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Views expressed in Augustana College Magazine are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official policy of Augustana College.

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Our Mission
Augustana College, rooted in the liberal arts and sciences and a Lutheran expression of the Christian faith, is committed to offering a challenging education that develops qualities of mind, spirit and body necessary for a rewarding life of leadership and service in a diverse and changing world.

Cover: Former Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Ken Anderson ’71, the NFL’s 1981 MVP, outside Augustana’s Academic All-American Club that bears his name. Photo by Paul Colletti.
A taste of Hogwarts for Swanson Commons

The idea of a college professor moving into a student residence hall goes back to the origins of residential higher education in the Middle Ages, with places like Oxford and Cambridge universities in England. Augustana is now among a number of colleges and universities that are testing the idea of bringing it back, with Dr. Kathy Jakielski and her husband having moved into Swanson Commons.

Smith '02 to succeed Hammer in Antarctic hunt for dinosaurs

For a while, Nate Smith '02 wasn’t sure where college would lead him. He came to Augustana as a chemistry major, thinking he would go back to teach and coach at his old high school in Crystal Lake outside Chicago. Then he took an honors course with Dr. William Hammer.

COUNTING THE WAYS How alumni choose to give back

The ways alumni choose to give back to college are unlimited ... from mentoring students, establishing scholarships and endowed funds, helping design a vision for the college’s future to providing gifts, large and small, that sometimes change the landscape of campus. Their reasons for giving vary, but most often it comes down to an appreciation for their four years on campus.

Augustana’s kind of town ... 38th Street Studios in Chicago

Enterprising young alumni from Augustana are dipping their toes into the multi-billion-dollar tech industry. With the launch of one smartphone app, and a much more ambitious one in the works, they’re starting to get those chills up their spines that suggest business might be taking off, with no limit in sight.

From Kenya, and back again

2016 graduate Nelly Cheboi’s Augustana experience changed her family’s life and gave hope to children 8,000 miles away.

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MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT STEVEN C. BAHLS

Ambassadors of the Augustana story

I always enjoy the Class News section of the Augustana magazine, where I learn about the many and varied accomplishments of Augustana’s graduates. These notes from alumni create a compelling narrative of professional, civic and personal achievements by a very special group of people.

But something that’s been hard to capture in this medium is the wonderful volunteer service rendered by alumni of Augustana to the college and its students. From graduates who take time to be part of admissions events and move-in days, to those who’ve arranged internships or hosted students in their homes, our alumni are outstanding examples of service to the young people who follow in their footsteps by the Mighty Mississippi.

“From graduates who take time to be part of admissions events and move-in days, to those who’ve arranged internships or hosted students in their homes, our alumni are outstanding examples of service to the young people who follow in their footsteps by the Mighty Mississippi.”

It’s true that Anderson and McKinley are high-profile individuals with access to impressive networks of resources and connections. And we’re very grateful for their work as ambassadors of the Augustana story of transforming lives and encouraging the development of engaged citizens who lead and serve.

But aren’t we all at the nexus of unique webs of interconnectedness? And is not every one of us possessed of rich resources of spirit, intellect and engagement?

In the pages that follow, I invite you to read about Lydia Ruelas ’05 Duran and Estlin Feigley ’93, two alumni who’ve found creative ways to advance Augustana and connect it with high-achieving students. I think you’ll find their contributions as inspiring as I do.

In the meantime, please don’t forget to update the Alumni Relations Office or your class representative about the extraordinary things you’ve been up to. I look forward to being inspired by your story, too!

Steven C. Bahls
President
CSD master’s program in 2019

A nationwide shortage of seats in master’s programs in communication sciences and disorders (CSD) combined with an expected shortage of speech-language pathologists through 2025 prompted Augustana to begin designing a competitive 4+1 bachelor’s-to-master’s CSD program.

CSD-bound students will be able to enroll at Augustana with a provisional agreement that they will be guaranteed a seat in the college’s master’s program upon graduation. Instead of the typical two-year CSD master’s program, Augustana students will begin their master’s in the summer after earning their bachelor’s, then go through the following summer to earn their master’s degree.

The college aims to begin offering CSD master’s courses in the fall of 2019.

Time for a third Nobel Prize winner?

Dr. Daniel Tsui ’61 shared the 1998 Nobel Prize in Physics with two colleagues for their discovery of a new form of quantum fluid with “fractionally charged excitations.”

Dr. Jean Bogner ’69 contributed to the reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 for its work on addressing climate change, along with Al Gore. She was the lead author for a chapter of the IPCC 4th Assessment Report (2007).

If the trend continues (about every 10 years), another Augustana graduate is due to capture or contribute to one of the most prestigious honors in the world.

Lined up for unity in the community

On Sept. 19, Dr. Christopher Whitt led male faculty and staff members, as well as members of the Phi Omega Phi fraternity, to participate alongside members of the community at the Fathers Bring Your Kids to School Day at Rock Island Academy, a couple miles from campus. The event was held on the same day as the National Million Father March, which encourages the influence of men in the lives of children and serves as a public display of unity with communities.

Dr. Whitt is an associate professor of political science and director of Augustana’s new Center for Inclusive Leadership and Equity.
No more papers to grade

Six esteemed faculty members from across campus retired at the end of the 2015-2016 academic year. The campus community gathered in late May to honor the professors and celebrate their combined 210 years of contributions to the college.

DR. DANIEL CULVER
MUSIC
Henry Veld Professor in Music, Director of Symphony Orchestra
1976

DR. PAMELA DRUGER
ACCOUNTING
S. James Galley Professor in Accounting
1987

DR. BOHDAN DZIADYK
BIOLOGY
Professor, Director of Environmental Labs and Field Stations
1980

DR. ELLEN HAY
COMMUNICATION STUDIES
Stuart Lee and Virginia Talbott Harbour Professor
1989

DR. JANIS LONERGAN
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Frank Strohkarck Professor of Business and Economics
1976

DR. VICKI SOMMER
SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIAL WELFARE
Professor
1978

Students, staff revel in colorful Holi Festival

Inspired by the annual Hindu festival in South Asia that promotes the sharing of love and living a colorful life, Holi Festival at Augustana is more than a springtime party with lots of colored powder—it’s a celebration of international giving.

In 2015, Augustana’s Muslim Student Association and International Club, among other organizations, began working closely with Water to Thrive, a nonprofit dedicated to spreading awareness of the global water crisis while raising funds needed to construct water wells in rural Africa. With funds obtained from several campus events, including Holi, the students sponsored a well in western Ethiopia, which now provides clean water to more than 600 people every day.

Donations from last spring’s Holi Festival were contributed to the building of another well through Water to Thrive—thanks to the efforts of the Muslim Student Association; Augustana International Club; and the students, staff and faculty who participated in the always colorful Holi Festival.
Westerlin’s multimillion-dollar facelift

This past summer Augustana completed the renovation of the second of three wings of Westerlin Residence Center, the college’s largest residence hall with more than 450 students. It’s a complete makeover of every room, bathroom and public lounge and includes new floor coverings, built-in amenities and windows, as well as air conditioning. The third Westerlin wing is scheduled for renovation next summer, completing the $13.5 million project.

College’s accreditation reaffirmed

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) visit team arrived on campus in the fall of 2015 to review the college’s ongoing ability to meet the commission’s Criteria for Accreditation. Last March, the college reached a significant milestone when it received word that the HLC had reaffirmed its accreditation until 2025-26.

The Criteria for Accreditation are the standards of quality by which the commission determines whether an institution merits accreditation or reaffirmation of accreditation. They are (1) mission, (2) integrity: ethical and responsible conduct, (3) teaching and learning: quality, resources and support, (4) teaching and learning: evaluation and improvement, and (5) resources, planning and institutional effectiveness.

Two new focused-interest houses on campus

The college has introduced two TLAs (Transitional Living Areas) on campus—the International House and the Interfaith Understanding House.

Formerly the Esbjörn House on 10th Avenue, the International House is a community that encourages friendships and understanding between people from around the world. International and American students will live together, prepare food together, and share their culture in an intentional way.

The Interfaith Understanding House, formerly the Lundholm House on 34th Street, invites students to live out the fullness of their faith in relationship to others. This house seeks to foster friendship, service and dialogue for students of diverse religious and non-religious backgrounds. Students are not required to make a commitment to a particular faith tradition, but must be committed to conversation, relationship and understanding.

Defensive linebacker Riley Perrine ’19 put on his “game face” to help first-year students move into their residence hall on a warm day in mid-August. Perrine and his teammates were joined by members of Augustana’s sororities and fraternities to lighten the load of the parents of the Class of 2020.
Students, faculty collaborate to Live. Lead. Free.

Augustana has selected Scott County, Iowa, as its partner for its second Sustainable Working Landscapes Initiative (SWLI). SWLI’s goal is to have Augustana students and experienced faculty focus on real-world problems facing today’s communities.

During the 2016-17 partnership, students and faculty will work with Scott County officials and community stakeholders to understand how many residences in the county could potentially put children at risk for lead poisoning due to the presence of lead paint. The project is called Live. Lead. Free.

Students and faculty from a variety of disciplines, including public health, sociology, anthropology, accounting, economics, history, geography, biology and environmental studies will be involved in these projects.

“These collective projects will help Scott County identify the most at-risk residences, build a broad private/public partnership to tackle the identified challenge, and design proactive, innovative strategies with the best chances of solving the problem,” said Dr. Michael Reisner, director of Augustana’s Upper Mississippi Center for Sustainable Communities.

Once the scope of the lead paint problem and possible solutions are determined, Scott County plans to build on the SWLI partnership and make an impact through the public-private collaboration. Several projects will focus on engaging people in the highest-risk areas, raising awareness of the scale of the problem and strategies necessary to solve it, and building a network of agencies, local organizations and community members to solve the problem once and for all.

During the 2015-16 academic year, Augustana students and faculty worked with the city of Clinton, Iowa, on projects including urban forest management, regional transportation and transit routes, the financial health of the recreation department, and marketing and financing challenges of small business owners.

Faculty choose semester calendar

The college has operated on a trimester schedule since 1992, one of a handful of Illinois colleges to do so. This past spring Augustana faculty voted to move from a trimester calendar to a semester calendar. The Board of Trustees approved the recommendation in October.

