorative arts, urban and regional planning, and business history. He is the founder and CEO of The History Factory, a Washington, DC based heritage management consultancy that helps leading global enterprises discover, preserve and leverage their history to meet business challenges. Before founding The History Factory in 1979, Bruce was a staff member at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery, a Smithsonian Associates faculty member, and a director of the Museum Education Roundtable.



As The History Factory’s chief strategist and creative force, Bruce’s unique background, blending history and business, has given him the insights to help major corporations, nonprofit organizations and associations use historical resources to benefit their bottom line. Forbes Magazine described Bruce as the man who’s “Making History Pay.” He has amassed millions of frequent flyer miles advising some of the most admired global companies and brands including Abbott, Adobe, Boeing, Goldman Sachs, Kimberly-Clark, Morgan Stanley, Microsoft, Pfizer, Shell Oil, Subaru and Whirlpool. Bruce appears regularly on Bloomberg Radio, Fox Business News, CNN and MSNBC. He is also a contributor to Forbes.com, The Street.com, and the Harvard Business Review. Bruce is the author of “Start With the Future and Work Back: A Heritage Management Manifesto” (published April 2016) in which he explores The History Factory’s role in creating and shaping the global heritage management industry.

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## March 1

### **Erik Kocher '84**

Erik always knew he wanted to be an architect. At 16, he began his career as an errand boy for a Cedar Rapids IA architectural firm (that firm later designed the Harris Center—sorry). In 1984, he graduated from Grinnell with a **degree in mathematics** followed by a Master in Architecture degree from Washington University in St.



Louis in 1987. While in graduate school, he worked summers as a paid intern at St. Louis architectural firms. Following graduation, he was offered a job by the firm he had worked for the previous summer, Hastings+Chivetta Architects. (It was his only job offer—it was the recession of 1987.) He has worked there ever since. In 1995, he became a partner, and today he and his partner run a 45-person architectural firm that specializes in educational architecture. H+C Architects has worked for over 225 college and university clients in 40 states across the country. In addition, the firm has worked for over 70 public and independent private K-12 schools.

Erik leads nonacademic student-life projects including housing, campus centers, dining facilities, recreation and athletic centers, and campus master plans. His partner specializes in academic buildings including science, engineering, classroom, performing arts, and admissions facilities. Erik has no formal training in marketing, business, accounting, communications, human resources or leadership—he learned along the way. He is a registered architect in 30 states and is LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified as an Accredited Professional in Building Design & Construction.

As an expert in planning and designing collegiate facilities, Erik has had the opportunity to speak nationally at over 100 conferences and conventions and is a regular contributor to various educational architecture publications. He has held several civic volunteer positions and is a volunteer class fund director for both Grinnell College and Washington University. As the result of his work, Erik has visited 498 higher educational institutions and 98 independent k-12 schools (yes, he does keep track). He has been known to visit schools even while on vacation. His work requires that he travels extensively, and over the course of his career, he has been away from his home and family for a cumulative 4 years (yes, he keeps track of that statistic too).

In 1986, he married Linda Sherry Kocher (Grinnell '84), and they have three grown children. Their youngest, Audrey Kocher, is currently a senior at Grinnell majoring in biology with a concentration in environmental studies.

## Also March 1

### **Lara Szent-Gyorgyi '89**

Lara Szent-Gyorgyi has worked in quality in healthcare for over 15 years. Upon graduating from Grinnell in 1989 she embarked on a very short career as a teacher. One year later she was living in Boston, MA during a recession, unemployed, with no clearly defined career goals. She started working in the telephone outreach project (TOP) at MASSPIRG, and ended her tenure there as a TOP Assistant Director. From there she worked in several non-profit settings including a social science survey research group and a program to provide mental health support to court involved youth.



After graduating from Florida State University with a Masters in Public Administration, in 2007 she returned to Boston and started her career in quality management in health care. She began working at the Home for Little Wanderers, a child welfare organization and has worked in many settings including Medicaid managed care organizations and a hospital setting on both the behavioral health and medical side of health care.

Lara has developed expertise within health care data utilization, specifically as a liaison between clinical and information systems professionals to ensure meaningful, accurate data are available to facilitate improvement. Her current focus is on innovative approaches to improving quality in a hospital environment, and how to successfully engage physicians in quality in a climate of great change within the healthcare field.

