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A college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Augsburg College is an equal education/employment institution.
On the cover:
From the beginning of her classes, first-year student Beckie Jackson begins to explore the opportunities around campus as an extended classroom.

On this page:
Augsburg’s Enrollment Center is the one-stop shop for all the “business” of the College—registration, financial aid, transcripts, accounts, and more.
Paul Pribbenow is chosen as Augsburg’s next president

Paul C. Pribbenow, president of Rockford College in Rockford, Ill., has been elected as the 11th president of Augsburg College by its board of regents.

“We are confident that Dr. Pribbenow has all the qualities of leadership and passion needed to continue Dr. [William] Frame’s work at Augsburg College,” said Jean Taylor ’85, chair of the Board of Regents. “He has already demonstrated that he is an accomplished communicator, a person who can demonstrate his own sense of Christian vocation, a skilled administrator, and a visible leader, actively participating in the life of the campus and surrounding community.”

Presidential search committee chair and regent Ted Grindal ‘76 expressed his thanks and gratitude to the entire Augsburg community for their participation in the search process. “After a very thorough and successful search, we are pleased to welcome Dr. Pribbenow as Augsburg’s next president,” Grindal said. “In Paul Pribbenow, we feel we have found a successor who will not only carry on Augsburg’s commitment to being a college committed to a Christian understanding of vocation, but will maximize its exciting potential for the future.”

“This is the work I believe I was called to do, and I look forward to serving as Augsburg’s next president,” Pribbenow said. “I firmly believe that my experiences and commitments are a remarkable fit for the mission and needs of the College.”

Paul C. Pribbenow was born in Decorah, Iowa, in 1957. He received his bachelor’s degree in sociology/political science from Luther College, and his master’s degree in divinity and his doctorate in social ethics from the University of Chicago.

He has served as president of Rockford College since 2002. Since his arrival there, Pribbenow has launched several new educational initiatives, including working with faculty and staff to develop the Jane Addams Center for Civic Engagement. This program’s primary responsibility, according to Pribbenow, “is to find ways to work with students to integrate their education, co-curricular activities, spiritual experiences, and service to the community as part of an intentional vocational formation initiative.” He has also been an integral part of expanding opportunities for the campus and its community to join together in a variety of collaborative efforts.

He and his wife, Abigail, an arts administrator, have two young children.

Pribbenow succeeds retiring president William V. Frame, and will take office on July 1.

To read more, go to <www.augsburg.edu/news>.

Peter Agre ’70, Nobel Prize laureate for chemistry in 2003, will speak at the College’s 137th commencement on May 6.

Agre is vice chancellor of science and technology at the Duke University School of Medicine. He will receive one of two honorary degrees approved by the Board of Regents to be conferred on that date.

James A. Johnson will receive the second honorary degree. He has enjoyed a distinguished career in finance and lending, formerly with Fannie Mae and now as vice chairman of Perseus L.L.C.

Johnson has been active in supporting the Gateway Building and development of the urban village concept along Riverside Ave. Johnson was Augsburg’s commencement speaker in 2002.

For the third time in six years, the Society of Physics Students (SPS) has named Augsburg’s chapter as an Outstanding SPS Chapter, this time for 2004-05. Fewer than 10% of the chapters nationwide receive this honor; Augsburg’s chapter was also named in 1999-2000 and 2002-03. Professor Mark Engebretson is chapter adviser.

Regent Jim Haglund was honored with the Hall of Fame award by the Association of Independent Corrugated Converters (AICC), a 1,000-member international organization. Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty lauded Haglund as characterizing the “best of Minnesota.” Pawlenty also drew attention to Haglund’s leadership on the Augsburg Board of Regents.
Mexico social work consortium receives award by Betsey Norgard

Augsburg is part of a social work consortium that has been honored for its semester study program in Mexico. The consortium was awarded the 2006 Global Commission Partners in Education Award by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in recognition of “the contributions of individuals, organizations, and others as partners in advancing education for international social work.”

The development of the BSW Mexico Consortium of the Minnesota/South Dakota Area, which includes both private and public institutions, was more than two years in the making and is remarkable for the complexity of issues it negotiates. The study courses meet all the schools’ curricular needs and allow social work students to participate without delaying their graduation date. Financial costs were worked out so that students pay only their home-school tuition (plus airfare), regardless of which partner institution they attend.