Moving to semesters is expected to create financial and work-related efficiencies. For example, the college will be able to partner more easily with peer academic institutions—most of which use the semester calendar—on programs and resources. This will allow Augustana to control costs while expanding learning opportunities. A semester calendar also is more accommodating for students who want to transfer to Augustana.

The transition will require at least three years of planning, with fall 2019 being the earliest date for a switch to semesters.

Delaney, Hildreth, Hurty, Marmé, Snowball honored

Through the generosity of alumni and friends of the college, several endowed faculty chairs and endowed positions have been established at Augustana. These positions recognize faculty, coaches and leaders for their accomplishments and provide resources for student and teaching development in the position’s area of expertise.

Congratulations go to the following faculty, who were awarded an endowed chair in August. Each professor is serving a five-year term that can be renewed.

Dr. John Delaney
S. James Galley Professor in Accounting

Dr. John Hildreth
Gassman Family Professor in Music

Dr. Jon Hurty
Henry Veld Professor in Music

Dr. Christopher Marmé
Frank Strohkarck Professor of Business and Economics

Dr. David Snowball
Stuart Lee and Virginia Talbott Harbour Professor (communication studies)
Björn Lyrvall, Swedish ambassador to the United States, visited campus last spring to participate in the college’s daylong Celebration of Learning. This annual event allows students to share their scholarly and creative work and be a part of a campus-wide community of learners.

Ambassador Lyrvall and a panel of Augustana students—Erik Anderberg ’16, Elin Eken ’16, Niklas Gullström ’16, Savindri Jayawardana ’17 and Brett Mignin ’16—comprised one of four featured presentations during the day.

The ambassador shared his views on Sweden’s relationship with the United States, followed by a conversation with the students from Sweden, Sri Lanka and the United States on how foreign travel and study have shaped their views on the United States and its relationship with other nations.
Two sports added to varsity lineup

Augustana has added men’s volleyball and women’s bowling to its varsity lineup. Both teams’ first seasons are set to begin in the 2017-18 school year.

Amid uncertainty around higher education at both the state and federal level, and with demographic changes in the Midwest, Augustana leaders are strategically investing in new programs to attract more students. These two athletics programs are the first among academic and co-curricular programs the college plans to add.

“Athletics plays a critically important role in the overall enrollment management process at Augustana, and following several months of discussion and review, we believe that women’s bowling and men’s volleyball are both strategic additions as varsity sports in terms of attracting quality student-athletes from our traditional recruitment areas, plus new markets such as California,” said Mike Zapolski, Augustana’s director of athletics.

MEN’S VOLLEYBALL

A former Augustana club volleyball player, Mark Lau has been named the first head coach of the men’s varsity volleyball program. Lau’s Vikings initially will compete as an independent, with a view toward membership in the Midwest Collegiate Volleyball League.

“Augustana is well-positioned to launch a highly competitive men’s volleyball program, and I am excited to work with Mark in that effort,” said Mike Zapolski, director of athletics.

“Mark has an extensive coaching background at both the club and small college level, and his contacts and recruiting ties in the Midwest and in other volleyball areas will be a significant asset as we begin the process of building a team.”

Lau, who attended Augustana from 1995-97, returns to Rock Island after two seasons as the head coach at Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa. This past season, he led the Yellowjackets to a 25-8 record and a No. 4 ranking in the final NAIA regular season poll.

During his two years at Augustana, Lau earned first-team All-America recognition in helping the volleyball club team to a second-place national finish at the NIRSA Division II Championships. He transferred to Ball State University in 1998, where he competed at the varsity level, finishing third in the nation in blocking average in 1999 and earning all-conference recognition in 2000. He finished his career ranked in the school’s career top five in blocking average. Lau also played professionally in Germany.

WOMEN’S BOWLING

Marty Resner ’13, a three-year football letter winner for the Vikings, will lead the college’s first women’s bowling program. Resner’s Vikings will compete as an independent. Unlike all of Augustana’s other sports, which compete at the NCAA Division III level, women’s bowling is not separated into divisions by the NCAA.

Since graduating from Augustana, Resner has taught math and coached at Bettendorf [Iowa] High School. For the past two years, he was an assistant coach for the Bulldog girls’ and boys’ bowling teams, helping guide each team to a Mississippi Athletic Conference championship and the girls’ team to a sixth-place finish at state in 2016.

Resner, who began bowling at the age of 5, has a strong background in the sport. As a senior at Oswego [Ill.] High School, he played on the school’s inaugural varsity team. He carried a 210 average and helped the Panthers to an undefeated regular season and a seventh-place finish at state. He continues to maintain an average of over 200.

“I cannot wait to give back to both the sport of bowling and the institution of Augustana College after they have both been a big part of making me who I am,” Resner said. “It will be a fun experience to build the program from the ground floor.”
SPORTS NEWS

See www.athletics.augustana.edu for complete schedules and stats of Augustana’s varsity sports teams.

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BASKETBALL RECRUITS’ AVERAGE HEIGHT? NEARLY 6’7”

Introducing one of Coach Grey Giovanine’s tallest recruiting classes in his 18 years at Augustana... from the left, Brett Benning, 6’6” (transfer); Blake Janssen, 6’7”; Micah Martin, 6’10”; Coach G, 5’9”; Donovan Ferguson, 6’8”; Roman Youngblut, 6’8”; Andy McLaughlin, 6’7”; and Lucas Simon, 6’5”.

[Recruits Austin Elledge, 6’1”; Sam Koeppel, 6’6”; and Connor McCord, 6’7” are not pictured.] This photo was taken during a youth basketball camp led by Augustana players and coaches during the summer. The Vikings’ first home basketball game of the 2016-17 season is Nov. 22.

Sports Shorts

‘16 GRAD OFFERED PRO CONTRACT IN GERMANY
In October, guard Hunter Hill ’16 was offered a six-month contract to play for a pro basketball team in Idstein, Germany, called TV 1844 Idstein. “It’s a lower-level league in Germany, but coming from D3, you need a foot in the door to start and then work your way up,” Hill told The Dispatch and The Rock Island Argus newspaper. Hill was named to the NCAA Division III All-America first team and the D3hoops.com All-Central Region team during his junior and senior years as a Viking.

STRIKEOUT CHAMPS
Kyle McGinley ’17 had a 12.56 strikeout-per-nine-inning ratio for the Vikings last spring and helped Augustana capture the 2016 NCAA Division III statistical title in that category. The Vikings averaged 9.26 strikeouts per nine innings during the season.

Augustana earned a share of its second CCWI regular season title in three years last season and then went undefeated through the conference tournament at Swanson Stadium/Brunner Field to earn its second CCWI tournament championship in four years. The Vikings finished the season 30-14 and made the program’s fifth NCAA Division III Tournament appearance.

The 30-win season was Augustana’s ninth under Head Coach Greg Wallace ’88, who was named the CCWI’s Coach of the Year.

WOMEN’S LACROSSE 30-0 IN FIVE YEARS
In five seasons of varsity competition, Augustana’s women’s lacrosse teams have posted an overall record of 88-13 (.871) and are 30-0 in conference play with four straight league championships (two in the CCWI and two in the Midwest Lacrosse Conference). The Vikings competed as an independent in their 2012 inaugural season.

CJ Durham has taken over coaching duties for the Vikings after two years at Hanover (Ind.) College, where she was charged with starting the Panthers lacrosse program. At Hanover, Durham coached four all-conference players and was instrumental in establishing the NCAA Division III Ohio River Lacrosse Conference.

As a player, Durham was a four-year standout at NCAA Division I University of Maryland-Baltimore County, earning all-conference honors.

Former Head Coach Meredith Newman resigned last June to coach at her alma mater, Sweet Briar College, after compiling a two-year record of 37-5 at Augustana.

2016 TRIBE OF VIKINGS HONOREES
During Homecoming weekend, the following standout student-athletes were inducted into the Tribe of Vikings Hall of Fame. Honored this year were three former CCWI “Players of the Year” in their respective sports, four NCAA All-Americans and multiple school record holders. Congratulations go to:

Corey Christenson ’97 – football, wrestling, track & field
Sarah Ainsworth ’98 Fulscher – tennis
Dave Lingner ’82 – track & field
Patti Wenig ’91 Miller – track & field
Joe Schmulbach ’00 – football
Joe Wheeler ’85 – football

See www.athletics.augustana.edu for complete schedules and stats of Augustana’s varsity sports teams.
Fondest memories of our 2016 Alumni Award Winners

The Honorary Alumni Award is presented to friends of Augustana who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the college. Recipients are considered honorary alumni of Augustana and members of the Alumni Association. This is not an honorary degree.

Dr. Charles Mahaffey


Fondest memory of Augustana: My fondest memory is the sense of community I felt coming to work every day. To have that kind of continuity of friends and colleagues coming from different fields—but with similar goals for the students they taught—is a situation becoming increasingly rare, even in academic life. Of course, I also have fond memories of the people I worked with—my geography department colleagues Rueben, Jenny and Norm, and my geology department colleagues Mike, Bill and Jeff, plus building administrators Kathy Nelson and Gail Parsons, along with Susan Wolf in the geology museum.

Most memorable faculty members and/or classes: Norm Moline—in his role as mentor and chair—was one who enabled me and all of the past and current faculty members to use an approach familiar to geographers in theory, but who do not normally receive resources and encouragement. Memorable experiences include department field trips; my participation, the teachers and classes on the fall terms abroad; and the Learning Community I taught with Jason Peters of the English department for the last five years of my time at Augie.

How a liberal arts education impacted your career: I can conclude that Augustana provides many opportunities for students to be surprised by what they can accomplish in their years here, as evidenced by the fact that alumni come back for events year after year. My career certainly was impacted by the liberal arts perspective provided by the college. I am able to say that liberal arts was my career.

Dr. Curtis Roseman

Class of 1963

Curtis Roseman ’63 earned a master’s from Southern Illinois University in 1965 and a doctorate from the University of Iowa in 1969. A specialist in social geography, Dr. Roseman taught geography courses at the University of Illinois from 1969-1985. He was a professor of geography at the University of Southern California (USC) from 1985-2004, and served as the chair of the geography department at USC from 1985-1992.

Fondest memory of Augustana: Meeting Augie students and faculty members at the College Pharmacy.

Most memorable faculty members and/or classes: Any course taught by Edward Hamming and Educational Psychology taught by Don Peterson.

