
MSCS Mess

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Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science
St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057

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Senior Salute

Brett Anderson

I will start a one-year position as a post-baccalaureate intern at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico sometime in late July. My work will focus on analyzing solar wind data from several NASA satellite missions. I then plan on attending graduate school to earn a degree in physics, though I do not know where yet. I thank the professors and teachers who have taught me all I know. My best wishes to them as well as my peers upon this, our imminent graduation.

Elizabeth Atchison

Elizabeth is a biology major with concentrations in statistics and biomedical studies from Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Liz has been involved with statistical research both on campus with the CIR and off campus with the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland and the National Institutes of Health in Washington, D.C. In her spare time she enjoyed singing in the St. Olaf Choir and Cantorei. She is sorry to say goodbye to life on the Hill, but is looking forward to attending Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, IL this fall.

Joe Bari

Joe is going to the University of Florida for mechanical engineering.

Matthew Baudino

I've had a great time at St. Olaf. Thank you to all of the professors and friends I've gotten to know these past four years.

Paul Bennett

While completing the math major, I choose to take some CS courses to give me a taste of the world of applied mathematics. I was hooked. Programming had me at "hello"... "hello world" that is. This year I will be pursuing my interest in software through a job at Epic Systems, a healthcare software company just outside of Madison. I am very excited to live on my own in Madison and make a difference. I may go to graduate school in the future, but I am not sure what I will study.

Katie Block

I will be working at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD in a biomedical research lab studying the immune response to HIV. Even though I'll be doing mostly bench work, I'm told my new boss intends to put my knowledge of statistics to work! After my two year fellowship is up, I plan to study immunology or microbiology in graduate school.

Laura Boehm

My plans for next year are to enter a PhD program in Statistics at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

Erika Burr

Erika is originally from Fairbanks, Alaska. After completing a mathematics and a French degree at St. Olaf, she will pursue a masters in education in order to eventually teach one or both subjects at the high school level. She hopes her experience as a calculus tutor for the Academic Support Center will come in handy in the classroom! Erika will miss life on the Hill, but looks forward to seeing her family and returning to the great state of Alaska!

Alex Dietz

I plan to do bioinformatics research this summer then will be attending the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine in the fall.

Nathan O. Eckberg

For June and July, I plan on mostly just putzing around Rochester. Then, in August, I'll move to the Madison area to work at Epic Systems, so I'll just see how that goes. Other than that, I don't have any more plans.

Ashley Edwards

Over the summer I will continue working at one of the eye care centers in my hometown. In the fall I plan to attend Indiana University School of Optometry in Bloomington, Indiana. During the summer of 2009 my fiancé Michael and I will be getting married.

Daniel Edwins

So far, I have no plans. Ideally I will find some creative way to combine my interests of Math, Computer Science and Art. Eventually, I might do something related to the visual representation of data, though presently I am taking Professor Hall-Holt's advise and reading

"What Color Is Your Parachute?" The world is my oyster.

Steffen Foss

After teaching at LearningWorks for my third and final summer, I will take a student teaching position in the fall. Once that is finished, I look forward to the impending job search. I hope to end up teaching in my hometown of Madison, WI, at the high school level.

Annie Gatzlaff

I will be driving to Oregon this summer to work at Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood, where I'll be working as a counselor for a downhill ski racing camp. I won't be living the life of total luxury, though, as I'll be searching for a position in the "real world", most likely in an area involving mathematics. Other possibilities to explore include an assistantship in France where I would teach English to Middle and High school students and the life of a ski bum (but I hear the latter doesn't pay particularly well).

Tyson Gern

I will be attending graduate school at CU Boulder to pursue a PhD in pure mathematics.

Karin Gilje

Karin Gilje will be studying Physics at Stony Brook University in New York.

Eric Graalum

Next year Eric, a mathematics major with a concentration in statistics, will go on to study in a PhD statistics program at the University of Minnesota. In addition to working towards his degree, Eric will also enjoy the experiences of a teaching assistantship and a summer research fellowship.

Jeremy Gustafson

After graduation I'll be continuing my employment at Minnehaha Academy in

Minneapolis, working in their technology department with the website, and also hands-on support for teachers and students.

Sarah Hawkenson

I will be using a mix of my math and economics major working as a Marketing Analyst for Northwest Airlines. I am very excited and planning to prove myself as a valuable employee so I do not lose my job once the Delta-Northwest merge is completely finalized.

