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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.

Augustana College

Cover photo by Paul Colletti
Intentional listening

In crafting *Augustana 2020*, my colleagues and I were intentional about listening. We listened to voices across the campus, among our alumni, and in the communities we serve—those just off campus and those around the world.

Doing so helped us not only to compose a strategic plan, but to draw into sharper focus a vision in which all of us can be, and indeed are, invested. Here’s how we describe that vision:

1. We will provide outstanding, and measurable, student learning outcomes that include the highest job placement rate and graduate school admissions of any competitor institution.
2. As a campus community, we will align our efforts to ensure that students grow in mind, spirit and body. This means all of us, whether faculty, staff, administration or board, are finding ways to help students ask the big questions: “Who am I?” and “How do I relate to the world and to others?”
3. We commit to each other and to the people we serve that Augustana will remain relevant and sustainable by providing the best value to its students.

The *Augustana 2020* strategic plan was adopted in 2014 as the result of a grassroots effort. But that’s not where the listening stopped. One way to listen closely is to be rigorous in gauging impact. As a community, we’ve insisted on accountability by means of both internal and external measures related to implementation of the plan. Here’s what we’ve learned:

- Employment upon graduation—always a strong figure at Augustana College—increased by 10 percentage points.
- Retention between first and second years was four points higher this year.
- *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked us as the third most efficient of the national liberal arts colleges.
- *Money* magazine has included us in its list of top 50 liberal arts colleges.

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But that’s only part of listening. Since last spring I have been convening small groups of employees and students to talk about what’s different since *Augustana 2020*. In doing so I’ve learned that “silos” are disappearing. The college community is pulling together, and doing so at a faster rate than any of us had hoped, which I take to be a result of the plan’s grassroots origins in shared governance and shared responsibility.

I’ve learned that students are thrilled with our CORE—Careers, Opportunities, Research and Exploration—initiative. They’re getting personalized attention for charting their course to success in grad school, careers, and everything life after Augustana has in store.

Mostly, I’ve listened with no small amount of awe to the passion of our community, especially when it comes to the success of our students, both here and after graduation. This has created a sense of momentum that’s conspicuous across campus.

But that momentum is not self-sustaining. It requires the support of alumni and friends in bringing great students to the attention of the college, and providing Augustana the wherewithal to help those students thrive. As you look over the following pages, you’ll see all manner of ways in which my colleagues are helping students prepare for rewarding lives of leadership and service in our diverse and changing world. What can we learn from their commitment, energy and initiative? How can we help them bring their own visions for the future into focus? If you would care to tell me your response, I’d be very glad to listen ([www.augustana.edu/presidentsuggestions](http://www.augustana.edu/presidentsuggestions)).

Steven C. Bahls
President
An initiative to create more meaningful service-learning projects for Augustana students, one in which the real benefits are measured for the communities they serve, is gaining momentum on campus.

David Voland ’15 galvanized the movement after spending a summer at San Jose de Calasanz, a school for special-needs students in Ecuador. After getting to know the students, he asked for help in making a wish list of the school supplies they needed most. Then, using the social media site GoFundMe, he raised $1,500, enough to buy everything on the list.

Leaving the school in Ecuador with something of enduring value was a breakthrough for Voland. It raised the possibility of a more authentic partnership, he said, perhaps more akin to Augustana’s relationship with Longfellow Liberal Arts School in Rock Island, a partnership that sets long-term goals with close attention to Longfellow’s needs.

“I think Augie’s relationship with Longfellow is a great example of a mutually beneficial and sustainable partnership,” he said. “Augie and Longfellow can count on each other every year, and constantly keep in contact about how things are going. Both institutions benefit from this relationship, which is very important.”

Voland, an award-winning student-athlete, spent much of his senior year circulating the idea of a deeper connection with San Jose de Calasanz. He founded “The Ecuador Project,” a student group dedicated to sustaining the partnership after his graduation. Just as important, he found a deep well of support among Augustana faculty, many of whom had struggled with similar issues in their own service-learning programs.

“While service-learning is providing a rich and meaningful life experience for our students, it is not always clear whether the community receiving the service is gaining as much,” said Dr. Michael Egan, an associate professor of education who is active in service-learning programs at Augustana.

Now, Dr. Egan and faculty leaders in Augustana’s service-learning community are collaborating with Gabrielle Snyder ’18, an English/secondary education major, on a yearlong research project in support of The Ecuador Project. Also involved are Dr. Jeffrey Ratliff-Crain, associate dean of curriculum and enrichment, and Dr. Araceli Masterson-Algar, assistant professor of Spanish.

It’s the kind of faculty collaboration that drew Snyder, from Beecher, Ill., to Augustana in the first place. “I didn’t commit to Augustana until I talked to some of the professors and understood how much the professors really care,” she said. “Then I knew Augustana was the place for me. I felt I was already part of the college before I even enrolled.”

Snyder’s goal is to develop a set of best practices for service-learning programs that can be posted on a website for students at Augustana, or any other college. Ideally, it will answer questions about how students and faculty can be more sensitive to the communities they wish to serve, develop better long-term relationships, and make sure the volunteer labor they provide is truly useful.

Snyder also will travel to San Jose de Calasanz next summer to conduct interviews and ensure the Ecuadorian school’s own perspective is incorporated into her report on best practices.

She will have financial support as one of the inaugural recipients of a Board of Trustees Fellowship, given to select Augustana honors students their first
Seven Augustana students participated in full-scale scientific research projects under the guidance of faculty advisors last summer. Each project is funded through an Augustana Summer Student Research Fellowship, which provides up to $3,000, plus additional funding for project expenses.

The fellowships provide students of all disciplines opportunities to gain hands-on practice in their field. Students’ work on these projects also can inspire them to conduct more cutting-edge research in their later years of study, and direct them to the postgraduate field of study they would like to pursue.

Jadyn Derr '16, a communication studies major from Sioux Falls, S.D., worked with Doug Tschopp, director of CORE’s entrepreneurial center. The main focus of Derr’s research is how the new iGeneration (current ages 15 and under) uses technology at home, and how this affects their learning and communication styles.

Alexander Mahaffey '16, a geography major from Gothenburg, Sweden, conducted research with the support and assistance of Dr. Christopher Strunk, assistant professor of geography. Mahaffey’s research is focused on the Swedish-American community that existed in downtown Moline during the mid-late 1800s and into the early 1900s. Migration patterns, regions of origin in Sweden, and various organizations and associations formed by the “Swedes of Moline” all played a part in creating a distinctive ethnic community. While similar research has been conducted by others before Mahaffey, it has never been viewed through the lens of a geographer.

Paige Pierson '16, a biochemistry major from Sandwich, Ill., conducted research with the help of Dr. Pam Trotter, professor of chemistry. Pierson is researching two types of yeasts, Saccharomyces cerevisiae and Yarrowia lipolytica, which are perfect model organisms to test both physiological and metabolic mechanisms. The main focus of her research “is a gene found in both yeast species, which has the potential to answer unsolved questions relating cellular metabolism to antioxidant functions.” Pierson added, “Above all, research into this gene would tell us more about fat metabolism and could potentially shed light into human fat metabolism.”

Isaac Smith '17, a chemistry major from Marion, Iowa, worked with Dr. Greg Domski, associate professor of chemistry. His research is on the synthesis and characterization of mono-bimetallic Iridium (III) complexes supported by pyridine functionalized N-heterocyclic carbene ligands.

Bonnie Thornton '16, a Spanish and honors history major from Mount Vernon, Iowa, worked with Dr. Brian Leech, assistant professor of history. The focus of Thornton’s research is Black Hawk State Park Historic Site, a public space enjoyed for both its natural and historic value. Thornton seeks to understand the natural conservation and historic preservation movements’ influence on local efforts to convert private property into public land. She hopes to “contribute a local history enriching the appreciation of this space.”

Kassandra Tyra '16, a biology and environmental studies major from Aurora, Ill., conducted research with Dr. Tierney Brosius of the biology department and Dr. Michael Reisner, director of the Upper Mississippi Center for Sustainable Communities and assistant professor of environmental studies. Tyra’s research is focused on how urbanization impacts the family of beetles commonly known as ground beetles.

Aubrey Waddick '16, a political science, French and economics major from Algonquin, Ill., worked with Dr. David Dehnel, professor of political science. Waddick is focusing on changing environments and evolving policy, comparing an analysis of international environmental operations in China and the United States. “Ultimately, I hope to contribute to the academic community’s understanding of China’s growing civil society,” Waddick said. “As [it is] the most populous country with the second-largest economy, it’s important to understand the factors influencing China’s political actions and policy decisions.”
Culture houses to build diversity into social networks

With the number of students of color on campus more than doubling in the past seven years, a reflection of even broader changes in the nation’s demographics, Augustana is redoubling efforts to help students build more diverse social networks as a key to their future success.

“These networks can be so important to a rewarding college experience, and also vital to preparing our students for life after college,” said Dr. Evelyn Campbell, dean and vice president of student life.

In 2009, about 11 percent of Augustana’s incoming class were students of color. This fall, the figure is 25 percent.

In the past year, the college has:
• Remodeled and refurbished its three culture houses representing Latina/o, African American and Asian American traditions.
• Added three professional staff to its Office of Multicultural Student Life.
• Elevated the multicultural program from a single office to an expansive administrative center on the fourth floor of The Gerber Center with staff offices, student worker space, meeting and reception areas.

“We’re not only trying to support students from diverse backgrounds, but also making sure all of our students are embracing those differences,” said Patricia Santoyo-Marín, director of multicultural student life for the past year and an assistant dean of students. “It’s a beautiful exchange of ideas, beliefs and cultural identities.”

Under Santoyo-Marín, more than 600 Augustana students were involved with multicultural clubs last year, with many programs organized around the college’s three culture houses: Casa Latina, the Black Culture House and the Asian Pagoda House. A dozen student workers on staff coordinated projects at each house. Activities included movie nights, the sharing of ethnic meals, video chats with people from around the world, and the celebration of cultural holidays.

“As we get more programming coming through these houses, we’re going to see more people from different racial backgrounds joining these discussions,” said Darien Marion-Burton ’15, who served as committee chair for the multicultural club council last year.

“I think the biggest challenge in a changing world is becoming more diverse, while also exploring our individual identities,” he said. “You can’t be a leader in a global society without knowing who you are, as a person, and coming to understand how other people relate to you.”

For years, the culture houses functioned as smaller entities. Essentially, they were student clubs, a place to hang out and get involved with students of similar backgrounds. While the houses are now open to all students, and the scope of their activities is growing every year, they are still designed to create a comfort zone for students of color.

“They still provide that safe space for students [of color] to let go and be themselves,” said Marion-Burton.

According to Dr. Campbell, the evolving nature of the culture houses is a visible sign of the college’s mission to “prepare students for lives of leadership and service in a diverse and changing world.”

“I’m excited about the way we’re doing it,” said Dr. Campbell. “I think it serves all our students in the best possible way, and I believe we’ll continue growing in this direction in the future.”

