



DORDT COLLEGE

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Ag Safety Conference

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Campus Kudos

Dordt's new **Pro-Tech program** has received approval from the Higher Learning Commission, the final step before the program debuts next fall. The two-track program will offer a two-year associate of science degree in Manufacturing Technology or Farm Operations and Management.

The program is the nation's first professional-technical education program offered in the context of an on-campus Christian college experience. Students will live on campus, take basic core courses, and participate in paid internships.

The **Dordt College Art Collection** was recently featured in **SEEN Journal**, published by CIVA (Christians in the Visual Arts). A full-page photo of Professor David Versluis's sculpture *Enlaced: A Burning Bush, Psalm 19* is highlighted in one feature. The article, "Bringing Out Treasures Old and New," also briefly highlights the Dordt College Art Collection and the fact that nearly all of the art in its permanent collection is on display for students, campus community, and visitors to see daily.

Once again Dordt College **theatre arts students and faculty were honored at the annual regional Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF)**. Certificates of Merit were given for work on three productions:

- *Lazzi Moliere*: Jennifer Allen, Scenic Design; Josiah Wallace, Mask Design and Implementation
- *Much Ado About Nothing*: Jennifer Allen, Scenic Design; Kyle Fossé, Sound Design; Erica Liddle, Lighting Design and Assistant Director
- *And Then There Were None*: Logan Radde, Director



KYLE FOSSE(TU)

Fossé also won the national sound design award, and Liddle won the national lighting design award. Both students will represent the Midwest region at the KCACTF in April. Senior Stephanie Korthuis won an honorable mention in the Regional Makeup Design category, and Costumer Sue Blom's costumes for *Much Ado About Nothing* were selected for the Costume Parade at the closing ceremonies for the festival. Josh Bootsma and Peter Rexford advanced to the semifinal round of the Irene Ryan acting competition.

A **\$10,000 grant** from the Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy, Inc., **will help fund a \$25,000 Shimadzu GC2014 gas chromatograph**. The chromatograph will allow introductory and intermediate chemistry students to be more actively engaged in chemical processes and give them tools and techniques they can use as future scientists.



JAMIN VERVELDE (99)

Last summer's Agricultural Stewardship Center interns Imanuel Feodor ('18) and Alayna Gerhardt ('19) adjust a haymaker.

AG SAFETY CONFERENCE

The Dordt College Agriculture Department had an opportunity to show off its students and program at the annual Midwest Rural Safety Agricultural Conference held in Sioux Center last fall. Drawing scholars, industry personnel, health care professionals, and safety equipment vendors from across the Midwest, the ag safety conference drew on the expertise of Dordt faculty members and students—and left a good impression on people who were not familiar with the college or the program.

"These conferences are usually held near Iowa City, so this was an opportunity for us to demonstrate what we offer," says Dordt Agriculture Professor Dr. Duane Bajema. Dordt students and faculty were heavily involved, giving presentations and talks that were well received.



D. Bajema

"Several people told me our students' presentations were comparable to those of graduate students," says Bajema. One University of Iowa professor told Bajema she hoped some of Dordt's agriculture majors would consider graduate school at her institution.

Dordt agriculture students earned the response.

"Our students had something very worthwhile to contribute," says Bajema. Members of Bajema's class last fall gave nine of the 20 poster presentations offered during the two-day conference. The presentations covered grain-bin safety, dust explosions, power take-offs, manure gases, and tractor roll overs—the number one killer of farmers.

Agriculture is one of the top three most dangerous professions, and Dordt is one of few institutions that offers coursework in farm safety.

"We've recognized for some time that this is an important part of agriculture education and require it of all of our majors," says Bajema. Keynote speaker Wayne Bauer, the retired director of safety and security at Star of the West Milling Company, told Bajema that he wished other institutions would do the same.

SALLY JONGSMA