

What's in a Name?

Concordia Buildings Tell a Story

By Jay Weiler

Concordia, as with many universities, displays its rich history through the names of its buildings. The history of the names fades quickly; there are already two classes of students that never knew the man who lent his namesake to Holst Hall. Names are important at Concordia, and knowing their stories reveals much about the impact that presidents, donors, and other influential figures have had on the university.

This article will highlight three stories: the Buenger Education Center (BEC), the Buetow Memorial Music Center, and Meyer Hall. Much of the following information is drawn from Professor Kenneth Kaden's "A Century of Service: A Centennial History of Concordia College, St. Paul."

BEC

The BEC, originally called the Buenger Memorial Library before the LTC opened in 2003, was named after the Rev. Theodore Buenger, the first president of the newly-opened Concordia College in 1893. He served the college for fifty years, first as president until 1927 and then as professor until his retirement in 1943.

Rev. Buenger was instrumental in creating the new college and he strove to make it into a viable school. Under him, Concordia obtained land for permanent residence and built many of the buildings that still stand. It is fitting that the BEC is one of the most important places on campus.

Buetow Memorial Music Center

Concordia struggled to find funding for the new music building in

1972. Five LCMS districts pledged money for about half of the construction costs, but CSP was \$159,000 short of their goal three months after the building's dedication.

The last bit of funding for the music building was originally pledged by Herbert P. Buetow, who had previously created a scholarship fund for Concordia. Unfortunately, Mr. Buetow passed away before he was able to finalize his gift. Despite the tragedy, his family decided to proceed with the intended donation. In light of their decision, the Board of Control of Concordia decided to name the new building "The Herbert P. Buetow Memorial Music Center." A portrait of Mr. Buetow and his wife Luella currently hangs outside of the Buetow Auditorium.

Meyer Hall

The building that students now know as Meyer Hall used to be simply called the "Classroom Building." It was renamed later to reflect the grand contributions of Drs. Gerhardt (Gary) and Loma Meyer.

Dr. Loma Meyer's service to Concordia is especially significant. She worked at Concordia for 39 years and served in many different roles such as professor, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Executive Vice President, and Chair of the Board of Regents. Dr. Meyer's contributions are honored on a plaque on the second floor of Meyer Hall.

Concordia has a rich history, but the people behind the buildings that are most significant. When attending classes, meetings, or events this week, be mindful that every building has a story.

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Professor for the Day Series

CSP Invites Government Officials to Teach For a Day



By Nicole Zastrow

This February, Concordia started a new learning series called "Professor for the Day." In this series, a government official is invited to take the role of a professor in one of the American Government classes here at CSP. Dr. Bruce Corrie and the Student Senate Executive Board help in the coordination of the series.

The first guest professor was Representative Kurt Daudt, the Minority Leader for Minnesota. Among the students in the American Government class were President Ries, Vice President Loan Maly, and Vice President Eric LaMott. The group was treated to a lecture on the government experience of Daudt.

The second guest of the series was the Honorable Senator Torrey Westrom, who taught the class on March 5. The first blind Minnesota legislator, Senator Westrom presented to students about public service.

These learning series are open to all students. Check your CSP email account for information about upcoming "Professor for the Day" lectures.