Augustana’s culture houses are open Monday through Thursday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Each house also may be reserved for use by campus organizations.
20,000 bees (with two queens) move to Augie Acres

When the Augustana Local Agriculture Society met at Augie Acres in early spring to plan a fun and challenging project for the student-run garden, Jamie Fee ’17 repeated her idea from the year before: “Bees!”

Fee’s beekeeping idea lined up perfectly with what Dr. Tierney Brosius of the biology department was thinking. She was interested in obtaining bees so she could use the new hives in her entomology classes this fall.

And that’s the story of how six pounds of Carniolan bees from California came to Augie Acres. Six pounds is about 20,000 bees, including two queens.

“We cover the topics of social insects, pollination and human-insect interactions, so they are perfect examples to use,” Dr. Brosius said. “I’m all about hands-on experiences, and seeing a hive opened up for the first time will be an amazing experience for students.”

Fee and her friend Cleo Bubulka, both junior biology majors (pre-nursing and pre-vet, respectively), are responsible for the bees’ welfare, along with Dr. Brosius and local beekeeper Phil Crandall of Crandall Farms, Inc.

“With Jamie’s passion and Dr. Brosius’ expertise, we figured we could do it,” Bubulka said.

They are off to a good start. During the past summer, the number of bees in the two hives doubled.

Success with the hives could have global and local impact:

• To pollinate food, the world needs more bees, whose numbers have been declining.
• Augie Acres might increase its yield through pollination, providing more produce for the college’s dining services and local farmers’ market.
• Student entomologists can learn more effectively through direct experience with bee colonies.
• Within a couple years, the Augustana community may be able to enjoy its own golden honey.

New amphitheater on campus

Inspired in part by the popular Red Rocks Amphitheater in Denver, Colo., Augustana now boasts the Golden Rocks Amphitheater along the south side of The Gerber Center for Student Life. The amphitheater is a gift from former trustee Sunder Subbaroyan ’87 and his wife, Annette Sherbeyn.

“Annette and I enjoy music and particularly live outdoor events at smaller intimate venues,” Subbaroyan said. “President Bahls’ suggestion was an easy one for us to cotton on to.”

The name, Golden Rocks, seemed appropriate because the rocks quarried for the project are yellowish gold, and the college’s colors, of course, are blue and gold.

“The amphitheater will be a wonderful addition to the superb Gerber Center, providing an outdoor space for smaller events, as well as another learning space for students,” Subbaroyan added.

Welcome Home, Vikings!

Homecoming Oct. 16-18

For the first time, all of Augustana’s honored classes will celebrate during Homecoming Weekend, instead of the 50th, 55th, 60th, 65th, etc. classes celebrating their reunions during commencement weekend in the spring.

“This change was initiated by the alumni,” said Kelly Read ’02 Noack, director of alumni relations. “Our grads want to come back when all the students are here. They want to feel the energy, see the campus in the fall and experience Augustana all over again.”

Also new this year is the “zero-year” reunion for the Class of 2015. For details about all Homecoming 2015 festivities, visit www.augustana.edu/homecoming.
Augustana’s Five Faith Commitments is a statement that clarifies the college’s mission and values. It is the product of a yearlong, intensive conversation at all levels of the Augustana community: faculty, staff, trustees, students and alumni. Adopted by the Augustana College Board of Trustees in May 2004, the statement was referred to by Rev. Mark Hanson, then the Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), as a model for spelling out precisely what it means to be a college related to the ELCA.

This past academic year, the 10th anniversary of this influential statement, President Steve Bahls appointed a group of faculty, administrators, pastors and friends of the college to have another look at the Five Faith Commitments. Members of the group were grateful for the significant initiatives that have been spurred by the statement in the past years. And they suggested revisions to keep the Five Faith Commitments current and life-giving:

• President Bahls’ commentary on the Five Faith Commitments is moved from the end to the beginning and is significantly sharpened. “The College’s Roots for Today’s Students” is the title of the president’s reflections, and he calls the Five Faith Commitments “more than a sentimental retrospective on the college’s relationship with the church. Instead, it is a document that reflects fundamental values which will guide us into our future.”

• The “historical context” of the Five Faith Commitments in the initial statement has become the “theological context,” emphasizing the conciliatory nature of the Lutheran theological movement, of which Augustana is an heir, rooted in The Augsburg Confession, a Latinized term for The Augustana, a thoroughly ironic document that gives our college its name.

• The commitments themselves are shortened, in order to make them more memorable. The order is now Interfaith Engagement, Social Consciousness, Spiritual Exploration, Reasoned Examination and Vocational Discernment.

In endorsing the changes to the statement, the President’s Cabinet expressed gratitude for the strengthening of an already strong commitment to remain true to the values suggested by the college’s sturdy roots in the Lutheran tradition.

[Access the new version of the Five Faith Commitments at www.augustana.edu/fivefaiths.]
Merhi ’15 earns scholarship, will attend Nobel ceremonies
Abdul Rahman Merhi ’15 of Beruit, Lebanon, is the 2015 recipient of the Swedish Council of America’s Glenn T. Seaborg Science Scholarship. This scholarship goes to outstanding undergraduate students in the natural sciences attending one of several American colleges and universities founded by Swedish immigrants.

A double major in engineering physics and computer science, Merhi graduated magna cum laude. Professors say he excelled as a teaching assistant, researcher and leader of the physics club during his time at Augustana. His achievements made him a standout for this scholarship, which includes participation in the Stockholm International Youth Science Seminar (SIYSS), a weeklong international symposium presented every December by the Royal Institute of Technology and the Nobel Foundation in Stockholm, Sweden. The conference draws together 25 of the most outstanding young scientists from around the globe.

“I look forward to meeting great people who have influenced and made changes to all fields and aspects of life,” Merhi said.

Merhi’s week will culminate with participation in the Nobel ceremonies and banquet, hosted by King Carl XVI Gustaf, in Stockholm.

“Not only does Abdul get good grades...he shows a genuine desire to learn as much as possible, asking probing questions that go above and beyond what is required,” said Dr. Cecilia Vogel, psychics professor. “He cares deeply about the quality of his work. He has excellent problem-solving skills and an aptitude for understanding difficult concepts.”

Dr. Nathan Frank of the physics department noted Merhi’s high-level research work in nuclear physics associated with the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory at Michigan State University.

“The nuclear physics research explores the properties of exotic atomic nuclei...Abdul successfully led a team that analyzed data to characterize a detector array, developed the mechanical design for a new detector system, and produced a 3D printer prototype to verify the soundness of the design,” he said.

Merhi is the ninth Augustana student to receive the Seaborg scholarship; Max Petersen ’10 was the last Augustana student to receive the honor.

Augustana deemed ‘Ready to Respond’
Augustana has been recognized for its emergency preparedness efforts by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and National Weather Service–Quad Cities office.

Augustana is one of only four Illinois colleges and universities to be recognized by IEMA as a Ready to Respond Campus. The college works closely with both the Rock Island fire and police departments, among other local agencies, on emergency planning and preparedness.

“The college has been steadfast in its desire to be as well prepared as possible for an emergency situation,” said Dr. Evelyn Campbell, vice president of the college and dean of student life. “We are grateful for the support of so many outside of Augustana, including the guidance we have received from IEMA and the National Weather Service, and the support of first responders throughout the Quad Cities, who have helped us prepare our campus community for any potential emergency.”

Each academic term, Augustana conducts emergency drills focusing on a variety of hazards that could confront the college. During these drills and in case of a real emergency, important messages are sent to students and college employees through a text message system.

$7 million in upgrades during the summer
As 700-plus new students arrived on campus for Welcome Week in August, Augustana was wrapping up a $7-million investment in summer construction.

“Investing in our beautiful campus helps Augustana become even more attractive to prospective students, and sends a message about the importance of a residential campus to learning,” said President Steve Bahls. In 2014, Thrillist named Augustana as one of the 25 most beautiful college campuses in the country.

Among the projects, it was the $5-million remodel of the Jenny Lind wing of Westerlin Residence Center—that attracted the attention of local media. The renovated wing features refreshed rooms with new windows, closets, floors and air conditioning. The remaining two wings in Westerlin will be renovated during upcoming summers, with a total renovation cost of $13 million.

Other summer projects were more maintenance-oriented: replacing roofs and steam lines and tuck-pointing building exteriors.
Creating more value with fewer resources
Augustana was recognized for its efficiency earlier this year, earning the third-place ranking among top national liberal arts colleges in the country, according to U.S. News and World Report. The report ranked institutions that were able to produce the highest educational quality, based on their 2015 Best Colleges rankings, while containing spending.

Not one to rest on its laurels, Augustana hired a part-time employee, Director of Process Improvement Carla Roman, to examine different processes on campus. The ultimate goal is to create more value with fewer resources.

Using the “lean” approach, Roman led committees to examine (1) the college’s payroll process and (2) how campus mail and packages are delivered. Some of the suggestions for improved efficiency were adopted the week after a committee gave its report.

The thinking that brought the “lean” program to campus originated in the Augustana 2020 strategic plan and was borrowed from health care, an industry that also is focusing on improving outcomes and efficiency.

Leach ’83 appointed interim vice president
Former Tribune executive Tom Leach assumed his duties as Augustana’s interim vice president for finance and administration in June.

“We are fortunate to attract an interim of such high quality and one who knows Augustana,” said President Steve Bahls.

Leach graduated from Augustana with a bachelor’s in accounting and business administration in 1983. He started his career as an auditor at Coopers and Lybrand and has held various positions at Tribune Media (formerly Tribune Company) in Chicago, including vice president/administration and chief financial officer of its broadcast and entertainment division and senior vice president/development for the parent company.

Leach has served as a member of Augustana’s Board of Trustees and as a senior advisor to WVIK, Quad Cities NPR.

David English, Augustana’s former vice president for finance and administration, left the college for a position at Denison University. English joined the college in 2012 and served as assistant vice president for budgeting and planning at Vassar College immediately prior.

“We thank David for his time at Augustana and wish him the best in his new position,” Bahls said.

Sheri Curran, general counsel at Augustana, is leading the search committee for a permanent vice president for finance and administration.

2015-16 Art Museum Exhibitions
The Augustana College Teaching Museum of Art schedule for the 2015-16 academic year includes an exhibition of relief printmaking, a local Swedish-American painter and a pair of artists calling for ecological awareness.

What a Relief! Variations on Printmaking
Through Oct. 30, 2015
Featuring relief printmaking practices from different perspectives, periods and processes, this exhibition showcases the work of Janet Taylor and Joseph Lappie, alongside ukiyo-e prints from Augustana’s collection, many of which have not been displayed in the museum’s recent history. During Homecoming, a tour of the exhibition is scheduled for 9 a.m. on Saturday, Oct 17.

A Place Called Home
Frank Lundahl and the Quad Cities
Nov. 19, 2015-Feb. 12, 2016
This exhibition focuses on the college’s expansive collection of works by Frank Lundahl (1858-1932). Lundahl was born in Rock Island to Swedish-American parents and spent his life in the Quad Cities. A painter of religious and secular commissions for patrons, he still found the time to create his own work, capturing the life of the region through landscapes, genre scenes and still lifes.

