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## New Business Faculty Bring Professional Expertise

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## Faculty Notes

**Dr. Channon Visscher,**

chemistry and planetary science professor, was accepted to a project at Oxford University called "Bridging the Two Cultures." The summer 2018 program, hosted by Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford, will foster interdisciplinary scholarship and dialogue between the sciences and humanities while exploring the relationship between science and faith.



Agriculture Professor **Duane Bajema** received a grant from the Gilchrist Foundation for the promotion of beekeeping in Northwest Iowa.

**Donald Roth,**

professor of criminal justice and business administration, presented "Narrative Metaphor: Integrating Modern Insights into Cognition in Order to Develop a Vocabulary and Toolset for Intentionally Shaping our Educational and Vocational Pursuits" at the Kuyers Institute conference at Calvin College in October.



**Abby Foreman,**

professor of social work, presented a paper titled "Unity in Diversity? Christian Faith-Based Organizations in Civil Society" at the North American Association of Christian Social Workers in Charlotte, North Carolina, in November.



Theology Professor **Dr. Benjamin Lappenga** presented a paper titled "Participation and the Faithfulness of the Risen Christ in 2 Corinthians 4:11-14 and Galatians 2:19-20" at the Society of Biblical Literature in Boston in November. He also presented "'Formerly a Blasphemer and a Man of Violence': I Timothy and the Othering of the Jews" at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion in Boston.

# NEW BUSINESS FACULTY BRING PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE

Dordt business majors are reaping the benefits of more than 30 years of workplace experience from its two most recently hired faculty members.

Randy Feenstra ('91), who is currently serving his ninth year as an Iowa state senator, joined the business department this fall after serving as the Iowa State Bank insurance manager for eight years. Feenstra earned his master's degree in public administration from Iowa State University. He teaches five courses in the fall, one in the spring, and two during the summer; this allows him to remain a state senator.



**R. Feenstra**

"I have seen in both business and government the need for Christian men and women to be lights in these arenas," Feenstra says. "We need passionate leaders there."

Feenstra is working on his doctoral degree in business administration with an emphasis in health care. Because health care has such a prominent place in our national conversation, he hopes to develop more Dordt classes related to health care policies, specifically looking at what a Christian approach might look like.

Students have already benefited from his connections to the business world. He brought in leaders from John Deere to interact with students, and he gave students an opportunity to meet with business leaders in Des Moines on the department's business trip last fall.

Sandra (Steenhoek, '88) Vanden Bosch has been working in the world of finance for nearly 30 years, many of them at Kinseth Hospitality Companies. At Kinseth, Vanden Bosch was the senior finance and accounting officer and oversaw the accounting, IT, and human resources departments.

Vanden Bosch began teaching as an adjunct in the business department in August of 2016. She taught World Behavior and Corporate Finance on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays; on Mondays and Fridays, she returned to Cedar Rapids to work at Kinseth.

"One of my main roles at Kinseth was to mentor and develop and grow people," says Vanden Bosch. "I hope to use my professional experience to do that at Dordt."

Vanden Bosch found that the more ways she could be useful to her company, the more opportunities arose. She wants her students to learn how to be valuable employees and handle situations with a Christ-like mentality.

"I want to show them what kind of witness they can provide regardless of who they work for," she says.

"Professor Vanden Bosch brings a high level of professionalism and pushes us to think strategically," says Dr. Brian Hoekstra, chair of the department. "Professor Feenstra is hard working and pays great attention to detail; his wealth of experience and knowledge have already become extremely valuable."

Hoekstra and his colleagues are grateful for the depth of experience the new faculty add to their team.



OLIVIA HELMUS ('21)

**Sandy Vanden Bosch teaches a variety of courses, including Strategic HR Management and Accounting Information Systems.**

DANNY MOOERS ('18)