How a liberal arts education impacted your career: My time at Augustana helped me to hone my writing skills and introduced me to the fabulous world of geography and geographic education.

Susan Steele Weir

Class of 1971

After Susan Steele ’71 Weir graduated from Augustana with a bachelor’s in geology, she completed graduate studies in engineering geology at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colo. She worked as an engineering geologist for 38 years, including nine years at the U.S. Geological Survey, and then 29 years with Denver Water as the chief geologist for a vast system of dams and tunnels that provides water to Denver’s metropolitan area. She retired in 2007 and formed a consulting company, Steele and Associates LLC, which provides peer review of potential dam and tunnel construction projects.

Fondest memory of Augustana: Spring geology field trips, ice skating on the Slough and pledging Chi Omega Gamma.

Most memorable faculty members and/or classes: Dr. Richard Anderson, Historical Geology. He was my inspiration for making geology accessible and helping me to believe that someone like me, “a regular person,” could do it.

How a liberal arts education impacted your career: The well-rounded liberal arts education that I received at Augustana provided me with a solid basis for my career path into geology. I developed lifelong friends and honed interpersonal skills.

To nominate an Augustana graduate for an alumni award or a friend of the college for an honorary alumni award, visit www.augustana.edu/alumniawards or contact Kelly Read ’02 Noack at 309-794-7474 or kellynoack@augustana.edu.
The **Outstanding Service Award** is presented to members of the Alumni Association who have rendered unusual service to Augustana or who have reflected honor on their alma mater by exceptional community service.

**Marty Swett Richards**  
Class of 1967

Marty Swett ’67 Richards, a sociology major with a social welfare concentration at Augustana, completed a Masters of Social Work at the University of Washington in 1970. Since 1967, she worked as a social worker with older adults and their families for government, not-for-profit and for-profit entities. Richards recently retired as an affiliate assistant professor at the University of Washington School of Social Work and Institute on Aging. She is an author, national speaker and consultant on aging.

**Fondest memory of Augustana:** Meeting and getting engaged to my husband of 49 years, Larry. Being asked to live in an apartment off campus with three other women the second semester of our junior year. We had really good times together [even keeping late minutes]. We have remained friends for over 50 years, and they are the family of my heart.

**Most memorable faculty members and/or classes:** William Ward, Beverly Linder and Tracy Vandiver. I took Microbiology 301. It’s where I met Dr. Wegman [Dr. Dara Wegman-Geevey]. I still have my notebook-lab books. This was the class that made me want to do what I do now.

**How a liberal arts education impacted your career:** Today I am a physician, a scientist, an epidemiologist, an ethicist, and my free time is spent as a musician and helping support arts organizations. I think “liberal arts” is pretty much still my life!

The **Finest Under Forty Achievement Award** is presented to one or more members of the Alumni Association who are 40 years of age or less, for having achieved distinction in their vocation, for having made a contribution to Augustana [either through exceptional service rendered the college or through support of the association] or for having made a contribution to society through outstanding community service.

**Dr. Emily Landon**  
Class of 1999

Emily Landon ’99 earned her medical degree at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. An assistant professor of medicine at The University of Chicago Medical Center, Dr. Landon serves as the medical director of Infection Control and Antimicrobial Stewardship in the Section of Infectious Diseases and Global Health. Her research focuses on understanding behavioral determinants of adherence to best practices in infection prevention, especially with respect to hand hygiene and antimicrobial use.

**Fondest memory of Augustana:** I loved the autumn when the trees change. It felt magical. I loved the choir more than anything—all of our tours and rehearsals and performances. To this day, 4-4:50 is “choir time” in my mind.

**Most memorable faculty members and/or classes:** Microbiology 301. It’s where I met Dr. Wegman [Dr. Dara Wegman-Geevey]. I still have my notebook-lab books. This was the class that made me want to do what I do now.

**How a liberal arts education impacted your career:** Today I am a physician, a scientist, an epidemiologist, an ethicist, and my free time is spent as a musician and helping support arts organizations. I think “liberal arts” is pretty much still my life!

Dr. Kathleen Stumpf Jongsma  
Class of 1964

Kathleen Stumpf ’64 Jongsma earned her master’s at The University of Chicago and a doctorate in education at the University of New Orleans. She has been an educator for more than 47 years as a classroom teacher, school department head, reading specialist, district director of reading, developer of curriculum materials, professor of literacy education and university department chair. Internationally, she has served as a professor at Zayed University for Muslim women in Abu Dhabi, UAE; as an English language specialist for the country of Qatar; and as an international literacy consultant.

**Fondest memory of Augustana:** The small classes, the dedicated professors, the beauty of the campus, my wonderful fellow students, the good conversations about books and ideas—all these are very special memories.

**Most memorable faculty members and/or classes:** I am especially indebted to Drs. Parkander, Naeseth, Tweet and Hamming for teaching me to think and reason logically and to write coherently. Dr. Parkander’s passion for teaching remained a big inspiration to me during my own career in education.

**How a liberal arts education impacted your career:** None of my professional experiences would have been possible without my liberal arts degree. My time at Augie taught me to think critically, to listen carefully, to explore eagerly and to develop the lifelong passion for literacy that motivated my subsequent years and experiences in educational settings stateside and around the world. Thank you Augie!

The **Richard A. Swanson Humanitarian Award** is presented to one or more members of the Alumni Association for providing service to the Church, to Augustana College or for having been involved with social issues on a local, state or national level.

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The idea of a college professor moving into a student residence hall goes back to the origins of residential higher education in the Middle Ages, with places like Oxford and Cambridge universities in England. More recently, it came to life with author J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter books, where Hogwarts was a magical school where professors and students lived in the same building. Now, Augustana is among a number of colleges and universities that are testing the idea of bringing it back, with Dr. Kathy Jakielski launching the pilot program at Augustana this fall.

By the time classes began, she was living in a two-bedroom apartment in Swanson Commons, along with her husband, David Yordy, a lead engineer at Alcoa Inc., a Fortune 500 company in the Quad Cities. The two of them are just a step or two away from any concerns the students may have. Unlike faculty at Hogwarts, however, Dr. Jakielski has no intention of roaming the halls in academic robes, scolding students for being out of bed at night. Rather, she will be totally focused on the idea of helping students be successful, whether it’s inside or outside the classroom, and whether it involves academics, social and cultural enrichment or choosing a career.

“As long as they don’t see us as their parents, I think we’ll have a chance of being good mentors,” said Dr. Jakielski, who will continue to teach as well as serve as chair of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, and chair of the Faculty Council. “Many students still are unsure of what they might major in, how to study for advanced courses, and how to access the help they need to be successful. We hope that getting to know one professor by living beside one will help make contact less mysterious or stressful. I will be offering different programs for second-year students throughout the year, all targeting how to be successful at Augustana.”

Augustana is aiming the program primarily at second-year students, who occupy the wing at Swanson where Dr. Jakielski will live. Program elements will be shared at Erickson Residence Center, another home to second-year students. The idea is that many second-year students encounter more nuanced challenges as the focus shifts toward self-examination, declaring a major, and ultimately career decisions. Dr. Jakielski describes the period as full of opportunity, especially in terms of interaction with faculty.
“I want to learn how college programming affects them, and all of the different programming that is offered,” she said. “Augustana has such a wide array of student services. I hope to serve as a bridge—a bridge between me and my faculty colleagues, and another bridge between students and their faculty.”

Dr. Jakielski was selected from among several faculty who expressed interest in “Faculty in Residence,” according to Christopher Beyer, director of residential life. As a pilot project, Dr. Jakielski will take the position for one year, renewable up to three years. However, she already has expressed her interest in the extension, as has her husband, who is bringing all his life experience as an accomplished engineer.

“David is totally onboard with this adventure,” she said. “The more he learned and the more we talked about it, the more interested he became. He is interested in being around young people who are trying to discern their vocational calling. He knows that the expectation is that I will have the heavy lifting to do, but he’s ready to take on pieces that he can.

“He’s a master gardener and has already started helping out with the planting of Augie Acres. He’s looking forward to working on this project for the next several years. Once we get settled, we’ll know more of what active role he can play on campus.”

Their apartment in Swanson Commons will be buffered by an office that opens into the hallway, providing a bit more privacy. But students will be right across the hall, filling all the other rooms, and she expects to see a lot of them.

“Trying to think about the adventures we’re about to have is impossible for us,” Dr. Jakielski said prior to moving in. “I honestly cannot even imagine what this is going to be like. One day I envision students hanging around the office and apartment all of the time; another day I envision students running away when they see me or my husband coming!”

Beyer said he is thrilled to have Dr. Jakielski as the inaugural professor in residence.

“I was blown away by the enthusiasm and creativity she is bringing to this effort,” he said. “As I spoke with her about this, I discovered that she has been casually entertaining a similar idea for a while. She has a vision. Our students are in for a treat.”

Like Hogwarts? Well, Dr. Jakielski claims no magic powers, but she does confess a daring spirit. She is fond of Helen Keller’s quote: “Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all.” As for the year ahead, she said, “Dare I also admit that I think it could be fun?”

— Jeff Moore, freelance writer and videographer

“I honestly cannot even imagine what this is going to be like. One day I envision students hanging around the office and apartment all of the time; another day I envision students running away when they see me or my husband coming!”

– Dr. Kathy Jakielski, professor in residence, prior to moving in

Faculty on the team

While Dr. Kathy Jakielski is living in student housing as a faculty mentor, nearly 45 faculty hit the road or take the field or court as faculty mentors for Augustana’s varsity sports teams. These mentors serve as academic coaches/advisors who connect with student-athletes to offer counsel and support on academic issues and other issues impacting the student-athlete’s overall success. Some faculty, like former Augie track and cross country runner Farah Marklevits ’99 (above), work out with their advisees. As Marklevits says, some of her best conversations with the women’s cross-country team take place on their long runs together. Photo by Tawanda Mberikwazvo ’18/Augustana Photo Bureau.
Then, the summer after his first year at Augustana, he signed up for a paleontological field trip because of a certain geology professor, Dr. William R. Hammer. Smith had taken Hammer’s honors course Great Geological Controversies, which awakened an interest in dinosaurs that Smith had harbored since boyhood. He couldn’t wait to join Hammer’s field trip to the White River Badlands of Nebraska, an area famous for old bones.