PlantBot Genetics Presents:
The Moth Project
March 9-April 2, 2016
PlantBot Genetics is a collaborative pair of artists, Wendy DesChene and Jeff Schmuki, whose work combines activism, research and social space to foster discussion and generate action in the area of ecological awareness.

New Departures: 2016 Senior Studio Art & Graphic Design Exhibition
April 13-May 22, 2016
This exhibition features the Senior Inquiry projects of Augustana’s studio art and graphic design majors of the Class of 2016.
Augustana partners with Clinton, Iowa

Augustana’s Upper Mississippi Center for Sustainable Communities has partnered with the City of Clinton, Iowa, in its inaugural Sustainable Working Landscapes Initiative (SWLI). Nearly 70 Augustana students and faculty from several classes will tackle real-world social, economic and environmental sustainability challenges facing Clinton.

“This is an incredible opportunity for students to go out and apply what they’ve learned in the classroom, and to collaborate with team members,” said Dr. Michael Reisner, director of the Upper Mississippi Center. “It’s a win-win situation as Clinton is excited to have our talented students tackle projects the city cannot staff or fund.”

During this 2015-16 partnership, students and faculty will work with Clinton officials and the community on the following projects:

- Develop an Urban Forest Management Plan to conserve and enhance the resilience of the urban forest [environmental studies, biology and natural resource management students]
- Assess the feasibility of expanding public transportation opportunities and expanding bike routes and trails [urban geography and GIS students]
- Complete an audit of the Parks and Recreation Department revenue streams to improve its long-term financial sustainability and expand the breadth of programming [accounting students]
- Create an interactive wayfinding inventory of community cultural and historic attractions and other amenities to enhance visitor use [cultural geography students]
- Assess citizen attitudes and needs via focus groups and a community survey to help the city better understand how it can improve provided services and develop a communications plan to enhance lines of communication with a more diverse group of stakeholders [anthropology, sociology and communications students]
- Develop a “Made in Clinton” marketing plan to highlight existing businesses and manufacturing industries to build a stronger local and regional economy [business and marketing students]
- Formulate business models to encourage the growth of new small business startups and ventures [business and entrepreneurial students]
- Complete a stormwater study and evaluation of stormwater management programs to reduce impact of combined stormwater-sewage flows on downstream water quality [geography, GIS and political science students]
- Complete a video oral history to document the Clinton Corn Company Strike, a major event for the community and regional economy with legacy effects today [history students]
**Baseball**

The Vikings wrapped up the season with a 26-14 record, marking the 16th time in the last 17 years that the team has posted at least 25 wins. The Vikings finished with a 10-11 mark in the CC IW. Danny Fifer ’15 and Seth Davis ’15 etched their names in the school’s record book. Fifer wound up as Augustana’s all-time leader with a .414 batting average, and left-hander Davis set career marks for innings pitched (275) and strikeouts (331). As a team, Coach Greg Wallace’s squad led Division III in strikeouts per nine innings (7.7-7 and in fourth place in the CCIW) during the season, finishing together a 28-14-1 record (331). As a team, Coach Greg Wallace’s squad led Division III in strikeouts per nine innings (7.7-7 and in fourth place in the CCIW) during the season, finishing together a 28-14-1 record (331).

**Softball**

Outstanding career, ranking in Augustana’s top 10 in eight categories. Her 20 triples and 61 walks are both Viking career records. She tied for second all-time with 187 hits. Her 20 home runs and 41 doubles each rank third all-time. Ashley Anderson ’16, who earned the Best Offensive Player Award, had team highs in hits (45) and batting average (.352).

**Men’s Lacrosse**

The fourth year of the men’s lacrosse program was notable for several reasons. Not only did the Vikings set a school record for wins (14-5), but the squad captured the inaugural CC IW Tournament title and earned its first-ever NCAA Division III Tournament bid. Augustana had seven All-CC IW selections, led by Offensive Player of the Year Scott Davis ’16. Statistical leaders included Davis, who scored a team-high 43 goals. Kevin Gleason ’16 was just one goal back with 42 and tied with Jared Hawkins ’17 for the team lead in assists with 15, posting a team-best 57 points on the season. Coach Kyle Hart, who built the men’s lacrosse program from the ground up, resigned to accept a position at Wheaton College in Norton, Mass. Assistant Coach Zack Olsen takes over as acting head coach.

**Women’s Lacrosse**

The 2015 season marked the beginning of the Coach Meredith Newman era for Augustana women’s lacrosse. Newman replaced Sara Tisdale, who left after three stellar seasons to become head coach at Central Michigan University. The Vikings didn’t miss a beat, as Newman guided the team to a 19-2 record, the inaugural CC IW regular season and tournament championships, and an appearance in the NCAA Division III Tournament, where Augustana reached the round of 16 for the third consecutive year. The Vikings led all of NCAA Division III in assists per game, scoring margin and scoring offense in the team categories. Individually, Hilary Kargl ’15 led all of NCAA Division III in total points with 140 (76 goals and 64 assists) in 21 games played. Augustana earned Academic Honor Squad recognition from the Intercollegiate Women’s Lacrosse Coaches Association.

**Men’s Track & Field**

Highlights of the season included Jessica Bacon ’15 repeating as CC IW 1500 champion and Annie Martines ’16 qualifying for nationals in the 400 hurdles. The Vikings finished fourth at the CC IW Championships and finished the year ranked 15th in the nation and eighth in the Midwest Region. In addition, Coach Fred Whiteside ’74 announced his retirement after 28 seasons at the helm of the Viking women’s track & field program and 33 seasons as women’s cross country head coach. David Thompson, a former assistant to Whiteside...
and the men’s head coach at Williams College, was hired to coach both women’s track & field and cross country.

Men’s Tennis
Facing one of the toughest schedules in recent memory and battling injuries throughout the year, the team saved its best for the end of the year. Coach Jon Miedema’s squad finished the season with a 14-13 overall record and a 4-2 mark in the CCWI, good for third place. Lawrence Palmer ’15 was named Most Outstanding Player in the CCWI and was also a first-team all-conference selection for the third year in a row. He was joined on the all-conference team by Samuel Totten ’18.

Women’s Tennis
The Vikings went 12-2 in the fall and came back in the spring to post a 12-7 mark for the final record of 24-9. Mollie Magee ’18 set a new single season school record with 30 victories. She also provided the clinching point in the Vikings’ dramatic 5-4 win over Wheaton to clinch the CCWI’s automatic berth into the NCAA Division III national tournament. Dana Goggin ’17 posted the second highest win total ever with her 29-6 mark, and Lauren Goggin ’17 was 27-10.

Women’s Golf
Under Coach Tom Lawrence, the team posted a record of 37-35 during the 2014-15 season. The Vikings finished in fifth place at the CCWI Tournament. Samantha Barlage ’16 won the team’s award for lowest scoring average. Jenna Lawrence ’18 was recognized for having the lowest scoring average for a first-year student, Lawrence, a CCWI Academic All-Conference honoree, was one of two Vikings to compete in all 10 events and 16.5 rounds this season, and Meagan Murphy ’15 earned Most Improved honors.

Men’s Golf
This season marked the third consecutive year in which Coach Paul Del Vecchio’s golf squad improved its head-to-head winning percentage. The Vikings went 80-64-1 (.555) this year and finished in a tie for sixth at the CCWI Championship. Individually, David Fertmann ’16 was selected as the team’s MVP. He led the Vikings with an average round of 77.7 strokes. He played 20 rounds in 11 events and recorded three top 10 finishes, including a winning round of 73 at the Vike-Scot Shootout. Jake Groselak ’15 was named to Capital One Academic All-District team. Jake Groselak ’15 was named to Capital One Academic All-District team. Jake Groselak ’15 was named to Capital One Academic All-District team. Jake Groselak ’15 was named to Capital One Academic All-District team. Jake Groselak ’15 was named to Capital One Academic All-District team. Jake Groselak ’15 was named to Capital One Academic All-District team.

Augustana consistently ranks in the top 10 among all colleges and universities in the number of Academic All-Americans. The Vikings’ three most recent honorees, all decorated track & field athletes, are David Devore ’15, Becca Sund ’15 and David Voland ’15. In addition, each of these three student-athletes each earned a coveted NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship.

Go to athletics.augustana.edu for complete stats and schedules.
As president and CEO of Bettendorf-based Ascentra Credit Union, Dale Owen ’99 knows the value of an Augustana education and hands-on experience. Today he combines those values by providing internships and job shadowing opportunities to students from his alma mater.

Owen and his staff give the interns substantial work to do—for example, in marketing or business lending—while also giving them time with senior management for a broader view. When internship openings come up, Augustana’s CORE staff provides four or five candidates for consideration, and Owen says it is always a tough choice. The candidates usually are marketing, economics and accounting majors.

“It’s really high quality people we’re getting from the school,” Owen said. “Very engaged, very interested, asking all the right questions. It’s gratifying to know that your alma mater is preparing people the way they need to. CORE is doing a great job of successfully getting students to take advantage of internships and gaining real-world experience before they graduate.”

Owen knows all about real-world experience as an undergraduate. When he joined Ascentra shortly after receiving his bachelor’s in public administration from Augustana, he brought nearly a decade’s worth of banking experience with him. The 1986 Rock Island High School graduate started with the former First National Bank of Moline, and later held such positions as branch manager, home equity manager and mortgage loan representative with other local banks.

He was certainly learning the ropes, but he realized he needed a degree.

“During my banking time, there were so many times where I was training somebody who was just out of college for the job that I wanted,” he said. “I wouldn’t get it because the requirement was they wanted a four-year degree.”

Armed with an associate’s degree from Black Hawk College earned in 1993, Owen started at Augustana in the fall of 1997 and soon realized the value of the education he was getting. The approach that stressed cooperative learning also helped prepare him for graduate school at Drake University, where he earned a master’s in public administration.

“Augie helped me tremendously,” Owen said. “It really put the education behind my past experience, and certainly helped catapult me to where I am today.” Though he came into Augustana with several years of experience already, he did have an internship himself, in the summer of 1998, with Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Galesburg, Ill.

He chose public administration as a preparation for the nonprofit sector of financial services—which describes credit unions, which are member-owned cooperatives. When he started at Ascentra, it was still known as Alcoa Employees & Community Credit Union. To reflect its widening client base, the name was changed to Ascentra—with the suggestion of “ascending”—in 2007. Ascentra now has 10 offices, with 132 employees and $359 million in assets, according to Owen.

Owen describes himself as a “reformed banker,” and notes that the local banks he worked for prior to getting his degree don’t exist as they were, due to
the series of mergers that followed deregulation. He wanted “something more,” he said, and gravitated toward the nonprofit sector where “profits” benefit the members themselves and the community.

His appreciation for all Augustana did for him, and does for the community, made giving back a natural progression.

“I was asked to serve on the alumni board and kind of through that engagement got more involved with the college,” he said.

Through his relationships with Augustana’s CORE staff, including Karen Petersen, director of employer relations and internships, and Dr. Michael Edmondson, associate vice president for careers and professional development, Owen offers internships and job-shadowing opportunities, which involve Augustana students spending a day or part of a day with Owen or his staff.

“Dale also has been very active on the Alumni Board of Directors for Augustana,” Petersen said. “He’s just a fantastic person.”

