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## From the Editor

Tom Christenson

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These colleges already have an excellent track record of motivating their students to attend seminary and pursue church careers, maybe Lilly used that as a factor in their selection process. But it is important for institutions related to the ELCA to remember that we see just as much potential for callings to careers of vocational service if our students choose to become accountants, nurses, police officers or home makers. Since Lutherans believe in the "priesthood of all believers." we can use our talents to serve God and his creation to the utmost of our ability in any setting, and be leaders of our church and of society in any career.

Arne Selbyg  
Director, ELCA Colleges and Universities

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## FROM THE EDITOR

This issue continues the tradition of publishing some of the papers read at the Vocation of a Lutheran College Conference. Curt Thompson's paper wrestles with a question I am sure many have asked and identifies a certain un-ease, "the Lutheran knot," as being essential to the Lutheran approach to things. Carol Gilbertson both examines and illustrates the creative dimensions of taking language seriously. She also shares with us some of her own poetic visions. Bruce Heggen talks about the way in which a theological vocabulary can inform the learning and teaching he sees at the state university where he works and the way "secular" students catch on to meaning-making and meditative thinking. The piece by Susan Poppe explores the boundaries of our own freedom and openness and poses some very challenging questions for her own and all of our institutions. Though I have quoted Sig Royspern's oracular gems many times, this is the first time I've had his permission to print them. Just when I think I have turned the last corner and surrounded his thoughts a new side appears in view.

I was very happy to receive the response from Robert Benne to two essays published in our last issue. I was happy because it was a sign that the issue was being read and because someone found the matters discussed there worth further consideration. Nothing would please me more than to have the pages of *Intersections* be the locus of a continuing conversation about issues that matter.

I consented to put my picture on the cover only after voicing several reservations. I do not want to advertise myself, nor do I wish to be publicly pictured without the proper dignity due to my station. In spite of the seriousness of these concerns the others here at the office were unrelenting. Blame them.

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