The program, “Social Work in a Latin American Context,” is based at the Center for Global Education (CGE) study center in Cuernavaca, Mexico, and includes study of Mexican culture, intensive Spanish language instruction, a social work course, and either a field practicum or comparative social policy course. A several-week homestay gives students a chance to experience living with a Mexican family. There is also a two-week exchange with students in the School of Social Work at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) in Mexico City.

Cultural content courses are taught by CGE staff, and the social work content is taught by a rotating visiting faculty member from one of the partner schools. Augsburg social work professor Barbara Lehmann is currently in Cuernavaca, teaching for the second year.

The BSW Mexico Consortium model is noteworthy in several regards beyond the challenges of satisfying the needs and criteria of nine different institutions. Foremost, it makes possible a study abroad experience for social work students at colleges that can’t sustain their own individual programs.

Also, because the program is ongoing, issues of social work in developing countries are constantly part of department discussions and curriculum. Returning students readily talk about the program as life transforming.

“Students who return from Mexico have a window into the lives of Hispanic and Latino communities impossible to gain domestically,” commented social work professor Nancy Rodenburg. She said the department hopes to take advantage of this experience in working with Twin Cities’ Spanish-speaking populations.

Also cited in the award is the program’s shared ownership and governance among the partner institutions in Minnesota and South Dakota—both public and private—allowing social work students equal access to study abroad.

Rodenborg stated that a large part of the success of the program is due to the Center for Global Education’s expertise in offering international education and the resources available at its Mexico center.

Schools belonging to the BSW Mexico Consortium are Augsburg College, Bemidji State University, Bethel University, College of St. Catherine/University of St. Thomas, Metropolitan State University, St. Cloud State University, St. Olaf College, University of Sioux Falls, and Winona State University.

For more information on the Mexico study semester, go to <www.augsburg.edu/global/swksem.html>.
Augsburg business students realize the importance of stepping out of the classroom to gain “real-world” experience, and the Twin Cities offers them plenty of opportunities. The Augsburg Business Organization (ABO) aims to provide them a platform to do this.

Students join ABO to learn more about the business world, to meet corporate leaders, and to network in search of opportunities for projects, internships, and future employment. Since ABO is student-run, they gain leadership and professional skills as they brainstorm, contact, and arrange for speakers and trips.

Founded five years ago by business major Rod Gonzalez ’04, ABO currently has about 15 active students, with a number of others who participate in various events.

In January, 12 ABO students traveled to Chicago for an activities-packed three days of visits to CEOs and businesses, following up on contacts from Augsburg’s Development Office. While there they visited three businesses—Chase Bank, Hydrotech Manufacturing Co., and the H&K law firm; plus, they met with executives and toured the Mercantile Exchange and the Federal Reserve Bank.

“The Chicago trip was a unique opportunity,” said senior business major and ABO member Nii Mensah, “in that it gave us an opportunity to see many different aspects of the city in both a business and urban sense.”

Building a portfolio of experience

Anthony Haupt, a senior from Red Wing, Minn., and the current president of ABO, has taken good advantage of opportunities in ABO for his own leadership growth. Last year after arranging for Greg Smith ’72 to be a guest speaker at ABO, he kept in contact with Smith, who is chief operating officer of Walden Automotive. It led to a summer internship at the Denny Hecker Automotive Group where Haupt did financial analysis and project management work. He and Smith still keep in touch, and Smith continues to suggest other contacts from whom Haupt can learn.

“ABO has opened many doors for me, like the summer internship,” Haupt says, “and has put me in leadership roles with responsibility.”

Haupt also strengthened his major in international business management with a semester study program in Barcelona, Spain, that included courses in international business and Spanish. He hopes his minor in Spanish will support future work with a company that has an international presence. He also completed an internship in a healthcare organization, and will seek opportunities to gain training in project management and/or account management after he graduates in May.

Even as a part of their coursework, the business administration faculty push students to connect with the business community. Haupt cites his international marketing class in which students had to choose a Minnesota company with international presence and do a thorough analysis of its marketing department. It meant making the contacts, meeting with corporate officials, and following up on the research. Sometimes it’s even possible to tie ABO activities into coursework for some extra credit.

ABO seeks business contacts

Haupt’s vision for ABO is for the organization to build a network of Twin Cities business professionals, especially Augsburg business alumni. What students hope to gain, he says, are relationships with the business community and access to business expertise, experience, and information.