Working with Owen seemed to be a natural, “knowing that Ascentra Credit Union is an excellent, ethically led organization, so therefore the type of organization that we like our students to be involved with,” she added. “His leadership, what he learned at Augustana and his personal leadership style have really enhanced the credit union.”

Currently, an Ascentra intern from Augustana, Connor Lautt ’17, is staying on and working part-time at the credit union. His internship involved member-business lending.

“Connor worked out very well,” Owen said. “He’s earning some extra funds until he graduates, and we’ll see what it turns into from there.”
Alumni have shared these photos and messages on Facebook in answer to the question...

Where has your “A” taken you?

Moab or Bust! Kiley Peters ’09 and Ian Fletcher ’09.

2014 grads Colleen O’Leary, Daisy Hoang and Callie Winter say they are beyond thrilled that Augie led them to Illinois State University, where they are graduate teaching assistants and on a path to receive their master’s in communication!

Eva Swanson ’48 drops off quilts for the Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries quilt auction.

Last second change from Univ. of Iowa to Augie was the best decision I ever made for my career and my fun/friend experience. Clyde Michael Grady ’91

My “A” has taken me many places, so I decided to take it along with me to the bottom of the ocean [with some inquisitive onlookers]! Mark Harmon ’00
My "A" has taken me to tennis courts and the U.S. Open! As president of HEAD USA Racquet Sports and president of the Tennis Industry Association, I am lucky to promote the GREAT game of tennis and work with amazing people! Greg Mason ’85

Augustana College brought me to Nicaragua for the first time back in 2011, taught me its history, culture and je ne sais quoi. I was hooked. Returning now, my fourth visit to Nicaragua, as a veterinary student to do my surgical training, I would like to say thank you to Augie and my wonderful mentors for introducing me to my longtime love—Nicaragua—and also giving me the solid educational foundation for my veterinary career! Lauren Novak ’13

Class of 1968 friends meeting in Elmhurst, Ill., pictured left to right: Eric Youngquist, Barb Foleno Youngquist, Karen Olson Roloff, Bobbi Tonn Daly and

To request your own A, visit www.augustana.edu/getyoura
Sarah Berndt ’15 has always known what she wants to study. She wants to study things, extraordinary things, from antiques to old stone churches. In fact, she wants to make a career out of it, and that’s exactly what she’s about to do.

Berndt was awarded a fully funded fellowship with the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture, a highly selective two-year graduate program affiliated with the University of Delaware. It revolves around the study of things, all the artifacts we create as part of our existence: art objects and decorations, buildings and landscapes, furniture, tableware and everything in between.

“Until a year or two at Augustana, I didn’t even know what material culture was,” Berndt said. “Augustana allowed me to study the different options and find the one that was really the best fit for me.”

For Berndt, a double major in art history and anthropology, it’s a classic case of how an interdisciplinary approach to education can offer the richest reward.

Winterthur is the most prestigious program of its kind in the country, offering scholars the 175 rooms and 90,000 objects in the Winterthur Museum’s collections. Graduates move on to careers that include the Smithsonian and the Metropolitan Museum of
Inquiry projects. For anthropology, Berndt compiled a survey of more than 30 antique stores across the Quad Cities and LeClaire, Iowa. She conducted interviews with many of the dealers to find out how material objects change as they move through different networks of people; and indeed, depending on who owned them, the objects changed in terms of monetary, sentimental and usable value.

Then, diving into a second Senior Inquiry project for art history, Berndt took a fresh look at some obscure objects in the Augustana Teaching Museum of Art: a collection of more than 400 inkstands, one dating back to 1766, in every shape from the kind that dropped into a hole in a desk, to ornate freestanding designs for the dipping of a feathered quill. The stands had gone mostly unnoticed within the larger scope of the museum’s collections, and yet, Berndt found, “Every single major art movement is represented in some form in this collection. They’re such a valuable resource for studying art, or art history, or history. I’m trying to make a case for these inkstands to get a little more attention.”

One of her two faculty advisors, Dr. Margaret Morse, associate professor in art history, says Berndt’s selection as a fellow at Winterthur is both a reflection of her extraordinary work at Augustana, and her desire to reach beyond conventional boundaries.

“Sarah has followed her passions here at Augustana, and that has paid off enormously for her,” Dr. Morse said. “She shows us that there are a variety of futures out there and the strong, broad skill set you gain from a full liberal arts education, paired with a depth of knowledge in particular disciplines, can lead one to less typical, but incredibly rewarding, careers.”

Dr. Adam Kaul, associate professor of sociology, anthropology and social welfare, is Berndt’s anthropology advisor. He, too, sees in Berndt a perfect amalgam of the liberal arts tradition. “She is, in other words, an ideal example of the kind of student we try to produce at a liberal arts college: someone who will be a lifelong learner, who deeply knows herself and her values, and who is a critical thinker, instinctively curious about the world and her place in it.”

For Berndt, it was all about finding the right opportunities.

“I’ve had such an amazing experience at Augustana,” she said. “Resources were made available for me to do things that shaped my interest, and really shaped who I became. I don’t think I could have done it anyplace else, to be honest. You have to put the legwork in, but the opportunities are here.”

The summer before her junior year, she returned to Germany for six weeks with a Freistat Center Grant from Augustana. The project involved the study of ancient fieldstone churches in the Fläming region of eastern Germany. Dating from the 11th to the early 14th century, they combined art, history and culture, and turned into the perfect object of her interest. Almost every village had a fieldstone church, and Berndt found that the significance of each church to its home village had changed over time. Some were preserved, others falling apart, and some repurposed as museums.

“I’ve found that I’m interested in looking at older things in a contemporary context,” she said. “I like to see how things change over time.”

She applied a similar paradigm to two Senior Inquiry projects. For anthropology, Berndt compiled a library of objects in a basement.

“I remember her telling me about the people who might have owned these things, and I always found it fascinating. Where was this before it was sitting here in a basement? Who did it belong to and how was it part of their life?”

In high school in Westfield, Ind., Berndt spent her junior year as an exchange student in Germany. That fired her interest in other cultures, which led to a major in anthropology at Augustana. She added a second major in art history after a course in the Liberal Studies First-Year sequence. Then it boiled down to exploring the overlap between the two, and Augustana offered the necessary soul-searching.

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When school’s out for the summer...

**Akmakjian ’16 followed her dream to London**

“During the summer, I was an intern with Facets PR in London, which is a PR and marketing firm that is focused only on the jewelry industry. They are the only firm of their kind in the UK.

At my internship so far [two weeks], I hand delivered high-end jewelry to designers, photographers and other media specialists. We had a press day, and they sort of threw me to the lions, as I was talking to the press, explaining the different jewelry collections and why they should show them in their magazines. I also had the opportunity to attend a photo shoot for Tatler, a fashion magazine. Of course, like any internship, I have the occasional coffee run or post office errand.

This internship was perfect for me because I have wanted to have my own diamond company since I was a little girl, and this internship is definitely a stepping stone for making that dream come true. I’m learning so much about the jewelry industry and getting many ideas for my future career in diamonds.

I hope one day to be designing engagement rings and other pieces of jewelry [with an Augie discount, of course]. This internship is allowing my passions to become a reality.”

— Rachel Akmakjian ’16, Classics and business administration

**Morales ’17 selected for NEW Leadership Illinois**

Cindy Morales participated in NEW Leadership Illinois, a non-partisan, weeklong residential program designed to increase women’s representation in all aspects of public life, including elected office. It’s a joint initiative with the Conference of Women Legislators of the Illinois General Assembly and the Institute of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois.

“Representatives for both groups voted to offer me one of 20 positions in the program, which was held at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

The week included a policy theme, represented by a contemporary legislative proposal in Illinois. Participants were given materials that explained the policy and the political environment, then they interacted with policy experts from the University of Illinois and elsewhere.

The goal is to not only understand one particular policy problem, but also gain important skills in effectively using expert information to make a persuasive argument.

The program was valuable for me in terms of expanding on the political and policy skills that Augustana’s political science department has taught me. Not only was I able to put policy analysis skills to the test with a mock press conference and a mock legislative hearing, but I was able to develop my leadership skills and receive advice from senators, judges, representatives, and women in general, who are in high leadership roles in the State of Illinois.”

— Cindy Morales ’17, political science, Spanish, Latin American studies
Saladin ’17 earned fellowship for dig in Tuscany

“I am in the town of Vescovado Di Murlo in Siena province, Tuscany, Italy, to participate in the Poggio Civitate Archaeological Project, which is excavating an ancient Etruscan site dating back to the ninth-sixth centuries B.C.

I applied to the field school because, as far back as I can remember, I’ve always been interested in archaeology and have dreamed of participating in a dig. This particular field school appealed to my interest in early Roman history and ancient civilizations in general.

I have been working in a trench in which we are trying to expose the rest of a wall that was discovered last year. I have mostly been pickaxing, sorting dirt and searching for pottery fragments, but I have also done some cleaning of pottery and various artifacts we’ve found. It’s been an awesome experience so far! It’s hard work, but it is extremely rewarding, and I am learning a lot about the field of archaeology.”

— Chris Saladin ’17, Classics and history

Grads joined Lutheran Volunteer Corps

2015 graduates Vanessa Reyes and Megan Murphy were two of 104 members of the Lutheran Volunteer Corps who gathered for a national orientation on the campus of Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in August.

After the week of intensive training and orientation on topics including anti-racism work, self-care and intercultural communication, the volunteers dispersed to 13 U.S. cities, each person committed to serve full-time for one year with a particular social justice organization, while practicing simple, sustainable living in households of four to seven people.

Reyes, a political science major, is serving in Seattle, Wash., as the legal advocate at Northwest Immigrant Rights Project. Murphy, a religion major, is the camp and clinics specialist at Girls in the Game, a leading girls’ health and fitness organization in Chicago.
Augustana has named its Center for Student Life in honor of Murry and Cindy Gerber of Pittsburgh. The building is now called The Gerber Center for Student Life in recognition of the Gerbers’ philanthropic support of the college.

The Gerbers have donated $9.8 million to Augustana, placing them at the top of the list of individuals who have made substantial gifts to the college.

“We believe in the college,” Murry Gerber said. “We’re hoping that putting a name on the building will help inspire others to give as well.”

Gerber graduated from Augustana in 1975 with a bachelor’s in geology. He earned his master’s from the University of Illinois, and worked at Shell Oil for many years. In 1998, he became CEO of EQT Corporation in Pittsburgh, and he was the CEO of EQT until 2010. He served on the EQT board of directors until 2012.

“The entire campus community is humbled and honored by the Gerbers’ generosity,” said Augustana President Steve Bahls at the dedication ceremony. “Today we recommit to letting the world know just how special this building is and why it serves as a unique symbol of the liberal arts experience, and how it meets the needs of our students.”

The college opened the student center in the fall of 2013. The $20 million project increased the footprint of the 39,000-square-foot Thomas Tredway Library by nearly 35,000 square feet. It serves as Augustana’s dining room, living room and study. Dining for students now offers even more quick, fresh, customized options in a market-style setting on the building’s fifth floor.