Stephanie Hegman

I am looking for a job in which I can use my math major. When I am employed I plan on moving into an apartment in downtown Minneapolis with one of my good friends. Until then I will spend my summer going to Twins games and relaxing at Lake Calhoun.

Brianna Hirst

With a major in mathematics and a concentration in statistics from St. Olaf, Brianna Hirst plans to pursue a PhD in statistics at University of California at Berkeley next fall. A native of Minot, North Dakota, a town located only one hour from the geographical center of North America, she is excited to live on a coast in wonderful weather all year long.

Alanna Hoyer-Leitzel

Alanna is going home for the summer, with a 3 week break where she'll be in Peru just because. In the fall, she is starting at the University of Minnesota next year to get her Ph.D. in math. She's going to be living in Uptown with two other Oles and her younger sister is starting Olaf in the fall!! Also, she's going to get to hang out with Kate next year!

Elysia Jeavons

I will graduate with a math major and statistics and biomedical studies concentrations. I'm

moving to Rochester in June to start work as a Statistical Programmer Analyst at Mayo Clinic.

Linnea Johnson

I will be living in Minneapolis and teaching yet-to-be-determined math classes at a yet-to-be-determined school in the twin cities area. When not spouting off coordinates of the unit circle, embarking on scavenger hunts to find the missing value of x , or enthusiastically supporting the beauty of the two-column proof, I will be reading for fun, exploring Minneapolis, and running around the lakes.

Jackie Kelly

I love school; ergo, I will be going back to school next year! I'm headed to the University of Minnesota to complete a Masters Degree (or possibly a Doctorate) in Kinesiology with an emphasis on Exercise Physiology. I plan to engage in some physiology research, particularly related to the effect physical activity has on bone health and on other important systems. My academic adviser and research adviser there is an Ole so I know I'll be right at home! I'm looking forward to these new academic challenges and to the new things I will encounter off the hill in the "real world."

Thomas Kopietz

My plans for the summer are to take a little time off because I am applying for a rated Officer's commission in the Air Force as a navigator. I find out in June for sure if I'll receive a commission and when I would leave for training which is either August 21st or some time in October.

Lauren Kunz

Following graduation, I will be jetting off of to Washington, D.C. for a summer research position working on clinical trials at the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (a division of the National Institutes of Health). Then in August, I will cross the pond to Oslo,

Norway, where I am completing a Fulbright year under Dr. Odd Aalen at the University of Oslo doing Survival and Event History analysis on the Norwegian Breast Cancer Registry. In the Fall of 2009, I'll become a Red Sox fan as a Ph.D. candidate in Biostatistics at Harvard University.

Anna Legard

I'm headed to Cornell University in Ithaca, NY where I will be working on a PhD in Materials Science & Engineering for the next five years. My research will be centered on some aspect of Fuel Cell components while I participate in the Cornell Fuel Cell Institute where I will be collaborating with members of other fields in an interdisciplinary approach to Fuel Cell research. I am excited to apply my Physics and Mathematics background to help solve current energy issues.

David McClure

I am moving out to Raleigh/Durham North Carolina at the end of the summer and hopefully finding a job with the stats department at one of the universities or a statistics research company for a year. I plan on applying for stats grad school for the fall of 2009.

Ashley M. Nadeau

This summer will be in Rochester, MN working in an epidemiology research lab at the Mayo Clinic and after I plan on going to medical school.

Nicole Novak

I'm going to spend the summer at home in Iowa City, working, riding bikes and camping with my family. After helping my siblings move onto the Hill in August, I'll depart for Oxford, where I'll be studying medical anthropology and global health. Best of luck to everyone...

Matt Penz

This summer I will be headed home to Rochester and working construction for my Dad. Next year I will be attending the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry! I am possibly interested in pursuing Orthodontics.

Christina Roberts

Next year I am going to be working for Benfield, a reinsurance agency in Bloomington as a catastrophe modeling analyst while trying to live without having the caf within walking distance. I hope that it isn't a disaster.

Benjamin J Roff

I have taken a position in the Actuarial Leadership Development Program at Travelers in St. Paul.

Julie Rolfes

This August, I will be starting medical school at the University of Minnesota. My refined mathematical skills are sure to bring me to success.

