

## All-campus Bible study: Psalms!

This fall, the office of campus ministries will once again be facilitating an all-campus Bible study! The study will look at the book of Psalms as a whole as well as taking a deeper look at Psalm 9.

This will be a *no homework* Bible study, will meet for 10 weeks and will be done before Thanksgiving. There will be training sessions for all leaders along with great resources (art, music, commentaries) available online. The booklet that will guide our study was written by Eugene Peterson and is already available in the campus store!

Think now about:

- Do you want to lead a study?
- Do you want to co-lead?
- What hour each week would work for you to lead a study?
- What hour each week would be your preference to participate in a study?

Your chance to sign up (either to lead or join) will be coming very soon!

Until then, check out the [website](#) to find out which Psalms will be studied.

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## From the desk of our director

Summer, like all good things, must come to an end. It's a little early to say goodbye to warm temperatures and sunshine, but the college is gearing up to say hello to a new semester and a new batch of students! I hope you have all enjoyed a refreshing summer and are looking forward to this new chapter in our year.

With the end of the summer comes the return to academic working hours. On August 29, all Calvin office working hours will change back to 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with an hour lunch break. This schedule change is in preparation for the academic year and will be in place until Christmas break. As a reminder, classes start after Labor Day, on September 6. This is also the day of the opening Convocation. We encourage you and your office to attend this event to welcome a new year with celebration and prayer!

One of the busiest offices on campus these days is residence life! Check out page two for a chat with Jay Wise, assistant dean of residence life, as well as a Q&A with some of the dorms' resident directors (RDs). These individuals play a vital role in the instruction and integration of residential students and we are pleased to turn the spotlight on their important work!

I am excited to once again get the chance to promote the campus-wide Bible study. This study is structured in the same way as last year, but the focus is on the book of Psalms. Check out the sidebar on this page for more information. As a reminder, the college offers two 30 minute

periods (up to an hour per week for full-time staff) for participation in wellness activities such as *Healthy Habits* and this campus Bible study. The time must be approved by your supervisor and is designed to be used at the beginning or end of the day or in conjunction with your unpaid lunch break. As many Bible study groups will meet during the work day, I encourage you to take advantage of this time to participate.

As you may have noticed in Calvin News, the college is again offering the opportunity for staff members to "buy" unpaid vacation. Full-time Calvin employees have the opportunity, with supervisor approval, to take 1-2 unpaid weeks of vacation each year. For more information about requesting unpaid time, check out the [form](#) on our website. All unpaid vacation time requests must be returned to human resources by August 15.

With a new semester will come new opportunities for training and development. Our office is preparing for new staff orientation (NSO) sessions, EAP seminars, DiSC and Strengths workshops and more. We're excited about the new schedule of programming. Stay tuned to Calvin News and *The Resource* for more information.

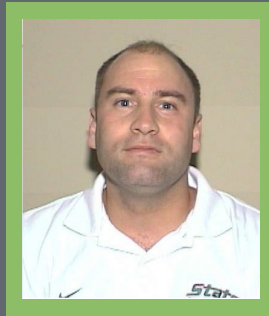
Welcome to another academic year at Calvin! I hope you all enjoy the remainder of August.

Todd Hubers  
director of human resources

## It's My Job:

A chat with  
Jay Wise

As campus starts humming with activity this time of year, Jay Wise, assistant dean of residence life, is one of the busiest people on campus.



R: How long have you been at Calvin?

J: I came as a student in 1994, graduated, spent four years teaching middle school science and came back to Calvin in 2004 as an RD. This is my fourth year in my current position.

R: What do you do?

J: I'm in charge of all on-campus housing operations. This includes all of the dorms as well as the Knollcrest East apartments. It's my job to help students experience campus life, ensure that all of our facilities are functioning well and coordinate the work of all other departments that work in or use on-campus housing.

R: What is your favorite part of your job?

J: I love the contact with students and the variety. My job is never boring and I'm dealing with something new every day.

R: What is one thing people might not know about you?

J: I am currently working on my PhD and expect to be awarded my doctorate next summer! My dissertation examines living and learning communities, particularly at liberal arts institutions.

## Resident directors foster growth, community

As the school year draws nearer, hundreds of students are preparing to return to the dorms. Let's meet the people in charge.



Clockwise: Tera Dent, Brandon Jacob, Amanda Worst, Laura Rodeheaver, Becki Levad, Jared Votaw, Andrea Prins

With a new semester mere weeks away, one campus group is in the midst of intense training in preparation for the students who will descend on campus. Meet Calvin's resident directors, staff members responsible for each dormitory and the students who live in them. Resident directors act as advisors to student resident advisors (RAs), enact residence life's mission within their hall and foster community.