“The student center integrates the social and intellectual lives of our community, supporting Augustana College’s commitment to student growth in mind, body and interpersonal maturity,” said Carla Tracy, director of the Thomas Tredway Library.

Constructed with the needs of modern students in mind and designed to be the heart of campus life, the building combines the operations of Dining Services, Tredway Library, Student Life, Multicultural Student Life, International Student Life and Student Success Services.

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About Murry Gerber, Class of 1975, and Cindy Gerber

With only a backpack full of clothes, Murry Gerber rode his 10-speed bicycle from Chicago to Rock Island—180 miles in three days—and moved into Seminary Hall to begin his life as an Augustana student.

Of the nearly 500 students in Murry’s graduating class at an inner-city Chicago high school, only 25 or so went on to college.

Murry has said that in that day and age, “there were no expectations for us to go to college,” as manufacturing jobs were plentiful. In fact, during his high school summers, he worked as a union steelworker. That’s probably what he would have continued doing if a high school counselor hadn’t encouraged him to attend college.

Cindy Gerber is a labor and employment attorney who worked in the Pittsburgh area for more than 20 years. Her practice was primarily in the area of union/management relations, executive employment agreements and employment litigation. She was a partner in private law firms for most of her career, and in 2010, she became the chief deputy public defender of Allegheny County. She retired from the position to establish the Cindy and Murry Gerber Foundation.

In addition to her foundation work, Cindy has served on the boards of numerous civic and charitable organizations in Pittsburgh. She also is an active volunteer with local legal aid organizations and with her children’s schools.
Class Notes
Notices received as of August 1, 2015

1945
Robert G. Scott retired from practicing law on September 16, 2013, his 90th birthday.

1949

1951
Albert Weidlich celebrated 60 years of ordination in the Lutheran Church.

1955
Marilyn Schueneman lives in the Fox Run retirement community in Novi, Mich., and hosts a show called “Conversations in Faith” on Fox Run’s in-house television station.

1957
Roger Nyquist released a music CD titled Roger Nyquist Plays a Tribute to Arthur Poister—Music on Casavant and Schantz pipe organs.

1958

1962
Diane Edmund Griffin was elected vice president of the National Academy of Sciences, and began her term in July 2013. In January 2015, she stepped aside as chair of the Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at Johns Hopkins University to continue her research.

1966
Anna Nordlander Mattson has retired from teaching special education.

1968
Susan Sorg Beschorner, who was a church musician for 15 years at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Omaha, Neb., has retired.

1969
Jeffrey Maurus retired from his full-time practice of obstetrics and gynecology in Moline, Ill., and Justin Hinzman ’07 assumed his practice.

1970
Dale Bean has retired as pastor of First Assembly of God in Marshall, Mo., after 19½ years.

1971
Linda Guthrie Bearden retired from Proctor Hospital in Peoria, Ill., after 42 years as a medical technologist, supervising the chemistry laboratory.

Steven Christensen attended a conference in Stockholm, Sweden—along with Stephen Hawking, Nobel Prize winner Gerard t’Hooft and 30 other renowned theorists from around the world. Steven is an adjunct professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Gregory Gola retired as deputy department head of the Department of Mental Health for the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, after 34 years.

Gretchen Miklas McGaffic has retired after teaching music for 37 years. She is an occasional soloist with the Brevard Chorale and “Voce” ensemble, Community Chorus, Space Coast Chorus, “Voce” ensemble, Community Chorus, Space Coast Chorus, at various denominational churches and as a “Dickens Caroler.” She has had the privilege of singing with these groups in Scandinavia, Paris and New York City’s Carnegie Hall.

Jim McGrath retired in June after 34 years as the sports information director at Butler University, where he also had been an associate athletic director since 1989. He was the sports information director at Augustana for 10 years before leaving for Butler in 1981.

1972
Janet Riedell Gahala retired in April 2015, after a long career in educational, technical and magazine publishing.

Tom Johnson started his own firm, Thomas Johnson Associates, specializing in expert witness services for water and environmental matters.

1973
Timothy Banwell is the environmental health director for the Rock County Health Department; he was named Health Professional of the Year by the Wisconsin Environmental Health Association.

Bruce Bianchi retired in May 2014 after 27 years at AbbVie Inc. He also has co-authored 56 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

Judy Bell Callan has retired after 31 years as a school psychologist.

Al Cunningham retired in 2006 after 33 years in education—14 years as a teacher and 19 years as a school administrator.

Claris E. Hyett has retired after 22 years with Boeing Commercial Aircraft in Seattle, Wash. His last project was the core team establishing the global collaboration network for the 787 Dreamliner.

In 2004, Christine Engler Stayer and her husband, Jack, sold the brokerage insurance agency they had started in 1976. They retired to northern Wisconsin and started another business, Sand Lake Trading Company, where they specialize in creating one-of-a-kind stained and fused art glass.

1975
Mark Meier has retired after more than 20 years of teaching.

An easy way to make a charitable gift without writing a check

While cash gifts are among the most common gifts made to Augustana College, a gift of property can provide you with added benefits.

A gift of land, stock, artwork or a business interest may enable you to maximize your giving and eliminate capital gains tax. You also will receive a current year charitable income tax deduction. A gift of property also can provide you with a lifetime income stream.

To learn more about how you can make a charitable gift without writing a check, contact Stephen Davis at 309-794-7587 or legacyinfo@augustana.edu. Visit www.augustana.edu/legacy for more details.

Janice Thulion Schoening retired in June 2014 from teaching eighth-grade math.

1976
Ellen Dahlgren Hogbin retired from John Deere after 37 years.

1977
Donald Berg was named CEO of Comfy Cow, after retiring as CFO from Brown Forman in April.

Diane A. Didier Dyk retired in May 2013, but continues to substitute as a speech-language pathologist.

Marna Geerts retired from West Carroll CUSD314 in June 2014.

Douglas Hultquist, president and CEO of QCR Holdings, Inc., was presented a "Male Champions of Change" award from the Women’s Connection and Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce.

Linda Lagerstrom Mateja retired from Aon Hewitt and now is serving on the Board of Directors for Chicagoland Habitat for Humanity.

Patricia E. Pendell married Joseph Borell in May 2014.

John Skowronski was named Northern Illinois University’s 2015 Board of Trustees Professor, awarded for prominence in research and excellence in all facets of teaching.

1979
Roberta “Robin” Bassing Boyes retired in 2010 from Northern Illinois University, after serving as a grant/contract administrator, the Holmes Student Center business manager, and the College of Law registrar and director of budget/records.

1980
Patrice Accola received an M.B.A. from St. Ambrose University. She is the principal corporate education manager at KJWW Engineering Consultants.

David L. Lagerstrom has retired as corporate controller at U.S. Tsubaki.

1981
Jim Hayden, a retired teacher, was named IHSA Baseball Official of the Year in 2014 and worked at the state finals for small schools.

Mary Reigert Klee is a PT and CHT (certified hand specialist) at Accelerated Rehab in Greenwood, Ind. She specializes in the evaluation and treatment of injuries and disorders of the upper extremity.

1982
Ann McGovern Pedersen is the coordinator of the Business Office for the Village of Glen Ellyn, Ill.

1984
Don Pearson is senior vice president and CFO for the Sparton Corporation.

1985
Charlene Quint married Chris Russell on June 6, 2015. She has written two books: Angels of Ebermannstadt and Blessings, Prayers, and Heart Songs. She also founded The Blessing Collection, a Christian giftware company.

Jeff Scarpinato is a vice president with Homes Murphy & Associates and the new broker for Augustana College.

Reid Schroeder had a son, Samuel Terence, on January 16, 2015 (Chelsea).
1986
John VanSanten was invited to join The Counselors of Real Estate (CRE), and he received the CRE designation.

1989
Robyn Hubbard Nebergall was named the 2014 Iowa Physician Assistant of the Year by the Iowa Physician Assistant Society.

1990
Louie Alongi was named Citizen of the Year, Individual Category for 2014, for Rock Island, and Knight of the Year for Rock Island Knights of Columbus.


David G. Patterson, D.O., was elected to the school board in Flat Rock, Mich., for a six-year term.

1991
Sarah Bexell was promoted to staff and faculty in the Institute for Human-Animal Connection at the University of Denver and is now the Humane Education program manager. She also is the director of conservation education at the Chengdu Panda Base in China.

Matt Brooke retired from the U.S. Army as lieutenant colonel. He is enrolled in the Iowa State University M.B.A. program.

Laura McNulty Burgis is executive vice president of Claremont Lincoln University in Claremont, Calif.

Gregory D. Cousert is an evidence technician with the Illinois State Police. He received his Masters of Science Administration of Justice and Security in June 2014.

Dorrie Dettmann is first violinist for Classical Moods Quartet and first violinist in the St. Ambrose Community Symphony Orchestra.

1992
Rebecca Carlson Grider is the manager of Downtown Development Authority/Main Street for the City of Iron Mountain, Mich.

Kristin Hansen was elected to the Montana State Senate in November 2014.

Kirk Huffaker recently celebrated 15 years at Utah Heritage Foundation, where he is the executive director. His son, Jackson, was born on October 18, 2011.

Siobhan Malany sent a science experiment to the International Space Station and was named a winner in the 2014 GSK Discovery Fast Track Challenge for North America, a program designed to combine the expertise of academic researchers with that of drug discovery scientists at GSK. She is a chemical biology team leader at Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute.

Timothy Phillips married Kathryn Dunn in February 2013.

Martha Keil Stolze received her M.B.A. in November 2014 from North Central College, where she is the dean of admissions.

Michael Victorson was appointed to the Board of Directors of Oregon (Wis.) Community Bank. He is the president and CEO of M3 Insurance in Madison, Wis.

1993
Karen Loula Castoe was named a 2014 Teacher of the Year at Amelia Earhart Elementary School of International Studies in Indio, Calif.

Matthew Seifert is executive director at KPMG LLP in New York.

Kathryn Hannen Walker is a partner in the litigation department and the assistant practice head of Bass, Berry & Sims PLC.

1994
Lynn Chindlunds is a volunteer ESL tutor with Literacy Volunteers of Western Cook County (LVWCC) and serves as a board member and secretary of LVWCC.

Shari Hohn Eddinger is assistant director of the Lee County Special Education Association. She is in her 20th year with public schools in Dixon, Ill.

Erin Reade Murphy was elected vice president at Stanley Consultants, one of the world’s largest consulting engineering firms.

John Reimers and Michelle Johnson-Reimers ’96 had a daughter, Emma Seraphina, on January 28, 2014.

Lynette VanHyfte is a reinspection team manager at State Farm Insurance. She recently completed a Fellow of Financial Services Institution’s (FFSI) designation to add to her CPCU, CLU, AIM and AIC credentials.

1995
Brian Lunt is a partner at Hamilton Partners in Buffalo Grove, Ill.

1996
Azeemuddin Ahmed received the Pleasant Valley High School’s 2015 Wall of Honor Distinguished Alumni Award.

Michael Foulk was appointed assistant professor of biology at Mercyhurst University in Erie, Penn., in August 2014.

James Lestos received an Ed.D. in 2015 from Chicago State University.