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## March 15

### **Rachel R. Bly '93**

Rachel resides in Grinnell where she serves on the Grinnell City Council and heads the Conference Operations and Events Office at Grinnell College. She holds a **B.A. in Political Science** from Grinnell College (1993) and an MPA from Drake University. Rachel's early career took her to Washington, D.C. where as part of a national organization supporting child care providers, she worked with advocates in all 50 states on child care policy issues. After returning to Iowa she entered the field of higher education and has served in a number of roles including alumni and community relations and conference operations. As Director of Conference Operations and Events, Rachel works with the Public Events Concert Series, Commencement, Scholars' Convocation, Summer Programs, Met Opera and all campus scheduling. She serves on a number of committees across campus.



A graduate of the Poweshiek Leadership Program and the Grinnell Citizens Police Academy, Rachel has held leadership positions on many community boards and organizations including the Greater Poweshiek Community Foundation, The Poweshiek Country Democratic Party, Grinnell Community Day Care and Preschool Board, the Grinnell Regional Medical Center Community Care Clinic, and League of Women Voters. She has served on the Grinnell City Council since 2010 and chairs the Planning Committee and also sits on the Public Works and Grounds Committee. She ran for the Iowa House of Representatives in 2012 and narrowly lost. She is also involved in TTT, PEO, the Grinnell Area Arts Council and many activities with her family.

For fun Rachel participates in sprint triathlons, knits, cooks, and loves to travel and explore new places. She is the proud mom of a fabulous teenager.

## Also March 15

### **Robert Gehorsm '76**

Robert Gehorsam serves as Advisor of Shenandoah Studio, LLC and as the President and Director of Forterra Systems, Inc. He oversaw the creation of a highly scalable game platform that caters to millions of customers of online games including Wheel of Fortune and Everquest.



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## April 5

### **James Decker '75**

Mr. Decker graduated from Grinnell in 1975, majoring in **Psychology and Philosophy**. He subsequently studied Cognitive Psychology and Philosophy of Science at Indiana University in Bloomington. Later he did graduate work in Computer Science at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. He also completed business and economics courses at the University of Minnesota.



The greatest part of Jim's career was spent with the Procter and Gamble Company (P&G) in Cincinnati, Ohio. Starting in 1997 until approximately 2004, he led P&G's Statistical Computing Group in P&G Pharmaceuticals. From 2004 until retirement in 2012, he was a data scientist within P&G's Quantitative Sciences department.

Prior to joining P&G, Jim was a senior consultant and scientific software developer. He worked as a consultant to Kroger Company's Human Resources organization, with steel manufacturing (Bethlehem Steel, operations research), and with a pharmaceutical company client (Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals). He also worked with the U.S. EPA in the 1980s and early 1990s. There, working within the US EPA's Artificial Intelligence/Expert Systems group, he led a team that created an award-winning software system used for assessing regulatory requirements.

After retiring from P&G in 2012, Jim has continued to work as a data scientist. His most recent full-time role was as a data scientist at Cotiviti, LLC (Atlanta). There he created models to detect potential errors in medical insurance claims. He also worked with Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center's Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, with Luxottica North America (retail) and with a major Cincinnati-area media Company. He is currently beginning consulting role with an oncology analytics firm.

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[April 12](#)

**Danielle Carne '96**

Danielle Carne is a full-time dispute resolution professional with a practice based in Madison, Wisconsin. She is a licensed member of the State Bar of Wisconsin.



Danielle mediates and arbitrates matters related to labor and employment disputes (including charges of discrimination, claims brought under ERISA plans, individual employment contract matters, family and medical leave cases, wage and hour claims, and collective bargaining contract formation and interpretation disputes, among others), family law cases (both property division and child custody / placement issues), special education disputes (including those related to qualifying for special education services, the development and implementation of Individual Education Plans, and student placement issues, among others), and customer- and employment-based disputes in the securities industry. Danielle has worked with numerous industries in the private sector and at all levels of government.

Danielle is an adjunct professor at the University of Wisconsin Law School, where she teaches courses in mediation and arbitration and courses in labor and employment law. She also teaches alternative dispute resolution courses at the Cardinal Stritch University Institute for Conflict Studies, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Danielle is a member of the American Arbitration Association mediation, employment arbitration and labor arbitration panels; the Federal Mediation Conciliation Service roster of arbitrators; the National Mediation Board arbitration panel, the arbitration and mediation rosters maintained by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority; the Wisconsin Special Education Mediation Service roster of mediators, and the Resolute Systems panel of employment mediators and arbitrators. She is also on numerous state and local mediation and arbitration panels.

Danielle received her undergraduate degree from Grinnell College, in Grinnell, Iowa (1996), and she earned her law degree, with honors, from the University of Iowa College of Law. She is a former Chair of the Wisconsin State Bar Labor and Employment Law Section and a former member of the Board of Directors for the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section. She is a Practice Leader in the area of labor arbitration for the Labor and Employment Relations Association. She also serves on the Advisory Board of the Cardinal Stritch University Institute for Conflict Studies.