In order to get to know the people in these unique positions a little better, we asked a few of the RDs questions about why they do it.

### What appealed to you about being an RD?

**Becki** (Schultze-Eldersveld): I became an RD because I wanted to get to know students. I love helping them process their experiences: the class that caused them cognitive dissonance, their changing relationship with their parents, figuring out how to get along with a roommate that is different from themselves and working through issues of faith and identity.

**Amanda** (Beets-Veenstra): The opportunity to live life with students and see them grow. Residence halls give students a space to wrestle with big questions, build lasting relationships and learn about community.

### What is your role as an RD?

**Tera** (Bolt-Heyns-Timmer): As I put in my Facebook info: educator, supervisor, problem-solver, conflict

mediator, crisis manager, leadership developer, judicial officer, event planner, counselor, community organizer, first aid responder, listener, team-builder, activities council advisor. My life is RD.

**Laura** (Kalsbeek-Huizenga-van Reken): My role as an RD at Calvin is to engage and encourage learning and growth in all areas of students' lives. I want to do the best I can to provide a safe, invigorating environment in which students wrestle with big questions, enjoy and take responsibility for their relationships with their neighbors and where students' love and faith in God can be cultivated to a deeper level.

### Let's assume you like working with students. Why?

**Jared** (Boer-Bennink): College students are at such a vital point in their lives—moving out/away from home, making decisions for themselves, discovering their faith on a deeper level and figuring out who they are. I love to walk alongside students as they begin their journey into adulthood.

**Amanda**: I love the energy, interest and diversity of the students. I love hearing their stories and having fun with them. Being a college student is a unique time where great growth can happen. It is ... a blessing to see where it takes them.

### What has been your favorite part of the RD training program so far?

**Becki**: I enjoy learning and practicing counseling skills.

**Laura**: I have enjoyed getting to know people in my department and other departments here at Calvin. Specifically, I have enjoyed morning devotions with various members of Calvin's community focused around Smith's [Letters to a Young Calvinist](#).

**Jared**: The whole thing. The residence life team is full of great people who are passionate about their positions and really fun too!

### What do you hope to accomplish in the upcoming year?

**Becki**: I hope to learn the names of everyone in SE ... and build a strong sense of community among the leaders and residents. I also hope to take students on a few backpacking trips!

**Amanda**: I hope to build relationships and community that allow space for learning, fun and personal development. I hope to see students grow in their love for others and for God.

**Jared**: I hope to really grow as a new student affairs professional developing the gifts God has given me to better serve in His kingdom. I also hope to win Chaos Day!

**Tera**: I hope to pour into my student leaders—the Bolt-Heyns CLC [Community Life Council] and the Timmer apartment studios leadership team—teaching them about the 7 Cs of leadership that are a part of the social change leadership model.



## Getting to know NEW STAFF

We want to take this opportunity to welcome the staff members (and this month, there are a flock of them!) who have started or transitioned at Calvin this month. Let's all strive to make them feel welcome!

**Scott Ashley**, designer/  
technical director for CAS

**David Danks**, customer  
support specialist for IT

**Laurie Haan**, department  
assistant for Heritage Hall

**Brandon Jacob**, resident  
director, NVW

**Rachel Klompmaker**,  
project neighborhood mentor

**Evelyn Kloostra**, clinical  
department assistant for CAS  
(transition)

**Denise Makuch**, clinic  
instructor, speech pathology  
and audiology

**Maggie Mastin**, costume shop  
manager

**Jane Prins**, executive assistant  
for student life (transition)

**Laura Rodeheaver**, resident  
director, KHR

**Audrey Van Essendelft**,  
project neighborhood mentor

**Greg Veltman**, research and  
program coordinator for SAO

**Jared Votaw**, resident  
director, BB

**Amanda Worst**, resident  
director, BV

## Doing it all—your Calvin passphrase

As of June 1, 2011, all Calvin students, faculty and staff have a single passphrase to access all Calvin technology accounts and services. This included resources such as Novell, the Portal and Moodle.

The benefit of this change, according to Lies Rosema, HelpDesk analyst, is that Calvin students and employees no longer have to remember multiple passphrases or passwords

for various Calvin resources! If you have not already changed your passphrase, the change will take effect the next time you reset it. This can be done any time via the online web [form](#).

Your Calvin passphrase should now be used to access all technology services, including, but not limited to:

- Calvin Portal
- Calvin wireless access
- Datatel/Colleague

- Google apps
- GroupWise
- Moodle
- Netstorage
- Novell login and servers
- Novell iPrint
- resources.calvin.edu
- WebAccess
- VPN

Questions about this change can be directed to the HelpDesk via [email](#) or by calling ext. 6-8555. More information can be found [online](#).