He ran around the craggy hillsides and ancient riverbeds with Hammer’s group, digging in the soft rock and revealing fossils of prehistoric creatures that lay hidden for 30 million years. “You start lifting and working them out, and you’re the first person who’s ever seen them,” he said. “That’s a pretty incredible experience when you think about it.”

Smith loved it. Dr. Hammer, of course, knew the feeling well. His discovery of Cryolophosaurus ellioti, a theropod like Tyrannosaurus rex, already had won international acclaim as the first meat-eating dinosaur unearthed in Antarctica. For Smith, this sense of discovery was becoming contagious, especially with Hammer as a mentor.

“I can say without reservation, looking at where my career is now, Augustana was really the lynchpin,” said Smith. “My life would have unfolded in a much different way if I hadn’t met Bill.”

Dr. William “Bill” Hammer and Dr. Nathan Smith are now colleagues, collaborators and friends. Smith has become a recognized paleontologist in his own right, and holds the position as associate curator of the Dinosaur Institute at the world-class Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, and also is an adjunct associate professor in the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Southern California. As Hammer looks at retirement next year, perhaps nothing is more satisfying than knowing that Smith has agreed to take over the Antarctic paleontology project that Hammer has led for 40 years. The two had discussed the plan on their expeditions together.

“I originally was given the PI job [principal investigator or leadership of the project] by my Ph.D. advisor,” Hammer said, “so it was very appropriate for me to give it to Nate.”

Hammer’s Ph.D. advisor was the late Dr. John Cosgriff Jr., of Wayne State University, a globe-trekking paleontologist who led Hammer to Antarctica on his inaugural expedition in 1977. Access to the Southern Continent is limited under international treaties and by extreme weather. The polar summer is brief and still relatively cold, even with its 24-hour daylight. Scientists who are admitted for research are part of a select international group, and they are given only a limited window of time.

“It’s pretty rough by design,” said Smith, “and a lot of us like it that way.” They hit the ground, set up a spartan camp, break out their gear and get to work. Hammer and his team have discovered two new dinosaurs, and altered people’s understanding of continental drift and the evolution of big carnivorous
dinosaurs. A 9,000-foot peak in Antarctica was christened Mount Augustana in his honor, and Hammer Col, an ice-covered pass between two large peaks in the Ellsworth Mountains of Antarctica, was named for him.

As Smith prepares to lead the next expedition a year from now, much of the work, he says, involves taking responsibility for a whole community that Hammer built to sustain the project. “It’s about leading the charge for vertebrate paleontology in the central Transantarctic Mountains,” Smith said. “It’s helping coordinate all these people who are working down there, helping with the advocacy and setting up the workshops, and trying to get future camps off the ground.”

It’s a lot of work, but looking back, Smith says Hammer was a great example for finding the right balance in life. “Bill’s very much a work hard, play hard kind of guy,” Smith said. “You get your butt out in the morning early—he’s up at 6 a.m. every day, running five or eight miles before he comes into work—and you put your back into it when you’re out in the field, and then you kick back around the fire and tell stories and have a good time. He’s a blast to hang around with in that social setting, as well.

“He’s always been the kind of guy who keeps things in perspective when it comes to work and family and friendship. That’s an ideal quality to see in a mentor.”

Since the Nebraska Badlands, Smith has never lost sight of Hammer. He accompanied him to Antarctica twice, incorporating Hammer’s dinosaurs into the subject matter of his graduate research, including his M.S. thesis at the University of Iowa and his Ph.D. work at the University of Chicago. He went on to make his own groundbreaking discoveries, unearthing a new pre-dinosaur, *Dromomeron romeri*, that landed on the cover of the journal Science. His work appeared on CNN and even an IMAX movie, “Dinosaurs Alive!” Hammer will tell you it’s no exaggeration that Smith’s appointment as dinosaur curator at the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles gave him one of the best jobs on the planet for a dinosaur hunter.

“He turned out to be one of the best students I have ever had in the field. I am very proud of his accomplishments.”

– Dr. William Hammer

“One of the really fun things I get to do, as I’ve moved up in my career, is that now I’m the guy who brings students out to the field,” Smith said, “and I can watch them have that first experience, digging up fossil bones, having that sense of discovery. That’s still what it’s all about.”

Some of them will come back like he did, like Hammer did.

Smith already is getting his group ready for Antarctica next year, looking at logistics. This time they’ll make their way south to Shackleton Glacier by the central Transantarctic Mountains. Hammer has been there several times, and he’ll be joining the team for one last Antarctic adventure. They’ll be a little closer to the South Pole, where it’s a bit colder under that midnight sun. Instead of little picks and brushes, they’ll need jackhammers to break through the ancient stone. But Smith has no doubt the dinosaurs are there, hiding beneath the surface, waiting for the first light of day.

— Jeff Moore, freelance writer and videographer
The year-long transformation of the College Center is complete! In its place, the $4.2 million Brunner Theatre Center. Kim Brunner ’71 and Donna Huber Brunner provided the lead gift of $1 million for the theatre center—formerly the College Center’s second-floor cafeteria and third-floor meeting space. The theatre center boasts three performance spaces: the 260-seat Brunner Main Stage on the second floor; the flexible 80-seat Heidi Honkamp Myhre Black Box on the third floor; and the Anderson Outdoor Pavilion performance area.

The main stage (shown here) is two stories high with seating on three sides. The renovation also includes an expanded costume shop, dressing room area and lobby. A larger scene-construction shop will make it possible to more easily design and build multi-level sets, resulting in a wider range of plays and musicals and more opportunities for students on stage and behind the scenes. For the first time, Augustana will present a spring opera, in addition to the musical “Titanic.”

Just for the record: the college’s Bookstore and Snack Bar remain open on the lower level of the Brunner Theatre Center.
Counting the ways...
How alumni choose to give back

Augustana alumni are a creative bunch. The ways they choose to give back to college are unlimited: hosting a student intern in their home; working college fairs; mentoring students; establishing scholarships and endowed funds; helping design a vision for the college’s future; and providing gifts, large and small, that sometimes change the landscape of campus. Their reasons for giving vary, but most often it comes down to an appreciation for their four years on campus.

As Alumni Board member Michael Ricaurte ’92 explained, “We feel that it is important to give thanks for our blessings—by giving back of time, talent and treasure.” Speaking for himself and his wife, Katie Festge ’92 Ricaurte, he added, “We were blessed to have attended Augustana and met there. We now have this tremendous life together—we celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary in October—thanks in part to Augustana.”

Every year, thousands of alumni contribute to the success of our students, and therefore, the success of the college. Here are a few stories we’d like to share....

Hosting a student intern

In the summer of 2014, Hannah Sundwall ’15 was offered an opportunity for the internship of a lifetime in public relations with the Baltimore Orioles baseball team, but it came with obstacles. “I did not know where I was going to live, I didn’t know the area and I knew no one there,” Sundwall said. “I sent out a cry for help through the Augustana network, and I was connected to Michelle, who graciously opened her home to me.”

Michelle King ’93 of Columbia, Md., not only opened her home, but also mentored Sundwall as she navigated a new working environment, new co-workers, crazy traffic and a lot of hours (including 14 hours and 26 minutes of rain delays).

“We talked about what to do in terms of embracing the challenges and riding the successes,” King said. “And as Hannah learned, so did I. Having furthered my education and worked in the federal government for over 20 years now, I have had a plethora of experiences and mentored many employees, yet I never had an experience quite like that summer. I learned new things every day. It allowed me time to reflect and think back on my own education, career and the road I have traveled...am traveling. I’m thankful for an Augustana educational experience 20 years after graduation and a lifelong friend.”

Sundwall is honored to be one of King’s bridesmaids when she is married in June 2017.

Recruiting students

Every year, hundreds of alumni help recruit students, either by making phone calls, speaking at events, attending college fairs, even sending in names of high school students whom they think would flourish at Augustana.

After graduating in 2014, Cameron Onumah returned to his hometown of Los Angeles. As a field representative in the office of U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, he is the senator’s principal liaison to African-American communities throughout California and works on a number of policy initiatives.

When asked if he would help at the Orange County (Calif.) National College Fair, Onumah didn’t hesitate. “When I was a student at Augie, I worked in the admissions office and always enjoyed working with potential out-of-state students like myself,” he said, “so I jumped at the opportunity to tell students here in California about our college and my amazing experience.”

Michael Ricaurte and Karen Olson ’68 Roloff, also a member of the Alumni Board, make it a point to speak to their church’s high school youth group about Augustana. Tim Koll ’10 and Katie Fick ’10 Koll speak every year at alumni events to help prospective students realize what sets Augustana apart.

“The college is equipped and determined to help students develop their individual skills, talents, passions and character,” Tim Koll said. “Once a prospective student sees that developing as a whole person will prepare them for a lifetime of fulfilling careers and vocations, Augustana becomes the obvious choice.”

For 1960 graduates Bob and Carol Shannon Brockhouse, meeting and greeting prospective students and their parents on campus is one of their favorite volunteer activities, along with Homecoming and Family Weekend. They’re motivated by the satisfaction of helping others grow and achieve their goals and dreams. The Brockhouses “love the connection to Augustana, the place and the people that gave us so much in our younger years, and we want to keep the memories as part of our lives.”

Mentoring students

Julie Baner ’02, a production supervisor at Walt Disney Animation Studios, returned to Augustana for Symposium Day in September. Her past film projects include Winnie the Pooh, Prep and Landing: Naughty vs. Nice, Wreck-It Ralph, Frozen, Feast and the upcoming Thanksgiving release Moana. She currently is working on Wreck-It Ralph 2, due in theatres March 2018.

Baner discussed the highs and lows in her journey from Augustana to Disney and included advice on the post-graduation transition from entry-level jobs to a successful career.
Baner’s presentation and visit to Augustana was supported by the James D. and Carol H. Horstmann Endowed Academic Venture Fund. This fund was established by James Horstmann ’55 and Carol Griffiths ’57 Horstmann in appreciation for their education and lasting friendships at Augustana.

An endowed academic venture fund is another illustration of how alumni may choose to support their alma mater. The Horstmann Fund provides support for speakers, seminars, field trips and innovative programs that further distinguish Augustana’s academic program and benefit students in accounting, business administration and economics.

Giving to the college

Gifts to the college come in many packages. Ken Anderson ’71, the 1981 National Football League’s MVP, has remained connected to his alma mater and helped bridge relationships to make big things happen on campus, including the Austin E. Knowlton Athletic Complex that includes the Ken Anderson Academic All-American Club and Lindberg Stadium.

