

David Hughes, Class of 1996

At Carleton, I was the quintessential liberal arts student, with a double major of International Relations and Classical Studies, and a concentration in Latin American Studies. After graduation, I taught high school Spanish at a private school in Virginia, and later moved to Chicago to work as an account manager for a transportation company. In my quest to find the right job for myself, I also worked in the real estate and publishing industries before deciding to apply to physical therapy school.

Many people ask me why I went to physical therapy school. It is a combination of many factors. Like many physical therapy students, I have a desire to help people, and I would like to do this in the medical field. Having been a teacher, I like to see the positive progress that people are making, whether it is learning, relieving pain or increasing function. I also value the job security that the physical therapy field provides, as well as the flexibility in sub-field and job location.

I loved my 4 years at Carleton, and go back there for Reunion every 5 years. As former Carleton President Lawrence McKinley Gould said (and former President Steven Lewis frequently quoted), "You are a part of Carleton, and Carleton is a part of you." My goal is to help Carleton graduates learn about the field of physical therapy, apply to physical therapy school, and become physical therapists.