Danielle previously has practiced law with the firm of Hawks Quindel, SC, in Madison, Wisconsin; she was employed as an administrative law judge, arbitrator, and mediator with the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission; and she

served in appointments as the Chief Legal Counsel and, subsequently, as the Deputy Director of the Wisconsin Office of State Employment Relations

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## April 19

### **Paul Volker '81**

A native of Ames, Iowa, Paul graduated from Grinnell in 1981 with a **degree in Biochemistry**, though he made the most of his Grinnell experience by taking classes in the humanities, singing in the Grinnell Singers, serving as SGA president and student advisor, and serving on the student committee that nominated George Drake as college president.



After graduation from Grinnell he attended the University of Iowa College of Medicine, receiving his MD in 1985, and completed a residency in Family Medicine in suburban Milwaukee, serving as chief resident in 1987-1988.

Paul joined a private small group practice in Boone, Iowa (population 12,500) in 1988, eventually merging with UnityPoint Clinics. In Boone he practiced full-spectrum family medicine, delivering several hundred babies, assisting at major surgery, performing cardiac stress tests and colonoscopies, and attending hospitalized inpatients. In his tenure at Boone County Hospital he was chief of the medical staff twice and chair of numerous medical committees.

In his private life Paul was a founding member of Habitat for Humanity of Boone County and served as its president. He is an elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and serves as a faculty member of Presbyterian CREDO, a mid-career self-evaluation retreat for Presbyterian Clergy. He served as a member of the board of the Presbyterian Board of Pensions, the organization that provides pension and healthcare benefits for 14,000 Presbyterian clergy.

Realizing that geriatric care was a growth industry in Iowa, he became board certified in geriatrics in 1992. He cared for scores of patients in nursing homes and served as medical director for six nursing homes in his career.

For many reasons which will be made clear in this seminar, Paul left his practice in Boone in 2015 and joined the faculty at the

Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine. At DMU, Paul directs the geriatrics clinic and also sees patients in the family medicine clinic. He directs the required geriatrics course for medical, podiatric, and physician assistant schools and also directs an interprofessional elective course in rural medicine. He also directs the third- and fourth-year clinical clerkships in family medicine and rural medicine. His teaching responsibilities are primarily in small-group instruction in the simulation and standardized patient assessment labs and in clinical case-based learning programs. He also lectures in the clinical medicine, hematology, and cardiology courses.

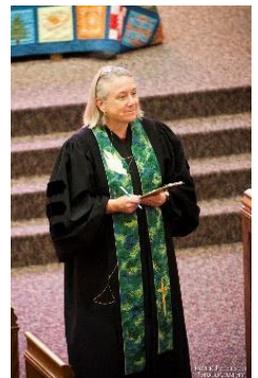
Dr. Volker is a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians and is also board-certified in geriatrics. He has received numerous citations and was given the Iowa Academy of Family Physicians' Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015 and the DMU Dean's award for outstanding mentor and advisor in 2017. Paul is married to Barbara J. Gaddis. He is the father of two adult daughters and the grandparent of a 3-year-old. He enjoys flying his airplane, travel, music, cycling, cooking, and eating.

## Also April 19

### **Barb Gaddis Ph.D., M.Div**

As a retired Presbyterian pastor, Marriage and Family Therapist and College Student Personnel administrator as well as the mother of two adult children and the wife of Paul Volker, I look back on my life and consider myself to be a most fortunate woman.

I attended a small private college in Wisconsin where I learned to love the academic study of the Bible. I went to Seminary in New York City (during the time NYC declared bankruptcy and was dark, dirty and dangerous) where I learned to be a feminist and live on very little money. I worked at Grinnell College, Cornell College and Carleton College where I learned that college students were fascinating, but as I got older and they stayed the same age, they became less interesting. I served a church in Milwaukee where I learned to preach and that I needed more counseling skills. I earned my PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy where I learned to listen carefully and methodically. I co-owned a family therapy clinic that grew very quickly where I learned that sometimes things get too big for



their own good, and I sold out to my partner. I stayed at home with my children for a little while, when I learned that I was not cut out to be a stay-at-home-mom. In the final chapter of my work life I worked at a Presbyterian Church where I learned to love preaching, visiting folks in their homes and enjoy the joys and sorrows of baptizing infants and burying the dead. I like to think that everything I had done in my life lead me to that church where all I had learned everywhere else made me a darn good pastor!