Broadway director and producer Philip Wm. McKinley ’73 helped guide architects and consultants in the design of the Brunner Theatre Center, a space unlike any other in the region. He also will be the artistic director for the theatre arts department’s first summer season since the 1970s.

The number of alumni serving on the Augustana Board of Trustees continues to grow, and their leadership and expertise are realized in the board’s important work. At the board’s October meeting, John Murabito ’80 was elected chair-elect to succeed Lee Selander ’72 as chairman, and seven alumni were welcomed as new members.

Many alumni have generously donated funding to build campus facilities and athletic fields that bear their names.

• Kim and Donna Brunner Theatre Center
  Kim Brunner ’71 and Donna Huber Brunner
• The Gerber Center for Student Life
  Murry ’75 Gerber and Cindy Gerber
• Charles D. Lindberg Stadium
  Charles D. Lindberg ’50
• Thorson-Lucken Field
  John Lucken ’62 and Mary Thorson ’62 Lucken
• Robert A. and Patricia K. Hanson Hall of Science
  Robert A. Hanson ’48 and Patricia K. Hanson
• Swanson Commons
  Duane R. Swanson ’61 and Cookie Swanson
• Swanson Stadium/Brunner Field
  Duane R. Swanson ’61 and Cookie Swanson;
  Kim Brunner ’71 and Donna Huber Brunner

More examples of alumni giving back are featured throughout this issue of Augustana College Magazine — Marty Resner ’13 returning to coach women’s bowling, Ken Clay ’14 and his colleagues offering internships to current students, and Farah Marklevits ’99 running with the cross-country team as a faculty mentor. Opportunities for alumni to help strengthen the Augustana experience and the college itself truly are countless.

If you are interested in mentoring students or offering an internship or volunteering in some way, email alumni@augustana.edu. To make a gift, call 800-798-8100 x7423.
Some enterprising young alumni from Augustana are dipping their toes into the multi-billion-dollar tech industry. With the launch of one smartphone app, and a much more ambitious one in the works, they’re starting to get those chills up their spines that suggest business might be taking off, with no limit in sight.

It’s heady stuff, considering they’re only a couple years out of Augustana. This summer they opened their first office in downtown Chicago. And they credit much of their entrepreneurial success to Augustana. In fact, the name of their company is 38th Street Studios, a name derived from the 38th Street address of Augustana and a constant reminder of the affection they still feel for the place.

“We’re just a product of the Augustana environment,” said Ken Clay ’14, who founded the company along with Mark Hoffmann ’15 and Stuart Casarotto ’14. “We’ve had great mentors and leaders at Augie who have helped us along the way, and enabled us to carry our vision into the real world.”

It’s a vision that now includes a view of Lake Michigan from their offices on South Wabash Avenue, just off State Street. Their technology consulting company has grown to a staff of seven with new hires, and six are from Augustana. It’s an orientation toward the college that’s reflected in almost everything they do, whether it’s networking with other alumni in Chicago, or adopting Augustana’s credo of leadership and service.

“I had opportunities that never would have happened at a larger school,” said Casarotto. “I had better access to professors and better access to ideas. I was encouraged to do things I felt were important, and developed a mindset that I could accomplish what I set out to do, and make an impact on the world we’re living in.”

All three alumni say that all the entrepreneurial resources they needed to succeed were sitting on their doorstep at Augustana. They talked to their professors, joined leadership and service groups, and did their homework.

Translation? Everything translates.

Casarotto was an engineering physics and environmental studies major, but on the side, he developed the AugiePonics food science program on campus, the Salon program for Socratic dialogues and a software...
program for the City of Moline. Clay was a quarterback and later a defensive back on the football team, was pledge chairman for Phi Omega Phi fraternity, and was the business major who convinced his two buddies they all needed to start a business. Hoffmann was another engineering physics major, and executive director of the Office of Student Life program at Augustana for three years where he managed people, led programs and developed projects. And Hoffmann topped it off with a master’s degree in data analytics from North Carolina State University.

The result was an unusual depth of experience when Clay, Hoffmann and Casarotto decided to dive headfirst into the business of 38th Street last November, pulling all-nighters and surviving on ramen noodles in Clay’s basement.

The first product they developed was “First Class,” a ridesharing smartphone app for limousine companies, and a tool those companies could use to compete for high-end customers against other ridesharing services like Uber and Lyft.

They held a coming-out party for “First Class” in April, and turned it into a fundraiser for non-profits. It was a gesture that held special meaning for the crew of 38th Street, Clay said, by aligning the company with the service component of their Augie experience.

“We’re young, we’re a new company, and we want to show people who we are,” Clay said.

When “First Class” caught the attention of Chicago’s Windy City Limousine, Clay said the owner was so impressed, he signed up as a strategic partner and investor in 38th Street. For Clay, that was a defining moment. “I realized we could accomplish big things.”

The next break came in June, when 38th Street entered as a team in a citywide entrepreneurial contest sponsored by AT&T. The object was to develop a mobile app to make the city of Chicago smarter. The 38th Street crew took first place, and did it with Hoffmann’s special expertise in predictive analytics.

The team developed a software tool called Precog, a short form of “precognition.” It crunched years of Chicago crime data, allowing the police department to see future trends and distribute its resources more efficiently. Precog can digest all the variables that relate to crime—weather, type of crime, location, time and day, special events nearby—and then predict the probability that crime will occur in any given location.

The result is also a mobile app that police can share with local communities. If they can see where there’s likely to be trouble, they can get in early and set up a local collaboration with the community to stop it.

“That’s where we saw an opportunity to come in and say, ‘We can make this data work for you, and potentially save lives in the process,’” said Hoffmann.

“So there was an opportunity for social good, which is also very important to us.”

The prospects for Precog are a big deal for the city of Chicago as it suffers a crisis in law enforcement with high murder rates and a public backlash against its policing practices. Executives from the police department and the mayor’s office have begun discussions with 38th Street about deploying Precog as a template in Chicago. Venture capitalists are talking to 38th Street about Precog as a template for police departments in other cities nationally and around the world.

Whatever happens in Chicago with Precog, the young entrepreneurs have already pulled the curtain open on the world. They see a future almost unlimited for those who can use data in smarter ways. Hoffmann is the cruncher, having earned his master’s from a university with one of the best data analytics programs in the country. Casarotto develops the interface to access the information that Hoffmann crunches. Clay is the chief executive who pulls it all together.

They are a startup on the brink: talking to a big city, big companies, and feeling an urgent need to expand rapidly in downtown Chicago so they can develop more products.

But they also are continuing their conversation about service and leadership, the other pillars of success. Their long-term vision is to start a venture fund that can help encourage other entrepreneurs at Augustana.

“If you have an idea, and you have a tie to Augustana, we want to have a portfolio fund that has the kind of resources to help you pursue that goal,” said Clay.

“That’s the ultimate goal of 38th Street; to keep it all in the family.”

– Jeff Moore, a freelance writer and videographer
During the windy season in Kenya, while walking home from school, Nelly Cheboi would find a metal sheet—the roof of her home—along the way. She would drag it back to her tiny house and climb up poles to reattach it as best she could. Her family had no sanitation facilities. No electricity. No clean water.

“We had trouble finding food,” she casually offers, and sometimes she, her mother and three sisters would go for days without it. One Christmas, her mother had used all of her money to send Cheboi’s sisters to school. She tried to sell vegetables at the market, but no one was buying. “It was really tough,” Cheboi said.

Yet, given these dire circumstances, education is a very big deal in Kenya, Cheboi explained. “People choose education as the only chance they have at a better life. I was ready and determined to learn. Looking back, I knew I was going to have a brighter future, but I didn’t know what that was. I always had this drive to make a change. I don’t know where it came from, but I always had it.”

Both Cheboi’s drive and her far-beyond-humble roots ultimately brought her to Augustana, where she graduated last spring with a bachelor’s degree in mathematics and computer science. Her journey from there to here was an incredible one.

Sneaking into classes
In Kenya, children go to elementary school for first through eighth grade for free. Then they take a test to determine where they’ll go to secondary school, most of which are boarding schools.

“If you get an A, you go to a national school with better teaching,” Cheboi explained. “If you get a B, you go to a smaller school. I was the first one to get an A in my village. It was a big deal. They threw a party. And I went to a good school.”

But her national school, located three hours away by bus, was expensive, and her family couldn’t afford it. Cheboi’s mother had sold her cows and goats to pay for her older daughters’ education, so by the time Cheboi got to secondary school, the money was gone.

Cheboi’s drive for education inspired a creative—albeit unpopular—solution: sneaking into classes.
"I'd go to school and get sent home for tuition, so I'd go back and help my mum in the kiosk, gather just about enough money for bus fare, sneak back through the coffee plantations, and play catch up before the principal realized I was back on campus," she said. "That's all I could do was hide myself and study. The principal gave up after a dozen times, but it is safe to assume she is not fond of me."

A life-changing flight

After scoring highly on a test at the end of secondary school, Cheboi qualified for the aerospace engineering program of her choice.

She became involved with Zawadi Africa, a program that takes bright African girls from humble backgrounds and trains them to apply for scholarships in the United States and Canada. Cheboi used a computer keyboard for the first time when she applied to 15 U.S. schools, including Augustana.

"She knew I didn't have any family here, and it was too far to go home. So I spent holidays with them."

"I've served as host mother for Nelly for four years, so she's someone dear to me," Jane Bahls said. "We've had fun sharing holidays with her."

The Bahls family also helped as culinary guides. "I ate chicken for the entire first month because I didn't know what to eat," Cheboi said. "Jane took me to an Indian restaurant, which is somewhat close to Kenyan food. It was a huge help."

And Midwestern winters?

"The first winter, I had no idea what to wear," she remembered. "The first snow was on Christmas Day, and my roommates were gone. I was planing on going out to eat that day but when I looked outside, there was snow everywhere. I ended up ordering a pizza and carefully watched what the delivery man did about the snow."

Jane Bahls also helped Cheboi discover various work-study programs on campus that would end up making a huge impact on Cheboi's family in Kenya. "Talk about the transformative power of an Augustana education!" Bahls said.

