



DORDT COLLEGE

Dordt Voice, 2016-

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Volume 65  
Issue 1 Fall 2019

Article 2

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## Different, But the Same

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### Recommended Citation

Moss, Sarah (2019) "Different, But the Same," *Dordt Voice, 2016-*: Vol. 65 : Iss. 1 , Article 2.

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### Our Mission

As an institution of higher education committed to a Reformed Christian perspective, Dordt University equips students, alumni, and the broader community to work effectively toward Christ-centered renewal in all aspects of contemporary life.

### On the Cover

On move-in day in late August, the football team welcomed incoming freshmen, transfer, returning, and Pro-Tech students by helping them move into the dorms and apartments. Photo by Bethany Van Voorst.



## DIFFERENT, BUT THE SAME

This year, my best friends from college came back to Dordt for Defender Days. With their babies in tow, we walked around and talked about how much campus had changed since we'd graduated almost 10 years ago.



Back when we were students, girls lived in East Hall. There was a road through the center of campus, from West Hall to Covenant Hall. Pine trees lined the path from Southview Apartments to the B.J. Haan Auditorium. Now, with the Science and Technology Center, the skywalk, the new nursing and theatre arts additions, campus looks much different than when we were students.

In some ways, Dordt feels like a more impressive place than when we attended. For example, Dordt has been named number one in student engagement in the nation for four years in a row by the *Wall Street Journal* and *Times Higher Education*. Dordt is now known as "Dordt University," and campus has been transformed.

Still, some things haven't changed. One afternoon during Defender Days, my friends and I ate lunch at the Grille, like we had when we were students. We recalled the professors who challenged us in a good way. We reminisced about the friends we made and the ways our faith had grown while we were Dordt students. And we talked about the everyday things—the books we were reading, the trips we hoped to take someday, the work we were doing. My Dordt friends and I picked right up where we left off, as if it hadn't been years since we'd last seen each other.

That's what we loved most about attending Dordt—the ways we were challenged and changed, whether through lifelong friendships, by our coursework, or in our faith life. Nearly 10 years may have passed since we were students, but we're still grateful for how our experience at Dordt shaped our lives.

SARAH MOSS ('10), EDITOR

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