1997
Kristi Wasson Barrowclough is a career advisor in the Leeds School of Business at the University Colorado at Boulder.

Anne Jaeckel Hauser and Jonathan Hauser ’99 had a daughter, Rebekah Elizabeth, on August 8, 2014 (Rachel).

Sandy Malesky married Aaron Gagné on October 18, 2014, in Denver, Colo.

Becky Passman received the Master in Public Administration from Drake University in December 2014. She is a project manager with the Bi-State Regional Commission.

1998
Kara Farwell Holzer is the communications and marketing director for Conexión Américas in Nashville, Tenn.

Lisa Foster Kline had a son, Parker Anthony, on December 2, 2014 (Tony; Evan, Landon, J).  

Christine Patton had a daughter, Baylee Lynne, on February 13, 2014.

Brian Sebastian is district sales manager at Magid Glove and Safety.

Tonya Trudo is the social media director at Summit Schools in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

1999
David Hanson had a son, Andrew David, in December 2014 (Megan; Haley Grace, 8, Isaac Timothy, 5).

Matthew Hayes had a son, Preston Sean Hayes, on January 9, 2015 (Holly).

Jonathan Hauser and Anne Jaeckel ’97 Hauser had a daughter, Rebekah Elizabeth, on August 8, 2014 (Rachell).
Jonathan Howell is the director of human resources at Mitchell College, after previously serving for nearly 10 years as director of human resources at the University of Illinois. He married Steven Tharp in July 2013.

Matthew Johnson and Julia O’Donnell ’00 were married on June 14, 2014.

Lisa Schroeder had a daughter, Danica Kathryn Baracaldo, on November 2, 2014 (Juan Carlos Baracaldo; Annabelle, 3).

2000

Jessica Catalano is the director of strategic marketing programs with Columbia Management in Boston, Mass.

Dimi Doresca is the director of the Institute for International Business at the University of Iowa. He continues to do consulting work with Haiti’s Ministry of Economic Development, and he also brings teams of Iowa business owners on trade missions to his home island each year.

Sara Klein was named the National Art Education Association’s 2015 Western Region Museum Art Educator of the Year. She is a teacher and school programs manager at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art in Fort Worth, Texas.

Nate Nickel and Sarah O’Klock ’02 Nickel had a daughter, Samantha Eileen, on February 27, 2015. Nate works for the City of Bloomington, Ind., and Sarah works for Combs Veterinary Clinic.

Michele Martin McKenzie and Brian McKenzie ’02 had twins, Owen and Kate, in November 2014 (Leah, 6).

Maggie Capettini Poplawski has been working on a series of plein air paintings in Hadley Valley Preserve, which is part of the Forest Preserve District of Will County. The collection of paintings was exhibited at four visitor centers between April and October 2015.

Laura Quinley married Christopher Becher on May 30, 2015.

Nicole Wissing had a son, Eli Calel, on October 28, 2014 (John; Noah, 1).

2002

Elizabeth Choporis is the director of the Center for Student Involvement at Roosevelt University.

Erik Christian had a daughter, Corinne Maire, on May 27, 2013 (Amanda; Madelyn, Harper, Amelia).

Sarah Swenson Kneller had a daughter, Sophie, in April 2015 (Matt; Evelyn).

Leigh Kramer worked as a medical social worker in hospice and pediatrics for several years before transitioning to a career as a writer and Enneagram coach.

Danielle Krenz married Colin Stoddard on September 14, 2014.

Brian McKenzie and Michele Martin ’01 McKenzie had twins, Owen and Kate, in November 2014 (Leah, 6).

Sarah O’Klock Nickel and Nate Nickel ’00 had a daughter, Samantha Eileen, on February 27, 2015. Nate works for the City of Bloomington, Indiana, and Sarah works for Combs Veterinary Clinic.

Lynn Palmgren received a master’s from Pacific College of Oriental Medicine. A licensed acupuncturist and board-certified Chinese herbalist, Lynn opened the acupuncture practice, Palmgren Acupuncture, in Oak Park, Ill.

Lisa Pickel was promoted to director of global relations and events at Walton International Group (USA), Inc., in January 2015.

Janine Morris Pickett had twin boys, Sebastian and Caleb, on July 23, 2014 (Joshua; Reagan, 3).

Brian Sayers and Corinne Gorskey Sayers had twin girls, Mikayla and Ryleigh, on June 5, 2014 (Bryce, 2).

Greta Schoon married James Ponce on September 26, 2014.

Jennifer Weber and Chad Scoggins had a son, Benjamin, in July 2014 (Emelie, 5).

2003
Kim Martin Andrews and her husband had a son, Shawn Matthew, on December 20, 2014. (Reese, 5; Lauren, 2).

Kathryn Bicero married Celia Saris Segal on July 19, 2015.

Jill Youngblood Boomer had a son, Ansel Tiberius, on February 25, 2014 (Alex).

Lindsay Daniels had a daughter, Cecilia, on June 10, 2014 (Richard Speidel).

Rich Driscoll had a son, Charles Richard, on February 27, 2014 (Stephanie). Rich is a senior account executive with XPO Logistics.

Kristen Lewandowski George is an oncology social worker with Mercy Health St. Mary’s Lacks Cancer Center, and also works as an adjunct instructor for Davenport University in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Sarah Dorner Hill had a son, Liam, on May 17, 2013 (Andrew).

Rebecca Huberts married Michael Lagle on February 14, 2015. Rebecca is director of project management for Information Resources, Inc., in Chicago.

Jessica Biese Larsen had a daughter, Elizabeth Jean, on October 22, 2014.

Ashley Dethloff Neal had a daughter, Harper Jane, on December 11, 2014 (Barry).

Zak Protzman is a manager with the strategy team at Cars.com and an adjunct professor at his M.B.A. alma mater, DePaul University.

Joshua Raabe had a son, Reece Porter, on November 11, 2014 (Meredith; Rylee Mae, 3).


Andrew Thomas and Meredith Moss Thomas had a son, Jude Michael, on June 24, 2014 (Toby, 6; Tru, 3).

Chris Werner received a master’s in education from Nova Southeastern University.

2004
Kim Nelson Cruse and Joe Cruse ’05 had a son, Maddox Michael, on January 27, 2015.

Ryan Feeney had a son, Arthur Charles, in 2014 (Amy; Molly Jean, 2). Ryan is a calculus teacher and a football coach at Morton West High School in Berwyn, Ill.

Janine Gajewski is accounting director at Golub & Company LLC.

Whitney Sears Goldner is an associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine Division of Endocrinology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Stephanie Allewalt Hacker was selected as an associate at GRAEF and was promoted to practice area leader of the Planning/Urban Design Group in May 2015.

Justin Hansen joined the law firm of Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP in Chicago.


Stacey Muren married Mark Rauser on October 13, 2014.

Ryan Murphy and Ashley Paul Murphy had a son, Aidan Patrick, on May 22, 2014 (Connor, 2).

Eric Pravidica and Kelsey Anderson Pravidica had a daughter, Kamryn Kae, on October 15, 2014.

Ryan Ruud is the managing director in GE Capital’s Financial Sponsors Group.

2005
Ryan Howard Anderson graduated from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in May 2012, receiving the Master of Divinity. He was ordained to Word and Sacrament ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in July 2012. He is pastor at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Toluca, Ill.


Craig Hanus joined Wells Fargo Home Mortgage as a system support analyst in December 2013.

Liliana Glubisz married Benjamin Leaf ’01 on October 25, 2014. Liliana graduated in 2012 from Bastyr University in Seattle, Wash., with a Doctorate of Naturopathic Medicine. She is practicing as a naturopathic physician in Phoenix, Ariz. She also works as an emergency event reporter for the Standard Homeopathic Company.

Heather McGonigle Roman had a son, Eli Matthew, in March 2015 (Ryan; Mia).

Colleen Wynne married Ryan Nagy on June 20, 2015.

2006
Cory Allen married Nicole Kitto in October 2011. They had a daughter, Isabelle Audrey, in October 2014.

Lindsay Behrensmeyer Bayer had a daughter, Stella Grace, on November 7, 2012 (Chris). Lindsay received her M.Ed. from Penn State University in May 2014. She works as a curriculum development consultant for EdLabs at Harvard University. She also is a freelance writer and education/non-profit consultant.
Emily Dahl is a government affairs manager at the Association for Advanced Life Underwriting in Washington, D.C.

Sarah Kirberg Lickus had a daughter, Grace Elizabeth, on December 4, 2014 (Steve).

Amy Meier married David Koch on June 6, 2015.

Megan Golema Narewski works for OCULUS Surgical, Inc.

James Ward and Amanda Lundeen Ward had a daughter, Finley Irene, on June 18, 2014.

Kimberly Weidner-Feigh had a son, Jace Easton, on April 20, 2013 (Mike).

Brett Wells joined Talent Plus as a chief research officer.

Derek Zabransky ’07 and Jessica Youngs Zabransky had twin daughters, Gwendolyn Lee and Isabelle Paige, on December 29, 2014.

2007

Timothy Bowling received a Ph.D. from Purdue University.

Lauren Ciezki married Travis Dingee on September 28, 2012.

Adam Derrick and Mindy Diehl Derrick had a daughter, Violet Louise, on March 23, 2015.

Justin Hinzman assumed the obstetrics and gynecology practice in Moline, Ill., of Jeffrey Maurus ’69 upon his retirement.

Kim Cieniawa Karwacki had a daughter, Madelyn Rose, on June 15, 2015 (Jonathan).

2008

Jennifer Carlson married John Parkhurst ’07 in July 2014. Jenny is a fourth-grade teacher. John received his Ph.D. in 2013 from the University of Tennessee. He is a psychologist at Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin. Jenny is a fourth-grade teacher.

Brigit Ray is a board-certified family physician at the University of Iowa. She is pursuing a master’s in medical education.

Amanda Saraf and her husband had a son, Oliver, on October 2, 2014. She is a Hematology Oncology Fellow at Nationwide Children’s Hospital.

Jennie Steljes married Kevin Goss in June 2014.

Derek Zabransky and Jessica Youngs ’06 Zabransky had twin daughters, Gwendolyn Lee and Isabelle Paige, on December 29, 2014.

Encouraging ambitious students to go beyond what they thought possible is what we do every day. Your gift to the Augustana Fund gives us the tools to do it well. During your time at Augustana, donors made gifts that put technology in your classroom, lit your playing field, bought your sheet music or helped your professor. It’s easy to make a gift that makes a difference.

Visit www.augustana.edu/alumni and click on GIVE to support the Augustana experience. Don’t forget to follow us on Facebook to see your dollars at work. Thank you! Your gifts matter.
Amy Keipert is director of choirs at McCracken Middle School in Skokie School District #73.5 and the associate conductor of the Chicago Chamber Choir.

Angie Mitchum joined the Alumni Association Board of Directors at Augustana College.

Elliott Tinnes received an M.B.A. from the University of Virginia Darden School of Business. He is an associate at McKinsey & Co.

2009

Shaina Bengtson married Tom Walker in May 2014. She received a Master of Science in Biology from Western Illinois University-Quad Cities in June. In October, she was promoted to district visual lead with Kohl’s Department Stores.