Becoming a 'rock star'

Cheboi used to sing a Swahili song to her mum, which loosely translates to: "My hands are so small, I can't help you, but when my hands are bigger and I can help you, I'll relieve you of your responsibilities, and you're going to be like a queen."

Cheboi has lived up to this promise. Through working various work-study jobs at Augustana, she earned enough money to move her family into a nice apartment in Kenya and buy dairy cows for her mother, bringing income and security.

"I'm really proud to get better living conditions for my family," she said.

Cheboi also helped her sister, Sharon, who has a diploma in elementary education, start a school in Kenya. She used her Augie Choice money as a stipend to fund the school, which she named after the Zawadi Africa program.

"Forty-four kids pay to go, and the money supports my family," Cheboi explained. "They're earning an
“I’ll be forever grateful to Augie. There’s no way I’d have discovered computer science if I’d stayed in Kenya.”

– Nelly Cheboi

Nelly Cheboi ’16

Education: Bachelor’s in applied mathematics and computer science

Activities: Varsity cross country, varsity track & field, math and chemistry tutor, student ambassador

Internships: Researched evolutionary robotics with Dr. Forrest Stonedahl in mathematics and computer science, and worked on the Diffusion Monte Carlo Project supervised by Dr. Kurt Christoffel in chemistry.

Post-graduate plans: Currently a business analyst and computer programmer for New World Van Lines, Chicago. Eventually attend graduate school to study software engineering.

Advice to others: “Put yourself out there. There is so much to discover about yourself by taking risks and exploring.”

Bottom line: “No one will ever take my education away from me.”
My philanthropic legacy

By Sue Hulsen ’66 Heine

I am deeply indebted to the liberal arts curriculum of Augustana that has guided my philosophy for living. My life has been enriched by the religious, ethical and moral principles I learned in college, making Augustana College worthy of my support.

I established a charitable remainder unitrust to thank Augustana for its influence on my life. I funded this gift using a non-cash asset of appreciated stock. I am enjoying a nice tax break for turning a low yield investment into an investment in my future and the future of the college. My quarterly checks arrive automatically. No other investment has been as effortless.

It is so rewarding to know that my husband and I will be financially secure and that the trust will eventually provide life-changing experiences for future generations of Augustana students. Leaving this type of legacy makes me feel powerful.

For more information on how to create a similar legacy plan that will benefit both you and Augustana College, contact Stephen Davis, assistant vice president of legacy planning, at 309-794-7587 or legacyinfo@augustana.edu.

1954
Maj-Britt Hilstrom was a participating artist in Magic Carpet Ride, an international collaborative exhibition with Athenian sculptors and San Francisco Bay Area sculptors, in Athens, Greece, on Sept. 22, 2015. Her sculpture, a French red marble and titanium diptych, is titled Woven Wave V.

1959
Lois Parnell Frels received the Mansfield Award from Iowa Wesleyan University, which recognizes her community contributions and outstanding lifetime achievements, and her embodiment of the spirit of Belle Babb Mansfield—the first woman admitted to practice law in the United States. Lois is professor emerita at Bradley University in Peoria, Ill.

1961
Tom Warren retired as professor emeritus of education from Beloit College.

1966
Madelynn Victorson Skvarla retired from the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago as a speech/language pathologist in the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Neuropsychological Testing Service.

1968
Lynn Kusy, former executive director of Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport, was honored with the dedication of the airport’s Aircraft Viewing Park in his name, commemorating 20 years of achievement. During Lynn’s tenure, Gateway Airport was twice recognized as the Arizona Airport of the Year by the ADOT.

Barry Stoughton’s company, BLS Enterprises, Inc., celebrated its 30th anniversary in October 2016, and Barry says he will be “handing over the reins” to his son, Matt.

1972
Elaine Nelson Malzahn graduated from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, in May 2016 with a Master of Theological Studies.

Geraldine Wilson performs improv at Gilda’s Club and Second City in Chicago, and has been an extra on various television shows and feature films, including “Chicago Fire,” “Shameless,” “Boss,” and “Bat man v. Superman.”

1974
Bruce Thake is a host home provider for autistic adults.

1975
Daniel Grunde retired from Sears Holdings Corporation after 40 years.

1976
William Simpkins is a professor and holder of the Smith Family Foundation Departmental Chair in Geology in the Department of Geological and Atmospheric Sciences at Iowa State University, where he teaches and supervises graduate students in hydrogeology. In the fall of 2015, he received the George Burke Maxey Distinguished Service Award from the Hydrogeology Division of the Geological Society of America.

1977
Douglas Hultquist, president and CEO of QCR Holdings, Inc., was crowned king of the 77th Annual Mardi Gras Ball sponsored by the Junior Board of Rock Island, which is dedicated to serving the needs of area children.

Tim Marquardt was named the winner of Credit Union Times Magazine’s 2016 Trailblazer Award for CFO of the Year.

1978
Edward Haskins retired from Tyson Foods as group controller in Chicago after 30 years.

Jan Burriss Knuckey is the president of the Ohio State Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, a philanthropic educational organization. In June 2016, she presided over the Convention of the Ohio State Chapter in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Denise Novak was elected to the Council of the American Library Association for a term of three years.
Tina Peterson ‘86 Favia was destined to be a golfer. “I grew up on a golf course. My parents’ home was on Hole #3 of Blackhawk Country Club in Madison, Wis. That was my playground,” she said. “Growing up, the golf club was my community. That’s what everyone did.”

As she got older, her appreciation for the game grew. Favia played competitively throughout high school at both the state and national levels. Although she considered playing college golf, she ultimately decided on Augustana to pursue the pre-medicine program and follow in the footsteps of her father, Donald A. Peterson ’42. At that time, Augustana didn’t have a women’s golf team. “I thought about playing on the boy’s team,” she said, “but I decided to focus on my studies instead.”

After graduating from Augustana, Favia returned to golf and became the assistant women’s golf coach at University of Wisconsin-Madison while beginning her master’s in kinesiology at the University of Wisconsin. Her desire to play golf also led her to playing on the Women’s Futures Golf Tour. Favia eventually finished her master’s in kinesiology at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

She then made her way to Chicago, where she started her career as a teaching golf professional and worked at Wynstone Golf Club in North Barrington, Ill., and Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Ill., and as the assistant women’s golf coach at Northwestern University. She married Michael Favia ’86 in 1992, and they have two children, Lauren, 20, and Luke, 17.

Today, as an LPGA Teaching Professional at Cantigny Golf Academy in Wheaton, Ill., Favia teaches group and private lessons to golfers of all ages. In an effort to recreate the junior golf program she enjoyed at her backyard course as a child, she helped develop various levels of instruction at the academy and is the site director for the LPGA-USGA Girls Golf program. Favia helped establish the program at Cantigny specifically to encourage young women’s passion for golf through social camaraderie.

“I think Augustana helped me gain a broader understanding of life and how to approach people, which inspired the teaching aspect in my career,” said Favia, a member of Delta Chi Theta sorority. “Find your passion, and know that it’s important. For me, that was golf.”

For Favia, pairing that with her love of teaching was just perfect.

1979
Donald W. Hultgren was appointed executive vice president and chief administrative officer at Wedbush Securities.

1980
David Westman authored a book titled Board and CEO Roles for Achieving Association Goals, which focuses on best practices for governance and leadership of associations and other non-profit organizations.

1983
Andrew Varney, professor and residency program director of internal medicine at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, was named the Innovator in Residency Education for the 2016 Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine Spotlight Series from the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine.

1986
Edward W. Edens was named a principal of the Kovitz Investment Group in Chicago.

1988
Daniel Duffy is president and CEO of Prevent Child Abuse America. He resigned from the Illinois State Senate in April 2016.

Ellen Peterson Reinertsen and her husband own and operate a hotel/motel/cabin property called Misty Mountain Lodge, in Estes Park, near Rocky Mountain National Park.

1989
James Schaechter was promoted to corporate director of training and development at UPS.

1991
Jerry Jones, executive director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center in Rock Island, is a member of the Figge Art Museum’s Board of Trustees.

1992
David Heitz writes for several national websites, including HIV Equal, Foundations Recovery Network, Healthline and Caregiver Relief, specializing in the following topics: HIV, Hepatitis C, addiction/recovery and elder advocacy.
Why we step up for Augustana

“Giving back to Augustana has never been a question for us. Our time spent in the Augustana Choir, especially on choir tour, gave us some of our best memories. At what other time in your life can you travel around the country and the world with 70 of your closest friends and make music together in beautiful spaces? We are so grateful for the musical experiences we had at Augie, and we are proud to know that our gift supports students pursuing their passions during their time at Augustana College.”

– Dan and Melissa Pepper, Class of 2009

Join Dan and Melissa and step up for Augustana by making a gift that makes you proud at www.augustana.edu/makeagift. Your support will allow current students to make their own amazing Augustana memories.

Stephen P. Davis received a Ph.D. in anthropology in May 2016 from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is a lecturer in the Faculty of Leadership and Interdisciplinary Studies at Arizona State University (ASU), as well as the coach of the Academic Bowl Team for the College of Letters and Sciences and the director of ASU’s Study Abroad Program in Dublin, Ireland.

Dawn Rundman was promoted to director of congregational resource development at Sparkhouse, the ecumenical division of Augsburg Fortress Publishers.

Diana Tabor married Levi Luebke in November 2014. They had a son, Leonard Scott, in March 2015. She is a forensic scientist. In October 2015, she became the latent print technical lead at the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office Crime Laboratory.

1993

Beth Dahl Rodriguez, a fourth-grade teacher, was one of 15 teachers selected as Deer Valley Unified School District’s [Phoenix, Ariz.] Teacher of the Year.

1994

Shawn Beattie had a son, Thomas Hale, on February 12, 2016 (Kamy; Caroline, 6; and William, 4).

1997

Jason Owens was appointed township board of trustees in May 2016.

1998

David and Beth Christensen ‘99 Carlin had a son, Greyson, on Aug. 26, 2015 (Makenna, 10; Ellisyn, 7; and Wesley, 2).

Brett Carter completed the Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) designation in March 2016, and earned an MBA in marketing from Ashford University in April 2016.

Ivory Clark was appointed dean of students at Rock Island High School.

Nathan Hassman is a chemistry and biology teacher at Maine West High School in Des Plaines, Ill. He was featured in the Daily Herald newspaper in March 2016, discussing the modeling method of teaching he uses in the classroom.