Business professionals should be assured, Haupt says, that Augsburg students are well-educated and eager to get their feet wet in the business world. He cites several examples of past student leaders, like the ABO presidents, who have transformed internships into job opportunities, and used their experiences as springboards into a career.

How to connect with ABO

ABO offers these ideas for connecting Augsburg business alumni and other business professionals with students:

- Volunteer as a guest speaker at an ABO event
- Participate in a resource network for business students
- Host Augsburg business students at your company or workplace
- Join the Take an Auggie to Lunch program
- Help ABO with fundraising to support trips and other activities

To learn more or participate in ABO activities, contact Anthony Haupt at <abo@augsburg.edu> with your name, class year (if you are an alumnus/a), title and place of work, and e-mail and/or telephone number.
Helping young members of the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood learn about the game of basketball was a “slam-dunk” proposition for the Augsburg College men’s basketball team.

In January, the Auggies invited 50 boys and girls from the Cedar-Riverside Community School, which primarily teaches immigrant children, to attend a morning basketball clinic at Si Melby Hall. Head coach Aaron Griess and members of the Augsburg squad showed children the basics of the game, then broke up into smaller groups to work individually with them. Each group took part in fun games with the Auggie players, where they were able to put their newly-learned skills into practice.

The clinic ended with an impromptu dunking exhibition from members of the Augsburg squad, to the cheers of the youngsters watching.

“We’re proud to be able to make a difference in the lives of young people who haven’t had the same opportunities that other children have, and we’re committed to helping build the community we live in,” said Griess, in his first season as Augsburg’s head coach.

The clinic was organized by Griess and Mary Laurel True, associate director of Augsburg’s Center for Service, Work, and Learning.

“Spending time with the kids, watching them laugh, and teaching them some basketball skills was a tremendous joy,” Griess said. “Each and every one of our students put their hearts into the short period of time they spent with the kids, and we’re all looking forward to the next opportunity.”

For current sports information, scores, and schedules go to <www.augsburg.edu/athletics>.

Thank you, Auggies!

“I had fun learning with you guys. It was important to me because when I grow up I will be a good basketball player.” —Abdullahi, 3rd grade

“I learned basketball is not easy; it’s hard, but it just looks easy.” —Sagal, 6th grade

“Thank you for giving me inspiration to play basketball.” —Karina, 6th grade

“In the summer I will love to show all of my friends what you have taught me. It really meant a lot to me when you taught me a lot of tricks.” —Muna, 4th grade

“I’ve learned new tricks and so much more. I felt like a professional basketball player. This is one of the best days of my life.” —Nasra, 4th grade

The Cedar-Riverside kids yell “41, 41, 41...” to pull no. 41 Auggie junior Tait Thomsen to the floor.

Fifty-plus students from the Cedar-Riverside Community School watch in awe as Auggie senior Aaron Benesh dunks the ball.
For over five years, my life has been exponentially enriched, professionally and personally, from my experiences in Namibia, Africa. I have been the trip leader for three summer study trips in 2000, 2003, and most recently last summer, July 1-22, 2005. I gathered a group of educators—classroom teachers, a preservice teacher, and teacher educators—to travel to Namibia to learn about the country and her people, focusing on the education system. In collaboration with the Center for Global Education, my goals for the trip were to introduce Namibia by visiting various locations; by hearing from Namibians working in a variety of sectors, especially teachers, principals, and faculty from the University of Namibia and teachers’ colleges; by accessing local media; and by being immersed in a culture so different from ours, and yet the same.

I was pleased that our group bonded easily as a community and blended like a fine-tuned melody. We benefited from the two University of Namibia students preparing to be teachers who joined us and added depth to our understanding of schools and the influence of culture.

A highlight for this trip was a one-day conference for teachers in the Windhoek area hosted by our group, with the help and facilitation of many others. We gathered at the Rossing Conference Center in Khomasdal, a suburb of the capital city, Windhoek—50 people interested in schools, teachers, learners, and all areas related to education—for sessions titled “The Important Role of Teachers in Nation-Building.” The speakers, facilitators, and organizers were both Namibians and the members of our group.

The results far exceeded what could be stated here. We explored large issues impacting all teachers. We built professional links—both individual and group—that would sustain relationships after we returned to the U.S. And we
helped to respond to the need of all teachers to discuss important issues, realizing how vital it is for people involved in the process of educating our children and youth to have opportunities for dialogue and reflection. Because of the cultural differences unfamiliar to me, I appreciated working with the Namibians who helped to make the conference relevant and meaningful for everyone.