Now I awake every day, shower, eat breakfast and drive to a pink warehouse where women (and some men) like me, retired professionals mostly, mark and sort books for a booksale that raises over \$500,000 a year for Planned Parenthood educational programs. I take classes for Seniors at the local University, read voraciously, serve the larger Presbyterian Church as the Moderator of a National Committee, and I have the absolute privilege of being able to travel to visit my daughters and my grandson.

Once my husband retires, I hope we will travel the world.  
My life is good.

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## April 26

### **Lori Myren-Manbeck '86, PhD**

Lori is a licensed clinical psychologist, having earned her Ph.D. from the University of Rhode Island in 2002. Her dissertation involved talking with parents about communication in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Rhode Island Hospital. After earning her Ph.D., Lori worked with children and adults who had experienced trauma, many of whom were living in conditions of poverty. She moved to Minnesota ten years ago and changed her focus to geriatrics. Lori has enjoyed making a difference in the lives of her clients and has consistently found her work rewarding and engaging. However, noting an increase in prejudice, divisiveness, and exclusion in recent years, Lori decided it was time for her to use her passion and intelligence to fulfill a broader mission. To achieve this goal, she moved into the corporate sector, opening a company that creates beautiful wearable art and donates profits to organizations involved in making the world a better place. Lori understands that to ensure the safety of the earth and her people, we have to work together. That is why Inclusivi-tee is partnering with



small non-profits and socially conscious businesses and donating to both large and small organizations. Working with non-profits and helping them fulfill their missions is one way Lori hopes her company can make a significant difference in the world. Because art is a powerful medium of change, artists are hired to design Inclusivi-tee's t-shirts. Because the earth is precious, t-shirts are made of 100% recycled plastic and refurbished cotton or other earth-friendly material. As the CEO of Inclusivi-tee, Lori has had the honor of being involved in nine fundraising and/or community outreach efforts in the past year. These efforts have included: co-chairing the committee for the Super Ball, a gala that was planned at the end of December in a matter of weeks due to the cancellation of another event, had 140 attendees, and raised \$10,000 for five local non-profits; co-chairing the Kindness Bowl, also planned within a short time frame, which focused on sharing acts of kindness and raised over \$2,900, which was distributed to three local organizations; planning and running several music-focused fundraisers; and participating in Earth Day and other social and environmental outreach gatherings

Social justice is Lori's passion and she feels fortunate to have found a way to combine this passion with her career, first through being a psychologist and more recently by creating a company focused on taking care of the earth and her people. Lori has two adult daughters, both of whom are pursuing careers in psychology and both of whom are involved in social justice work. Her husband is an artist, who has helped with her launch of Inclusivi-tee. Her parents are both pastors. Lori attributes her compassion and desire to help others to being raised by people who live active and intentional lives of compassion. When she is not working, Lori enjoys dancing with her husband, reading, cooking, and spending time with family and friends. Since starting Inclusivi-tee, Lori has discovered that she appreciates the challenge of creating a company, as well as the excitement of finding community partners with whom she can share her vision. She is looking forward to directing Inclusivi-tee's growth as the company finds its place as a leader in the social enterprise movement.

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## May 3

### **Claire Holland '74**

When I was a student at Grinnell, I thought I knew what I wanted to do with my life. But my course choices took me far afield: the music majors thought I was a music major, the theatre majors thought I was a theatre major, and I was really a bio major. In a book, one would analyze this as foreshadowing of a varied career path.

My most mainstream career is where I started - Family Physician. From a standard group practice, then a residential drug treatment center, Mayport Naval Station, Planned Parenthood, to founding the Ball State University Women's Health Center, the practice profiles have been extremely diverse.

My most delightful career is as a choral conductor. I earned a B.A.A. in music at Central Michigan University, an M.A in conducting at Western Michigan University, and all but dissertation D.M.A. in choral conducting at Ball State University. I conducted choral ensembles for about 25 years. In addition to being music director at several churches, I've founded not-for-profit choral ensembles in each of the 4 cities of my music career. I specialize in music from the Medieval and Renaissance periods; most of the scores we use are works I've edited for my groups. I've also served on the Board of Directors of Riverside Fine Arts, a non-profit organization.

My most blended career is teaching at the university level. I've taught medical students from Michigan State University; music classes at Indiana Wesleyan University, Ball State University, and University of North Florida. Currently I teach acupuncture students at Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine.

My most nurturing career is as a Massage, Manual Lymphatic Drainage, and Light Touch Therapist. My newest career, also very nurturing in a different way, is teaching Qigong.

I treasure the Grinnell Experience. It has fostered an interest in pursuing a wide variety of careers, given me the tools to open those paths, and supported the belief that I can succeed.