1999

Meghan Kelly Cooley and Luke Cooley ’00 had a son, Simon Thomas, on July 19, 2016 (Charles, 7; Oliver, 5; and Bennett, 2).

David ‘98 and Beth Christensen Carlin had a son, Greyson, on August 26, 2015 (Makenna, 10; Ellisyn, 7; and Wesley, 2).

Sasha Fach Schrunk works in an integrative medicine department through Mayo Clinic Health System in Onalaska, Wis., specializing in osteopathic manipulation. She is dually board certified in family medicine and neuromusculoskeletal medicine.

Jennifer Traversa works for Pethealth, Inc., as part of the sales and service team.

2000

Luke Cooley and Meghan Kelly ‘99 Cooley had a son, Simon Thomas, on July 19, 2016 (Charles, 7; Oliver, 5; and Bennett, 2).


2001

Andrew and Sarah Eckel ’02 Harrison, had a daughter, Leah Anne, on Feb. 27, 2015. (Elizabeth, 10, and Megan, 5).

Caroline Adams Milne teaches honors human biology and biology living systems at Barrington [Ill.] High School, and was featured in the Daily Herald in March 2016, regarding her implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards used in her classes.

Heather Martin Schladt had a daughter, Samantha Joy Schladt, on June 24, 2015 (Olivia, 3).

Ben and Mary Ella Kenefake ’04, Sigwarth had a son, Maxwell Louis, on May 25, 2016 (Hudson, 3).

2002

Elizabeth Choporis married Keith Merkel on May 21, 2016.

Stephanie Minkley Gorham had a son, Vaughn Bruno Gorham, on April 27, 2016 (Peter; Liliana, 7; Nathaniel, 5; and Andrew, 2).

Andrew ’01 and Sarah Eckel Harrison, had a daughter, Leah Anne, on Feb. 27, 2015 (Elizabeth, 10, and Megan, 5).
WANTED: sorority and fraternity mementos

By Samantha Crisp, Special Collections librarian

Calling all Greek alumni! If you have any mementos from your sorority or fraternity days, Special Collections needs your help.

Special Collections consists of Augustana’s collections of rare books and manuscripts, as well as the college archives. Some of the most highly requested resources are sorority and fraternity records, but unfortunately, we have very few materials related to our Greek organizations. Help us build up these collections by donating items from your sorority or fraternity. (We especially would like to connect with PUGs and Poobahs, as we have almost nothing representing these fraternities.)

Materials we are interested in:

- Meeting minutes
- Correspondence
- Financial records
- Member lists
- Charters
- Photographs/scrapbooks
- AV material (films, tapes, audio recordings)
- Pledge books
- Newsletters
- Event flyers/programs/posters
- Ephemera (dance cards, pennants, bumper stickers, etc.)

Materials we usually can’t accept (but you are welcome to inquire about):

- Clothing (sweaters, letterman jackets, etc.)
- Accessories (pins, buttons, bags, etc.)
- 3-D awards (trophies and plaques)
- Pledge paddles
- Objects related to pledging (door hangings, bota bags, beanies, etc.)

To make a donation, please contact Samantha Crisp at samanthacrisp@augustana.edu or 309-794-7317.
2010

William Hatchet earned a master’s of public administration from Drake University in 2015. He is the retention program coordinator at the University of Oregon.

Derrick ‘07 and Jacquelyn Hughes Engel had a daughter, Evelyn, on March 26, 2016. Jacquelyn also graduated magna cum laude with her master’s in secondary education.

Andrea Musolf received an MBA from National Lewis University in 2014.

Kathryn Suriano is the lead Pre-K teacher at The Gardner School, and was promoted to director of curriculum. She received her Illinois Professional Educator Licensure for Early Childhood Education.

Amanda Smet married Nathan Welch in May 2016. She is an employment/rehab consultant with Transitions Mental Health Services.

2011

Kaitlin Banduch is a marketing specialist with IlliniCare Health.

Amanda Bleuer is a senior accountant at Sol Terra.

Jordan Conerty earned a Master of Divinity from Yale University in 2016. He is the program administrator for the Maryville Adventures in Studying Theology Program at Maryville College.

Katherine Dempsey received the 2016 Richard King Trainee Award for Best Publication in Genetics in Medicine. She is the first genetic counseling student to win the award.

Tim Faith is an innovation brewer at Goose Island Beer Company.

Nichola Justen teaches biology at Belvidere North High School.

Sarah Kenealy teaches music in Darien School District 61.

Courtney Mitten is material coordinator at John Deere.

Kelsey O’Connell earned a Master of Library and Information Science from Dominican University in 2015.

Michelle Opsahl married Louis Young ’09 in February 2015. She is a public relations specialist with Modern Woodmen of America.

Sheila Roggemann earned a bachelor’s in nursing from Olivet Nazarene University in 2014. She is a registered nurse at Advocate Health Care.

Tricia Sapio earned her master’s in speech-language pathology from St. Ambrose University in 2016.

2012

Rebecca Mally DeSimone earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in 2015.

Catherine Foreman earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in 2016.

Hillary Freymiller Herman received her Doctor of Medicine from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in May 2016. She is now at the University of Iowa Children’s Hospital in Iowa City, Iowa, for her pediatrics residency.

Sara Hewitt earned a Doctor of Osteopathy from A.T. Still University Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. She is an ob/gyn resident at Henry Ford Hospital, Michigan.

Marc Nethercote is a personal support worker with the Department of Human Services in Portland, Ore.

2014


Paul Kleinhans-Schulz is director of group sales for the New Orleans Zephyrs.

Katie Kornaus received a master’s in Spanish from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2016. She is a program support specialist with the Douglas Stewart Company, and is also an assistant track & field/cross country coach at James Madison Memorial High School in Madison, Wis.

2015

Joseph Bullaro is an economic analyst with Smith Economic Group, Ltd.

Kristel Ehrlich is a high school teacher at The Delphian School in Sheridan, Ore.

Chelsea Fray is a graduate teaching assistant at Illinois State University.

Jonathon Meyer married Amelia Beveroth ’14 on March 19, 2016.

Anna Moorhead is an intake advisor and Asia coordinator at Benedictine University.

Lawrence Palmer is marketing and brand manager at Kollectaball.

David Voland is a high school math teacher and track coach in the Maquoketa Community School District.

Jaclyn Wrona is a teaching assistant at The University of Iowa.

2016

Andrew Beveroth is a value stream cost analyst at Wahl Clipper Corporation in Sterling, Ill.

Kyle Cluver teaches math at Carmel (Ind.) High School.

Mike Guidotti is pursuing a master’s in speech-language pathology at Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kan.

Taylor McGinnis is a high school social studies teacher at De La Salle Institute in Chicago.

Sarah Oberg is an accountant for John Deere in its Financial Development Program and a graduate student in accounting at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa.

Keith Sands received a $7,500 NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship, which he has until 2019 to use. He currently is teaching math in Tanzania through the Peace Corps.

Robert Scott is a digital marketing specialist with Thought Horizon, a B2B social media company assisting businesses with intelligent social selling and advanced marketing technology to drive sales.

Kylie Siebert is the Quad City Mallards’ manager of new media and marketing. She is also an assistant volleyball coach at Augustana.

Ryan Silvola is a reporter/designer for the Beloit Daily News in Beloit, Wis.

Natalie Tomerlin is pursuing a master’s in speech-language pathology at Purdue University.
Deaths
(notices received as of Aug. 1, 2016)

Florence Illian ’37 Ruefer on April 16, 2016.
Eugenia Nipps ’38 Swaim on Nov. 1, 2014.
Grace Bergstrom ’38 Wiggins on Aug. 16, 2015.
Edna Sander ’47 on June 15, 2015.
Lois Hall ’47 on April 10, 2016.
April 30, 2015.
Margaret Brashar ’44 on June 15, 2015.
Gerald Bloomberg ’46 on April 10, 2016.
Ruth Bloomberg ’46 on April 10, 2016.
Lois Hall ’47 on June 15, 2015.
Edna Sander ’47 on June 14, 2016.

Helen Tannus ’47 Parnaby on June 15, 2014.
Carl Swanson ’47 on Feb. 20, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Joann, and his brother, Theodore Swanson ’50.
Donna Joneson ’47 Trethewey on May 27, 2016. She is survived by her husband, Jack.
Robert Hanson ’48 on May 19, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Patricia.
John Aronson ’49 on Aug. 1, 2016. Survivors include his son, Thomas Aronson ’77.
Peter Grunwald ’49 on Jan. 13, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Patricia.
Rodger Hultgren ’50 on May 23, 2016. Survivors include his wife, Marietta Anderson ’51 Hultgren, and son, David Hultgren ’73.
Robert Lofgren ’50 on May 1, 2016.
Perry Mason ’50 on Feb. 7, 2016. Among survivors are his wife, Marjorie Glaspell ’75 Mason, and daughters, Pamela Mason ’74 and Cynthia Mason ’76 Gibson.
Ardath Kucera ’50 Scott on April 23, 2016.
James Crangle, husband of Barbara Wangelin ’51 Crangle, on January 17, 2016.
Joann Bolin ’51 Northup on April 10, 2016. She is survived by her husband, Jack.
Robert Scott ’51 on April 22, 2016.