Julie Disney graduated from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in 2013. She currently is a resident in veterinary ophthalmology at Virginia Tech.

Katie Gandhi is pursuing a master’s in urban and regional planning at the University of Iowa.

Stephanie Hortsman has participated in the National Education Association Representative Assembly the past two years, representing her colleagues and working with 10,000+ other educators in a democratic assembly to help improve the public education system in the United States.

Emma Toole Johnson teaches eighth-grade commutation skills and social studies at Rochelle Middle School.

Arianna Lowe was promoted to case coordinator at Walter Lawson Children’s Home.

Dan Pepper and Melissa Flowers Pepper had a baby boy, James Grayson, on December 17, 2014.

Jason Perine received associate degrees in fire science and emergency medical services from Joliet Junior College. He is a firefighter/paramedic with the Matteson (Ill.) Fire Department.

Brannon Ramsdale and Allison Schaley ’11 were married on November 8, 2014.

Teri Santee married Tim DeBroeck in 2012. She is a manager at Aldi Grocery Store in Silvis, Ill.

Victoria Warnaar is an occupational therapy doctoral student at Huntington University in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Jaimie McCluskey married Stephen Zulkowski in March 2014. She received her Master of Arts in Reading from Concordia University in the summer of 2013. She is an ESL teacher in Bensenville School District #2.

2010

Jackie Celske graduated with a master’s in communication from Johns Hopkins University, concentrating in digital communication and public and media relations. She is a marketing communications specialist for the HON Company in Muscatine, Iowa.

Jacob Glimco and Emily Timmons ’13 were married on September 27, 2014.

Tim Lainhart and Kaitlin Siros were married on August 31, 2014. Kaitlin is a digital project manager with Discover Financial Services.

Deanna Recchia is a probation officer with Kane County Court Services. She is pursuing a master’s in clinical psychology from Benedictine University.

Wesley Samore graduated from medical school at University of Illinois at Peoria. He has started his residency at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Curtis Stewart is a cloud consultant with VMware, Inc.

Melissa Stockman is team leader in account management at Cars.com.

Chelsey Svela Stolte teaches eighth-grade science and literature at Rochelle Middle School.

Wendy White married Curran Thorne in October 2014. She is a clinical audiologist at Fauquier Hearing Services, a nationally ranked audiology office.

Jill Zelinski is a second-grade teacher at East Aurora School District #131.

2011

Jaimie Bauerlein graduated from Washington University School of Medicine in May 2014 with a Doctor of Physical Therapy; she is with Athletico Physical Therapy in Aurora, Ill.

Louie Bertenshaw received a master’s from New York University; he is a teacher in Kyoto, Japan.


Emily Cox is a family group teacher for the Great Start Readiness Program at Gretchen’s House Child Care Centers. She was accepted into the University of Toledo’s Licensure and Master’s Program.

Lauryln Dick and Matthew Deets ’12 were married on July 26, 2014.

Zach Hildner and Britta Shold were married on July 19, 2014. Britta is a speech pathologist with Therapists Unlimited.

Kimberly Joslyn was teaching in Korea and now is attending graduate school in England.

Melyssa Kotecki moved to China after graduating from Augustana, where she is an MNC business development manager for a large Chinese firm.
**Upcoming Alumni Tours**

If any of these destinations are on your bucket list, save the date!

**CHINA**
June 2016

**GERMANY AND PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC**
June 2017

**NICARAGUA**
June 2018 (for alumni who participated in the JETS service-learning program in Nicaragua as a student)

Contact Kelly Read ’02 Noack, director of alumni relations, at 309-794-7474 or kellynoack@augustana.edu for more information.

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Sarah Viager received a Master of Education in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment from National Lewis University. She teaches kindergarten at Kingsley Elementary in Naperville, Ill.  

Jonathan Wallace sold his company, No Collar LLC, to Hodas and Associates, and has joined Wolfram Research.  

Christina Wilson is a sales coordinator at Sourcebooks, Inc.

**2012**

Michelle Anderson is teaching English in Japan.  

Amanda Beveroth earned a J.D. at Northern Illinois University College of Law. She is an associate at Ward, Murray, Pace and Johnson, PC.

**2013**

Hannah Barney is marketing coordinator at Northwest Mechanical, Inc.

**2014**

Kathryn George lives in Vero Beach, Fla., where she works at Southside Veterinary Hospital. She recently attended her second ocean rescue for a whale that had beached itself in Stuart, Fla.

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Jonathon Carlson married Hannah Maloney ‘13 in August 2014. He is a clinical researcher for National Jewish Health.  

Matthew Deets and Lauryn Dick ’11 were married on July 26, 2014.  

Nicole Krampjen is the director of beginning orchestra in the Des Plaines (Ill.) School District.  

Allie Lancaster is a 4-H program coordinator at the University of Illinois Extension in Whiteside County.  

Aubrey Payne earned her Master of Science in Education in clinical mental health counseling at Western Illinois University.  

Elizabeth Phillips is a project leader at SPLtrak.  

Stefanie Reed earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois Veterinary School in May 2015. She plans to practice ranch medicine in Colorado.  

Kristen Schwegpe Reick received a Master of Music Education in July 2015 from VanderCook College of Music in Chicago.  

Natalie Runge received a Doctorate in Physical Therapy from Washington University. She is a physical therapist at Barnes Jewish West County Hospital in St. Louis, Mo.  

Peter Schimeck is an associate broker with Aon.  

Amanda Wellhouse is pursuing a master’s in the public history program at the University of Northern Iowa. She is employed part-time at the Waterloo Center for the Arts Youth Pavilion/Fun Space.

Claire Behnke is pursuing her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine-Master of Public Health at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.  

Sarah Block is pursuing a Doctorate of Physical Therapy at Midwestern University.  

Meghan Deplaris graduated with an Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing in December 2014. She is a clinical nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.  

Britnee Eccles spent a year as the morning newscaster at a radio station before becoming the assistant copy editor for the Malcolm Group in Oglesby, Ill.  

Janelle Gottner is pursuing a master’s of environmental science, while interning as a GIS analyst at Hoover National Forest.  

Cody Heche is a Peace Corps volunteer in Africa.  

Annie Heifner attends the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine at Midwestern University.  

Ashley Heppner married John Richter on October 11, 2014. She is a dance studio director at Davenport Junior Theatre.  

Sallie Ann Hohenboken is a member of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission and a student at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities, pursuing a master’s in counseling education with plans to work as a school counselor.  

Alex Kurian, a ground supply officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, is stationed in Japan.  

Samantha Lach is pursuing a master’s in counseling psychology at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. She is a behavioral health specialist at Timberline Knolls.  

Hannah Maloney and Jonathon Carlson ’12 were married in August 2014.  

David Nakic is an instructor with High Trails Outdoor Science School in the San Bernardino National Forest in California.  

Hannah Osborn is in her second year at Ohio University’s experimental social psychology Ph.D. program.  

Mallory Potter is in her second year of teaching elementary music in rural Arkansas through Teach for America.  

Jessica Roche is pursuing a Doctor of Physical Therapy at Wheeling Jesuit University in West Virginia.  

James Sandberg is an audit associate with Deloitte and Touche LLP.  

Jennifer Stille is a program assistant at Morris High School in the Special Education Department.  

Sara Strever and Benjamin Ulfers were married in 2014.  

Emily Timmons and Jacob Glimco ’10 were married on September 27, 2014. She is an editor with Prime Publishing, LLC.  

Elizabeth Tressel is pursuing a master’s in school counseling at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities.

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**2015**

Elizabeth Phillips is a project leader at SPLtrak.  

Stefanie Reed earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois Veterinary School in May 2015. She plans to practice ranch medicine in Colorado.  

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Elizabeth Tressel is pursuing a master’s in school counseling at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities.
Jennifer Merlitti graduated from the management training program at the Sherwin Williams Company, and is the assistant manager at the Sherwin Williams store in Libertyville, Ill.

Yasmine Nejdawi is pursuing a master’s in English at Fordham University in New York.

Cameron Onumah is a field representative and African-American liaison for the U.S. Senate.

Mackenzie Ostermeier is a program assistant at New Connections Academy.

Johanna Schnitzler is an English teacher in South Korea.

Samantha Swanborg is a permanent substitute teacher at Harlem Middle School in Loves Park, Ill.

Laura Williamson is in graduate school at Fontbonne University in St. Louis, Mo.

2015

Mariah Benson is pursuing a master’s in health sciences and public health at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities and working as a practice representative at Lundgren Family Chiropractic in Rock Island.

Brittany Burk is a full-time graduate student at Texas Christian University, studying speech-language pathology and working as a graduate assistant.

Alejandra Campos is a college program intern at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

Mara Cantrell-Paulson is a travel agent with AAA in Bettendorf, Iowa, and a co-technical director at Pleasant Valley High School, also in Bettendorf.

Leslie Carranza is a family reunification specialist at the Amate House in Chicago.

Katy Cook is an assistant event designer for the Zilli Hospitality Group in Waukesha, Wis.

Octavio Cordero is enrolled in the six-month Leadership Banking Program to become a trade financier junior associate with First American Bank in Elk Grove, Ill.

Allie Denton is a special education paraprofessional at McKenzie Elementary School in Wilmette, Ill.

Chelsea Fray is pursuing a master’s in communication at Illinois State University.

Jamie Graf is pursuing a master’s at Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo.

Jessica Gerdisch is a graduate student at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, studying speech-language pathology.

Brooke Hickman is a full-time graduate student in speech-language pathology at Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo.

Kristen Jones is a full-time graduate student at Truman State University, studying speech-language pathology.

Sarah Kerres is in the John Deere Finance Development Program. Her first rotation is a general ledger accountant in Moline, Ill.

Vanessa Kirk is a youth care worker at Tumbleweed in Phoenix, Ariz.

Ashley LaGrow is a fourth-grade teacher in Knoxville, Ill.

Alex Miller is a neuroscience graduate research assistant at Colorado State University.

Gabby Potter is a full-time graduate student at the University of Texas at Dallas, studying speech-language pathology.

Nicole Radloff is a user interface designer at Audentio Design in Rockford, Ill.

Abdul Rahman Merhi was named the 2015 recipient of the SCA Glenn T. Seaborg Science Scholarship. (See story on page 7.)

Kelly Olson is a third-grade teacher at Harrison School in Wonder Lake, Ill.

Elyzia Powers is a full-time graduate student at Northern Illinois University, studying educational psychology.

Silvia Ramirez-Bertolasi is a music teacher at the Aquinas American School of Madrid in Madrid, Spain.

Lily Ramos is a learning and talent development specialist at MSU Credit Union in East Lansing, Mich.

Jenna Riordan is a fourth-grade teacher in Quincy, Ill.

Nick Stone is an English teacher and semi-pro football player/coach in Chongqing and Wuhan, China.

Alex Thompson is an NCAA marketing and public relations intern for Turner Sports in Atlanta, Ga.

Jenny Vanderpool is a patient care technician (CNA) on the oncology and neurology floor and in the operating room at Trinity Rock Island hospital.