Nick Rydberg

I will be working at Logic Product Development in Minneapolis this summer as a mechanical engineer intern. I will begin grad school next fall at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities for mechanical engineering as well.

Emily Schroeder

This summer I will be coaching Little League Softball in Wisconsin and lesson planning for the upcoming fall. I will be teaching high school math (Algebra I and Algebra II) in Redwood Falls, Minnesota.

Becca Siebels

I will be working for Target Corporate Headquarters in the Technology Leadership Program starting in late June. The program rotates through the infrastructure, development,

and support sectors of Target Technology Services on a path toward a position in management. I will probably also be taking a lot of naps until I get used to waking up at 5:30 in the morning instead of 9:00.

Adam Solyst

I'm staying close to St. Olaf working at Carlson Capital Management, a financial service company located in Northfield.

David Swanson

I will be deferring from graduate school for a year and plan to work in the Minneapolis or Bloomington school systems. This summer, I hope to sail and hang around Olympic National Park. If I'm really ambitious, maybe I'll even try to learn to improvise on the piano. Thanks to the MSCS dept. for all the opportunities they've provided these last four years.

Spike Therrien

I am looking forward to my career in Medical Research, while continuing to model on a part time basis and have plans to attend graduate school in the near future.

Kate Tummers

I'm going to fly to Australia to live with the Kangaroos... No. Really I'm going to work at Collins as a Catastrophe Risk Analyst. So yeah, I'm basically going to model for a living :) Sweet.

Joe Usset

I've decided to find nice weather and enjoy college a little longer. Next year, I will go to North Carolina State for a Master's Program in Statistics.

Will Voorhees

I will be working for the Department of Defense just outside of D.C. pending clearance. I will do computer science related R & D work.

Allie Wagner

I'm attending Duke graduate school in the cell and molecular biology program. I plan on studying cancer and hopefully will be able to collaborate with mathematicians.

Laura Wild

I will be working at Benfield Inc. in Bloomington, MN as a Catastrophe Modeling Analyst starting this June. And in the next year or two, I plan to apply to dental school!

Jackson Williams

I will be spending the summer in Kansas City then beginning a Masters of Applied Physics program at the DePaul University. After DePaul I plan on enrolling in a doctoral program for physics.

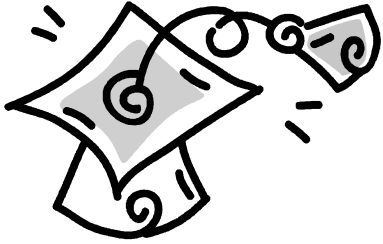
Mikael Witte

I will be playing in my band Plagiarists for a year before attending the State University of New York at Stony Brook for a PhD in physics.

Anthony Zbacnik

Next year I am attending medical school at the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

We didn't hear from these seniors, but we wish them all well: **Casey Baustian, Jennifer Beiersdorf, Scott Berger, Erik Brekke, Joshua Campbell, Nolan Cook, Ohmar Coughlin, Andrew Dass, Dylan Evans, John Giannini, Anders Gregerson, Wei Guo, Zach Hathaway, Justin Heebsh, Jason Hollar, Bob Hunter, Andrew Hvatum, Robert Kluver, Abby Lane, Nathan Langholz, Patrick Luthly, Txawjtsim Lyfoung, Joshua Maus, Matt Nelson, Chad Norberg, Paul Olson, David Osterhouse, Michelle Pease, Rachel Pool, Anna Scaramuzza, Molly Schause, Alex Suginaka, Shannon Thornblad, Brad Wagenaar, and Tony Waldschmidt**



A final salute from an appreciative faculty. Thanks for all of you hard work, inquisitiveness and enthusiasm. We think St Olaf MSCS students are second to none. Being able to work with all of you makes our jobs very rewarding. Best of luck in all of your future endeavors! Keep in touch.

– Rich Allen, Peder Bolstad, Donna Brakke, Dick Brown, Cliff Corzatt, Jill Dietz, Tina Garrett, Rose Gundacker, Olaf Hall-Holt, Bruce Hanson, Paul Humke, Christine Kohnen, Julie Legler, Urmila Malvadkar, Steve McKelvey, Arnie Ostebee, Matt Richey, Paul Roback, Jim Scott, Kay Smith, Eric Ufferman, Martha Wallace, Mike Weimerskirch, Katie Ziegler-Graham and Paul Zorn.

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