## Get involved: We-Haul needs you!



The **residence life office** is looking for strong (or just interested) faculty and staff members to help with the annual "We-Haul" move-in service provided to new residential students! This is a wonderful opportunity to extend hospitality to new Calvin students as well as their families as we offer our arms and our shopping carts promptly and sincerely.

We-Haul is a free service provided by students, faculty and staff to transport students' belongings from their cars to their dorm rooms.

This year's move-in day is August 31 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

This service is so appreciated by incoming residential students and we encourage you to think about participating. As an added bonus, this would look great on next year's PDP!

If interested, please contact Emily Nagy in the residence life office at [ejn2@calvin.edu](mailto:ejn2@calvin.edu). At least 20 faculty and staff members are needed. You can volunteer in three-hour shifts. We-Haul t-shirts are available free of charge in the residence life office.

## What are you reading?

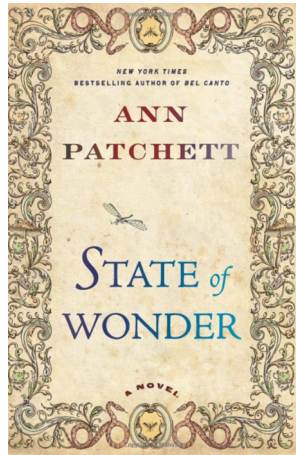
We at Calvin are a culture of education and self-improvement. What better way to encourage our colleagues in their lifelong learning than to ask that one revealing question—"what are you reading?"

Want to submit a book review?  
Email [humanresources@calvin.edu](mailto:humanresources@calvin.edu).

This month's book review comes from an expert reader (by any standard), **Sarah Kolk**, instructional librarian. So, Sarah, what are you reading?

### State of Wonder

by Ann Patchett



In Ann Patchett's newest book, *State of Wonder*, we are brought back to South America (the setting of her bestselling 2001 novel *Bel Canto*) and offered a dramatic page-turner driven by themes of love, loyalty, loss and the possibilities of science.

As the novel opens, pharmaceutical researcher Marina Singh is sent by her company to Brazil after the sudden death of her lab partner and friend, Anders Eckman. Marina's mission is to unravel the mystery of Anders' death, and like Anders before her, to report back on the enigmatic Dr. Annick Swenson, who is working deep in the Amazon jungle on what the company has been promised will be a miracle drug. It is a mission fraught with complications: Swenson's location is unknown and she has broken off communication, Marina is haunted by an incident from her past shared with Swenson, and Anders'

distraught wife needs Marina to prove he actually died as reported.

Reminiscent of Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, the plot is engrossing from the first page. Right away we want to know how Anders died and why, what Swenson and her research had to do with it and what is Marina's relationship with Swenson. Later, when Marina eventually makes it to the jungle, we're pulled in further, driven to learn how she will make sense of what she experiences at Swenson's research camp. Patchett has been called a master storyteller, and the last few chapters do not disappoint, introducing an unexpected plot twist that leaves us holding our breath to the end.

Patchett also demonstrates in this novel her skillful use of vivid description. From the tremendous heat and towering jungle trees, to the deadly snakes and nonstop assault of biting insects, the setting throughout feels oppressive and treacherous. This atmosphere is only intensified by Marina's internal world, where she experiences disturbing nightmares brought on by Lariam, an antimalarial drug, as well as a violent bout of illness. Together, the setting and nightmares create a magic realist, almost hallucinatory, mood to the book.

*State of Wonder* is a page-turner that also engages us intellectually and emotionally. It raises provocative questions about medicine and fieldwork, and includes heartbreaking scenes of love and sacrifice. Well-written and captivating, *State of Wonder* is a great addition to a late summer reading list.

The Resource | Issue 23 | August 2011



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## Upcoming Events

### Opening Convocation

Convocation for the fall semester will take place on September 6 at 9:50 a.m. in the Van Noord Arena.

### Professional development days for office assistants

We will be offering two professional development days this summer and there is one session left! Email [humanresources](mailto:humanresources) if you are an eligible assistant and would like to attend. The session will take place from 12-3:30 p.m. in the Prince Conference Center.

Wednesday, August 24

### All Campus Bible Study — Psalms

This fall you can join a group of faculty, staff and students in a campus-wide initiative to study the book of Psalms. The Bible study will run for 10 weeks and be done before Thanksgiving. Stay tuned to Calvin News for more information.

### New staff orientation (NSO)

We are conducting another session of NSO this fall! Stay tuned to *The Resource* and Calvin News for more information.