Christie Wiersema is a re-entry counselor for the Ashford University Iowa Online Center and a full-time graduate student at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities, where she is pursuing a Master of Science in College Student Personnel.

Andrew Brimeyer is pursuing a master’s in education at the University of Notre Dame, and teaching 6th-grade language arts and social studies at Mary Immaculate Catholic School near Dallas, Texas.

Amanda Sestak is working for Holland America Cruise Line in the entertainment department [children’s programs] on the ships.

Deaths

Notices received as of August 1, 2015

Frank Byers ’38 on July 12, 2015.

Donald Clark ’38 on December 16, 2014.

Helen Laughhead Davis ’40 Larson on January 10, 2015.


M. Rogene Hegberg ’41 on December 23, 2014.

Anita Lindberg ’41 Johnson on December 7, 2014.

Phyllis Holtz ’42 Adams on May 17, 2015.

William Carlson ’42 on October 3, 2014.

Thor N.V. Karlstrom ’43 on September 25, 2014.

Richard Shively ’43 on June 30, 2015.

Paul Walton Kempe ’44 on April 6, 2014.

Robert Klann ’44 on December 1, 2014.

Janet Swanson ’44 Sauter on November 28, 2014.

George Skaﬁdas ’44 on March 23, 2015.


Alice Nelson ’46 Moltzen on June 14, 2015.

Clara “Freddie” Frederick ’46 Pincus on February 14, 2015.

Juliana Pittman ’46 Volk on December 2, 2014.

Carolyn Hoglund ’47 Ahrens on November 6, 2014.

Lydia Larsen ’47 Beckman on May 25, 2015.

David Guild ’47 on May 12, 2014.

Milton Hedquist ’47 on March 29, 2015.

Mary Swan ’47 Sharkey on May 23, 2015.
Patricia Peterson ’48 Guild on May 17, 2014.
Marion Johnson ’48 Henss on November 29, 2013.
Lois Erickson ’48 Jackson on November 11, 2014.
Alice Carlstedt ’48 Nelson on October 10, 2014.

Calvin Roy ’48 on July 6, 2014.
Patricia Hedberg ’48 Tremblay on August 6, 2014.

Dorothy Nelson ’50 Appleton
on January 15, 2015.

Harry Lorenz ’50 on July 4, 2015.
Elzina Oakberg ’50 on January 10, 2015.
Beverly Chase ’50 Schick on May 1, 2015.
William Steele ’50 on December 11, 2014.
Robert Wayne Stead ’50 on September 4, 2014.
Jacquelyn Braaten ’50 Stone on December 10, 2014.
Paul Swanson ’50 on July 18, 2015.
Blanche Bohatka ’51 on January 31, 2015. Survivors include a daughter, Michele Bohatka ’65 Maki.
Jack Dye ’51 on May 31, 2015. Survivors include a son, Brad Dye ’77, and a daughter, Jodi Dye ’84 Zimmerman.
Eugene Keller ’51 on December 22, 2014.
E. Joan Pobanz ’51 Kepner on May 4, 2014.

John Person ’51 on April 22, 2013.

Robert Kummer ’49 on April 13, 2015.
Richard Lundeen ’49 on May 2, 2014.
Marilyn Olson ’49 Okerberg on May 28, 2015.

Janice ”Becky” Beckstrom ’49 Swanson on April 29, 2014. Survivors include her son, Paul Swanson ’73; daughter, Ann Swanson ’76 O’Klock; and granddaughter, Sarah O’Klock ’02 Nickel. Her husband, Earl Swanson, an honorary alumnus of the college, passed away on July 2, 2015.

Richard Withenbury ’49 on November 28, 2014. Survivors include his daughter, Pamela Withenbury ’75 Swanson.
Dorothy Nelson ’50 Appleton on May 29, 2015.


Robert Karsten ’52 on November 12, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Norma.
Janet Carlson ’52 Larson on January 1, 2015.
Howard Pearson ’52 on October 16, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Chee Chee Pearson.

Arlyn Youngberg ’52 on November 14, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Lenore.

Rosemary Bucherer ’54 Hendren on April 17, 2015. Survivors include her husband, John Hendren ’54, and her sister, Marlene Bucherer ’57 Park.

Barbara Peterson ’54 Midtlyng on April 8, 2015. She is survived by her husband, Jay.

Dorothy Seaberg ’54 Beifuss on December 3, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Charles.

Harriet Smith ’54 Olson on January 26, 2015.

Sue Christianson ’59 Gabriel passed away on October 20, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Charles Gabriel ’58.

James Tharrington ’57 on August 16, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Loane Freedlund ’57 Tharrington.

Bertil Sandin ’58 on February 13, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Lozetta Bohman ’58 Sandin.

Charles Smith ’58 on December 28, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Carol Weber ’58 Smith.

Marvin Strum ’58 on December 29, 2014.

Michael Erickson ’59 on November 19, 2013.

Donald Berg ’56 on October 3, 2014. Survivors include his wife, Penny, and his sister, Carol Berg ’59 Christianson.

Giles Weigandt ’56 on July 6, 2015.

Sandra Lu Julin ’57 Cregeen on April 24, 2015.

Patricia Strickland ’57 Crowe on January 22, 2015. Survivors include her husband, Ralph, and son, Bruce Crowe ’80.

Sandra Lu Julin ’57 Cregeen on April 24, 2015.

Patricia Strickland ’57 Crowe on January 22, 2015. Survivors include her husband, Ralph, and son, Bruce Crowe ’80.
Robert Ihlefeld ’60 on February 2, 2015.

Arno Lafrenz, husband of Nancy Getty ’60 Lafrenz on January 29, 2014.

Jean Jensen ’60 Marti on December 31, 2014.

Grace Johnson ’60 Palm on April 14, 2015. Survivors include her husband, Wayne, and her sister, Yvonne Johnson ’61 Page.

Kenneth Beausang ’61 on May 17, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Carol Chattberg Beausang.

Janice Rapley ’61 Clabuesch on February 26, 2015. She is survived by her husband, Walter “Fred” Clabuesch.

Albert Thomas Hunter ’61 on March 11, 2015. He is survived by his husband, Gerald Tschieg.

Grace Carlson ’61 Johannessen on March 31, 2015.

Janet Johnson ’61 Kinney on May 20, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Charles Kinney ’60.

Melvin Larson ’61 on December 1, 2014.

Lynn Engstrom ’61 Seeber on June 16, 2015.

Ronald Wisecarver ’61 on January 9, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Terry Coberly ’76 Wisecarver.

Mary Miller ’62 Benson on June 9, 2015. She is survived by her husband, Donald Benson ’64.

Carol Forse ’62 Hudson on May 29, 2015. Survivors include her husband, Terry Hudson ’63, and her sister, Barbara Forse ’59 Anderson.


William Leatherman ’63 on October 18, 2014.

Gary Render ’63 on January 28, 2015. Survivors include his mother, Genevieve Render, and his wife, Betsye Johnson ’65 Render.

George Paquette ’64 on May 17, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Patricia McCormack Paquette.


Leif Erickson ’65 on February 14, 2013.

Joseph Orost, husband of Larraine “Lorrie” Hesser ’65 Orost, on April 10, 2014.

Robert Allen Johnson ’65 on May 23, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Diane Pitzer Johnson.

Karen Burgeson ’65 Pugh on March 20, 2015. She is survived by her husband, Paul.

Allison Lundell ’65 Taggart on December 22, 2015. She is survived by her husband, Ralph Taggart.

Carolyn Cook ’66 Loyd on December 26, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Robert Loyd.

Judith Carr ’67 on February 17, 2012.


Douglas Anderson ’69 on April 25, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Diana Anderson ’69 Brown.

Ronda Armstrong, wife of Bill Armstrong ’69, on November 28, 2014.

Marcia Makinen ’69 Boku on March 21, 2015.

Doneldon Dennis ’69 on January 28, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Joan Miller.

Sharlene Johnson ’70 Bauer on August 29, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Larry Bauer.

Joyce Butler, wife of M. Brent Gustafson ’70, on March 30, 2015.

Eric Flodberg ’70 on October 19, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Suzette Flodberg.

Charles “Chuck” Kluth ’71 on May 25, 2015. Survivors include his wife, Mary Jo Morgan ’73 Kluth, and his sister, Gretchen Kluth ’74 Seago.

Gena Meyers ’71 on April 28, 2015. Survivors include her brother, Kim Meyers ’74.

Dennis Bell ’72 on November 29, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie Malm ’69 Bell.

Chris Ensey ’72 on April 26, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Patti.

Janet Biever ’72 Faletti on June 30, 2014.

Rev. William Gorski ’72 on February 10, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Cynthia Witt ’72 Gorski.

David Losasso ’72 on June 24, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Cyndy.

Karen Erickson ’72 Potts passed away March 13, 2012. Survivors include her husband, Dan, and her sister-in-law, Linda Anderson ’72 Potts.

Neil Cooperider ’73 on May 7, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Julie.

Philip Greko ’73 on April 20, 2015. He is survived by his mother, Dorothy.

Claude Hanson ’74 on July 21, 2015.

Barbara “Jean” Manning ’74 Phillips on November 27, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Dave.

Janice Adkins ’76 Brust on December 13, 2014.

Janice Rapley ’76 Faletti on March 28, 2015.

Robert Ihlefeld ’60 on April 2, 2015.

Janice Davis ’80 Pasqual on November 8, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Morris “Sonny” Pasqual.

Brandon Cruse, son of Nancy Hennenfent ’81 Cruse, on May 23, 2014.

Kellie Orr ’83 Ferconio on May 23, 2015.

Nancy Snyder ’83 on March 15, 2014.

Julie Poduch ’84 on March 14, 2015. Survivors include her sister, Laura Poduch ’84 Parcellis.

Julie Tegtmeier ’85 Morrison on May 11, 2015. She is survived by her husband, Michael Morrison ’94.

Lemuel Wade ’89 on December 22, 2014.

Amanda Baker ’01 Wright on July 27, 2015. Survivors include her husband, Jared, and her sister, Lindsey Baker ’04 DeMuyneck.

Robert Volz ’02 on May 11, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen Reif ’02 Volz.

Ryan Love ’15 on May 13, 2015. He is survived by his mother and stepfather, Phyllis and Randy Stone.

Of special note

Margaret “Peg” Hibbard died on December 9, 2014. Married to the late Thomas Hibbard of Augustana’s music faculty, she worked as a secretary to the academic dean and director of alumni relations at Augustana. She was a longtime member of the Augustana Historical Society, the Augustana Endowment Society and Augustana Founders.
Introducing the Class of 2019

In what promises to become a tradition, 700+ members of this fall’s incoming class gathered at Lindberg Stadium to make their first “A” on their first day on campus.
After breaking his own single game school record of total offense on September 19, quarterback Sam Frasco ’16 earned his second CCIW Offensive Player of the Week award for 2015. Three games into the season and Frasco has thrown for 761 yards on 58-of-94 attempts for an average of 253.7 passing yards per game. Let’s pack the stadium on Homecoming Weekend as Frasco and the Vikings battle the Illinois Wesleyan Titans at 1 p.m. Saturday, October 17.