

2007

From the Publisher

Arne Selbyg

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/intersections>

Augustana Digital Commons Citation

Selbyg, Arne (2007) "From the Publisher," *Intersections*: Vol. 2007: No. 25, Article 2.

Available at: <http://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/intersections/vol2007/iss25/2>

This Editorial is brought to you for free and open access by Augustana Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Intersections* by an authorized administrator of Augustana Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@augustana.edu.

Purpose Statement

| This publication is by and largely for the academic communities of the twenty-eight colleges and universities of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It is published by the Vocation and Education unit of the ELCA. The publication has its home at Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, which has generously offered leadership and physical and financial support as an institutional sponsor for the publication.

The ELCA has frequently sponsored conferences for faculty and administrators that have addressed the church-college/university partnership. The ELCA has sponsored an annual Vocation of the Lutheran College Conference. The primary purpose of *Intersections* is to enhance and continue such dialogue. It will do so by:

- Lifting up the vocation of Lutheran colleges and universities
- Encouraging thoughtful dialogue about the partnership of colleges and universities with the church
- Offering a forum for concerns and interests of faculty at the intersection of faith, learning, and teaching
- Raising for debate issues about institutional missions, goals, objectives, and learning priorities
- Encouraging critical and productive discussion on our campuses of issues focal to the life of the church
- Serving as a bulletin board for communications among institutions and faculties
- Publishing papers presented at conferences sponsored by the ELCA and its institutions
- Raising the level of awareness among faculty about the Lutheran heritage and connectedness of their institutions, realizing a sense of being part of a larger family with common interests and concerns.

From the Publisher

| Most issues of *Intersections* include papers delivered at the annual conferences on “The Vocation of a Lutheran College,” organized by the Vocation and Education unit of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for the colleges and universities that are related to the ELCA. But most of the papers in this issue grew out of a pan-Lutheran conference organized by the Association of Lutheran College Faculties in the fall of 2006. This is an association of Lutheran faculty from public and private institutions, and from Lutheran colleges affiliated with different church bodies.

The ELCA is an ecumenical church body, committed to friendly and cooperative relations with people and organizations of many faith backgrounds. We have no difficulties working with and discussing issues with Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Methodists, Jews, Muslims, or with other Lutherans who are not feeling at home in the ELCA. We know we can learn from them, and we hope that they will learn something from us.

It is always challenging to work with people who are not ecumenically oriented, who believe that they or their church body have the whole truth and do not need to learn from anyone else. We who are in the ELCA also know the truth, but we recognize that the truth that we know may be limited. Just like the disciples who were following Christ, we try to figure out what his sayings mean, and some times we discover that we have misunderstood him. We think that this applies to all humans. While God is infallible, we humans are not.

The ELCA view is a good foundation for institutions of higher education. Like the faculty members at the Lutheran colleges, the ELCA professes. Like the faculty members, we recognize that what we profess is subject to change based on new research, new discoveries, and new insights. That is the beauty and the value of the conferences of ALCF. They bring together faculty who know the truth, truth that has set them free. And these faculty members listen to each other, and they may leave the conferences with a different truth than when they arrived. We hope that the articles in this issue will stimulate you to attend future ALCF conferences (and, of course, “Vocation of the Lutheran College” conferences!), and we hope that they will add new insights to your truth, so you will be a professor with a stronger base from which to profess.

Living in God's Amazing Grace,

ARNE SELBYG | Director for ELCA Colleges and Universities