Jack Eggspuehler ’52 on May 1, 2016.
Alice Erickson ’52 on Feb. 5, 2016. She is survived by her husband, Paul Olsen.
Annette Sandberg ’52 Hayes on Feb. 17, 2016. Survivors include her husband, Forrest Hayes, and son, Jeffrey Hayes ’77.
Nancy Benson ’52 Ross on Feb. 17, 2016. Survivors include her husband, Pat Ross ’52; daughter, Sarah Ross ’76 Eagleson; brother, Stephen Benson ’61; and granddaughter Lauren Ross ’10.
Lois Crite ’53 Brokken on March 21, 2016.
Wayne Johnson ’53 on July 28, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Beverly.
Elizabeth Carlson ’53 on Jan. 28, 2016.
Nancy Benson ’53 Westman on June 14, 2016. Survivors include her husband, Alvin Westman ’53, and sons, David Westman ’80 and Mark Westman ’85.
Robert Berry ’55 on April 22, 2016.
Richard Narske ’56 on Jan. 15, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Jean.
Richard Beckman ’58 on March 15, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Nan.
Kenneth Knutson ’58 on May 15, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Gail Purtell ’59 Knutson.
Margaret Anderson ’60 on Jan. 17, 2016.
James Linden ’60 on June 3, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann.
Ronald Janecke ’61 on June 4, 2016.
Rodney Bruner ’62 on Jan. 15, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Lutz ’56 Bruner.
Raymond Metzger ’62 on April 19, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Mary.
Hernando Cuenca ’63 on April 4, 2016.
Vivian Boyack ’64 on July 24, 2016. She is survived by her spouse, Vernona [Nonie] Dubes.
David Mattson ’64 on Feb. 25, 2016. Survivors include his wife, Anna Nordlander ’66 Mattson, and son, Eric Mattson ’97.
Richard Narske ’64 on May 10, 2016. Among survivors are his wife, Karen Smith ’65 Narske; daughter, Elizabeth Narske ’92; and son, Robert Narske ’92.
Vernon Greenwood ’66 on April 22, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Diane.
William ”Bill” Schmitz, husband of Julie Lucken ’66 Schmitz, on Jan. 26, 2016. Survivors include his son, Eric Schmitz ’94.
Carole Ingeson ’67 on April 5, 2016.
John “Jack” Hullett, husband of Susan Hoylman ’69 Hullett, on March 5, 2016. He is survived by his wife; daughter, Christy Hullett ’90 Graham; and son, Craig Hullett ’92.

Carl Isaacson ’71 on May 9, 2016. Among his survivors are his wife, Kristine, and daughter, Emily Isaacson ’00.

Michael Flaherty ’72 on April 15, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Nancy.

Thomas Aring ’73 on Sept. 26, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Remee.

Belinda Biggins ’73 Johnson on March 13, 2016. She is survived by her husband, Dennis Johnson ’73.

Flora Seymour ’73 Whiteside on April 14, 2016. Survivors include her son, Fred Whiteside ’74, and grandson, Michael Whiteside ’03.

Laura Johnson ’74 Manis on May 28, 2016.

Alice Gustafson ’77 on June 19, 2016.


David Bell ’80 on July 6, 2016. Among survivors are his wife, Karen, and daughter, Lindsey Bell ’10 Mucha.

Linette Schmult ’80 Turnquist on March 5, 2016. She is survived by her father, Floyd Schmult, and children, Adam and Erin.

Russell Scott ’85 on May 1, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Beth.

Michael Cooley ’90 on March 18, 2016. He is survived by his parents, Ed and Paula Cooley.

James Vetter ’93 on June 24, 2016. Survivors include his mother, Sally, and brother, Thomas Vetter ’83.


Andrew Bollman ’98 on July 9, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Rochelle Monteith ’98 Bollman.

Eric Madison ’99 on March 3, 2016. He is survived by his father, Gary.

Timothy Anderson ’00 on Feb. 8, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Cathrall, and sons, William and Thomas.

Robert (Bob) Hanson ’48

Former chairman and CEO of Deere and Company, Robert Hanson ’48, died May 19, 2016. He was 91. Augustana President Steve Bahls, who looked to Hanson as a mentor, was asked to deliver a eulogy at the funeral service.

“Bob Hanson was among the first people I met when I came to the Quad Cities in 2003,” said President Bahls. “I was a new, inexperienced CEO of Augustana College, and one of the board members suggested I could learn from Bob Hanson.

“Bob kindly shared with me the lessons that I suspect he shared with many of you. From the first moment I met him, Bob believed in me and with his encouragement, I started to believe that I, too, could be a CEO like Bob. This scene has been repeated, I am sure, over and over at Deere through the years.”

Hanson grew up in East Moline and graduated with an economics major from Augustana. He entered college in the fall of 1942, but took three years off to serve in the U.S. Marines during World War II. He completed his degree in 1948. Two years later, Hanson began his career with John Deere, and was elected senior vice president of Deere’s Overseas Division in 1973.

Just five years later, Hanson became president of Deere and Company, the first person not related to John Deere to serve as president. Hanson, who would be named chairman and chief executive officer in 1982, is credited with leading the company through tough economic challenges in the 1980s while expanding and diversifying Deere and Company before retiring in 1990.

“Considering the economic challenges that seemed to be at war with the success of John Deere during his leadership, Bob’s ability to humanely lead the organization from challenge to challenge, and through them to success upon success...this is nothing short of inspirational,” President Bahls noted.

Hanson contributed to Augustana throughout his life, serving on the Board of Trustees and as an honorary chair in the college’s Authentically Augustana capital campaign. In 2010, Hanson, along with his wife Patricia, provided $8 million to the college to name the science building—the Robert A. and Patricia K. Hanson Hall of Science.

“I will fondly remember my friend and my mentor every day as I walk past the Robert and Patricia Hanson Hall of Science,” said President Bahls.
In memoriam, continued

John (Jack) Hullett

John “Jack” Hullett died on March 5, 2016, at the age of 73.

Hullett came to Augustana in 1965 from the University of Denver, where he’d been awarded fellowships by the Ford Foundation and NASA while completing graduate studies there. By 1976, he had risen from instructor of psychology to department chair, while editing, writing and co-authoring numerous publications along the way. In 1977, he served as co-director of Augustana’s Asian Foreign Study Program, the first of four such tours he helped lead.

Joining the administration full-time in 1981, Hullett served as dean of students until 1991, when he was asked to pioneer a new position at the college, that of dean for enrollment management. At the time, then-President Thomas Tredway ’57 said the goal was “to create a single process by which students are attracted to and kept enrolled at Augustana until they complete their work here.”

While the size of the student body—by design—remained relatively stable, in the 13 years Hullett was dean for enrollment management, the annual field of applicants grew by more than a thousand, and Augustana’s four-year graduation rate was consistently well above both state and national averages. Hullett retired in 2004, after 39 years of service to the college.

“I got to know Jack early in my career at Augustana,” said Dr. Jon Clauss, a mathematics professor who arrived on campus in 1993. “Despite that I was a young professor straight out of grad school, he always treated me with kindness and respect. He left his mark on me and on this community. He will be missed.”

Meghan Kelly ’99 Cooley, director of recruitment communications, worked for Hullett for five years before he retired. “Each Christmas Jack would spearhead a Secret Santa exchange for staff in admissions and financial aid,” Cooley said. “He loved it—the camaraderie, the fun, the giving, the laughter. And he set the bar high—often, it wasn’t too secretive if Jack had your name because his rhyming clues were clever and creative, and his gifts were thoughtful and personal.

“Jack ran the enrollment operation in the same way—with passion, loyalty and dedication.” Cooley recalled. “He often said, ‘Recruiting is both an art and a science. You have to do the scientific strategy and detail work, but then you also have to finesse the magic of relationships and believe in the future of young people.’

“Jack knew how to work hard and how to play. He cared deeply for Augustana, for the colleagues he mentored and the students to whom he dedicated his life. His intelligence, loyalty and sense of humor will be missed.”

Richard Narske — my teacher, colleague, friend

By Dr. Bob Tallitsch

Editor’s note: Dr. Richard Narske ’64 died on May 10, 2016, at the age of 73.

During my 41+ years here at Augustana, I have learned much, and my teachers have been colleagues across campus and the numerous students that I have had as students and advisees. One of those teachers—one of those dear colleagues—was Richard [Dick] Narske, professor of chemistry here at Augustana from 1980 to 2012.

I don’t remember exactly when I met Dick for the first time simply because he always seemed to be a part of my life at Augustana. We met for coffee at least three times a week almost each and every week of the school year. During these meetings we talked. We would talk about numerous things, but mostly our conversations centered around students—students we were concerned about; students we were proud of. We would also talk about our research, our families. Oh—Dick also talked about hunting and fishing—two things that we didn’t have in common, but we always seemed to get around to that topic at least once a week.

One of the best qualities of an Augustana education is being taught by faculty members who love to teach and, even more importantly, faculty who love and care about their students. Dick was one of these faculty. He started his teaching career at The University of Tampa. He left academia to work in industry, but academia never left Dick. When an opportunity to teach at his alma mater came around, he jumped at the chance and moved north to join the chemistry department and never once regretted it! From our first meeting, one of the topics of almost each and every one of our conversations was how to improve student learning in the classes we taught and how Dick could make organic chemistry—the bane of oh so many of us—more fun and more in the forefront of those important topics that need to be taken and understood by chemistry and biology majors alike.

As everyone who took organic chemistry here at Augustana knows, the final exam was the dreaded A.C.S. (American Chemical Society) comprehensive final exam. This final has always been used to assess student learning in the course and to guide the department in how to improve the course throughout the years. Dick would always tell his students that, if they scored at or above 90%, they would be taken out for a steak dinner with “all the fixins” on him! That is one conversation I could always count on having with Dick when we lined up for graduation ceremonies: whom he took out for dinner and how the evening went. He was always so proud of all of his students.

Simply put, Dick not only was a professor to his students but he tried to also be a friend to all of the students he had in organic chemistry. He cared about them as students and as people. He relished in his students’ accomplishments just as he did with each and every visit from former students.

A few years ago, I was given a copy of the poem below, and I believe that it speaks to and about Dick Narske—a dear friend and an excellent colleague.

I am a teacher.
A teacher is someone who leads.
There is no magic here.
I do not walk on water, I do not part the sea.
I just love my students.
(adapted from Marva Collins)
A favorite event for many alumni, Augustana’s Friendship Fair had its origins around World War II, with the first official Friendship Fair held in 1949. The annual carnival-style festival raised money to bring an international student to Augustana and to send an Augustana student abroad for a year. Each Friendship Fair was conceived around a central theme, and fraternities and sororities built elaborate booths representing that theme. Pictured above is the 1960 Novel-ty Fair in the Old Gym. For the Mr. and Miss Friendship competition, students voted for “the one person you would like to meet if you were in a foreign country.” Friendship Fairs were popular through the mid-1970s.

Mr. and Miss Friendship Fair winners (left to right): Tirso Rodriguez and Jean E. Peterson (1969), James Kouracos and Leslie Jaacks (1972), and Keith Nelson and Karen Karman (1966).

Photos and information courtesy of Special Collections, Tredway Library
Augustana Choir Reunion 2016

More than 150 choir alumni representing several decades returned to campus to celebrate the choir’s 85th anniversary this past summer. “We come back, and it’s like we’ve never been apart. It’s such a beautiful thing.” Rev. Scott McRae ’82