

Year in Review

July 2005

- The Calvin community gathers to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of Gaylen Byker as president of Calvin and Susan Byker as the college's first lady.
- Jana Fadness, a Calvin Asian studies major, earns a \$5,000 Freeman Foundation grant to live and study in China. Calvin is the only evangelical Christian college or university that has an Asian studies program.
- The Council on Social Work Education bestows Calvin a full eight-year reaccreditation. The council praises Calvin's commitment to equipping its students to practice their craft in an increasingly pluralistic North American society.

August 2005

- Calvin holds the grand finale for the [Petra: Lost City of Stone](#) exhibition. Almost 65,000 people attend Petra at Calvin during its four-month run.
- The Princeton Review again considers Calvin one of the nation's best institutions for undergraduate education. The New York-based education services company features Calvin in its The Best 361 Colleges publication.
- For the second year in a row, the annual U.S. News & World Report college guide rates Calvin College as the second-best college in its category.

September 2005

- A quartet of Calvin geology, geography, and environmental studies professors presents a panel discussion on Hurricane Katrina.
- Calvin graduates have some of the lowest default rates on student loans in the state, according to a U.S. Department of Education report. In fiscal year 2003 (the most recent year for which figures are available), just 0.4 percent of the school's graduates making loan repayments were in default.

October 2005

- The National Science Foundation announces a trio of Calvin College grants. Together the grants bring almost \$225,000 to the Calvin campus, funding cutting-edge science instrumentation, advanced mathematics research and an array of new opportunities for student participation.
- For the 11th consecutive year, the Light in the Night celebration at Calvin hosts local children for a variety of carnival activities on Halloween. Admission is one canned good, with all proceeds going to local food banks.

November 2005

- Gospel choirs from six Michigan colleges and universities raise their combined voices at a free praise and worship concert at Calvin.
- The Institute for International Education ranks Calvin fourth in the United States among baccalaureate institutions for the number of students studying abroad in the 2003–04 school year.
- The Lilly Vocation Project at Calvin receives \$499,979 from the Indianapolis, Ind.-based Lilly Endowment as part of Lilly's Programs for the Theological Exploration of Vocation.

December 2005

- For the seventh time in 12 years, a student team from Calvin College wins the Michigan Autumn Take-Home (MATH) Challenge. Fifty-nine teams from 21 schools participate in the fall 2005 challenge.
- Calvin residence halls raise more than \$21,225 for seven Grand Rapids organizations. Dorm residents auction goods and services to raise money for the organizations with which they partner throughout the year.

January 2006

- African Americans in the Furniture City: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Grand Rapids, a new book by Calvin Professor Randal Jelks, looks at the history of African-Americans in Grand Rapids from 1850 to 1954.
- A busload of almost 50 students from Calvin and area high schools spends three days in the historical milieu of the civil rights movement during Faith in Action: A National Student Conference, held at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

February 2006

- Calvin prays around the clock as part of the Burning Heart Contract, 40 days of uninterrupted prayer held on college campuses across the United States.
- Rangeela, an international variety show at Calvin College, celebrates the ways the many cultures at Calvin come together with a show aptly named "Fusion."
- Classics Professor Ken Bratt wins the college's 2006 Presidential Award for Exemplary Teaching.

March 2006

- More than 75 Calvin students trek to seven locales on the college's annual spring break service-learning trips. Two of the groups lend a hand at Katrina relief.

- Calvin's participants in the 2004 certified public accountancy exam finish among the top 10 colleges and universities nationally compared to all other undergraduates taking the test.
- The new Nagel Institute for the Study of World Christianity at Calvin announces a project it will fund that will examine primal religions as the substructure for Christianity.

April 2006

- Calvin's acclaimed Festival of Faith and Writing draws almost 2,000 registrants from around the globe for workshops, seminars, lectures, networking, and conversations focusing on the intersections of faith and writing.
- A Detroit News story on how state colleges prepare -prospective teachers includes a chart that rates Calvin as the top school in the state for the percentage of graduates who pass the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification.
- Calvin holds its 51st Honors Convocation to celebrate not only the 54 students who receive gold medallions for graduating with honors from Calvin, but also the sizable contingent of the student body — 1,438 strong — that made the Dean's List for 2005.

May 2006

- The Calvin Institute of Christian Worship announces grant recipients in its Worship Renewal Grants Program. The institute grants almost \$750,000 to 57 churches and organizations across North America from a variety of worship traditions.
- Calvin announces a new chair in Dutch language and culture, thanks to a generous donation from a legendary Grand Rapids businessman and community benefactor. The Frederik Meijer Chair in Dutch Language and Culture at Calvin is being funded by a gift from Meijer grocery store mogul Frederik Meijer.
- Calvin celebrates Commencement, the 86th such conferring of four-year degrees in Calvin's 130-year history. This year's ceremony features a graduating class of approximately 900 students, representing 37 states and 22 countries.

June 2006

- Calvin celebrates 50 years on its Knollcrest campus with a variety of events, including a picnic for delegates attending the Christian Reformed Church's annual Synod.
- Asteroids discovered by Calvin students and professors now bear the names of two beloved Calvin retirees: former Calvin President William Spoelhof and former Calvin Dean and physics department Chair Roger Griffioen.