It will be months and years before we can realize what this trip has meant to us as individuals. We have tried to spread the word about Namibia, a very silent country on the world stage. Our worldviews have been forever changed by images of Namibian teachers, of the children and youth, and of the life we witnessed in the coastal cities as different from the villages in the north. We heard the voices of Namibians telling of their past, and we learned about the current struggles toward the constitutional goals of their 16-year-old nation. We witnessed the joy of people together, and enjoyed being in the company of a youth group building their lives. And we read about the hopes and dreams of people looking toward the future. Our global vision has expanded as a result of this experience.

I am grateful to the Center for Global Education staff—both here and in Namibia—whose expertise helped us create the best learning environment for our experience. In our own group, individuals acted beyond any expectations in caring for each other, challenging thinking, and with kindness to all.

I have been a teacher for 38 years. The experiences I’ve enjoyed are true gifts to me as a teacher, and, also, to my students at Augsburg.

Gretchen Irvine is assistant professor of education.

Read more about this travel seminar and conference on the participants’ blog at <web.augsburg.edu/~irvine/Namibia>.

On a visit to the Haganeni Primary School in Walvis Bay, Namibia, the educators enjoyed meeting the students, or “learners.”

Professor Gretchen Kranz Irvine presents an Augsburg folder to Augsburg alumna Fredericka Uahenko ’90, rector of the Ongwediva Teachers College in northern Namibia.


ANN LUTTERMAN-AGUILAR, Center for Global Education-Mexico, presented a theological perspective on the rights of women at the International Women’s Day conference in Cuernavaca, Mexico, in March 2005.

She and Judy Shevelev, also with CGE-Mexico, along with five former students, co-presented two papers at the National Women’s Association conference in June.

DIANE PIKE, sociology, presented the keynote, “Not Rocket Science: Teaching, Learning, and Engagement,” at the Oct. joint meeting of the Wisconsin and Illinois Sociological Associations and the Wisconsin Political Science Association.

MARC SKJERVEM, student affairs, and KEITH McCOY, residence life, presented a session, “Developing a Seamless First-Year Experience on a Small Campus,” at the National Orientation Directors Association regional conference in April.

MARKUS FUEHRER, philosophy, is preparing a translation and commentary of Albertus Magnus’ Liber de homine (Treatise on Man). He is currently preparing an entry on Albertus Magnus at the invitation of the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy.

BRAD HOLT, religion, was elected to the national board of the Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality (SSCS), an international organization of people who teach Christian spirituality in colleges, universities, and seminaries.

PATRICE SALMERICI, StepUP® program, was elected chairperson of the executive board of the Association of Recovery Schools (ARS).

MILO SCHIELD, business administration and the W.M. Keck Statistical Literacy Project, completed a textbook on statistical literacy, which is being used in Augsburg classes this spring.
Locked out? … Too hot in your room? … Need a jump for a dead battery? … Want to know when the hockey game starts? … Need a ride from the light rail station?

These are just samples of the questions fielded by the Department of Public Safety. Headed by John Pack, who came to Augsburg nearly three years ago after 13 years at the University of Minnesota, this office operates 24/7 and oversees the College’s switchboard communications, facilities management requests, campus security, and communications and emergency management.

Pack tries to get the word out about their services, especially about campus safety. Each summer at orientation he enjoys talking with new students and their parents.

“The message is that Augsburg is in the heart of the city,” Pack says, “which brings tremendous opportunities, but also some challenges, mostly parking and security.”

Public Safety strives to ensure that everyone in the Augsburg community feels safe. Escort services are available to any of the parking lots and for students who go back and forth from internships or service projects in the neighborhood. Security officers also provide rides to and from the nearby light rail stops. A phone call from two stops away gets students a quick ride back to campus.

Pack has initiated regular meetings of security personnel from Augsburg, the University of Minnesota, Fairview-Riverside, College of St. Catherine, and the Minneapolis police to share information and coordinate prevention efforts in order to decrease incidents overall.

A recent incident illustrates this cooperative relationship. At a building near the edge of campus, an intoxicated person, not part of the Augsburg community, slipped, fell, wedged his head between two pipes, and went into respiratory distress. Augsburg security officers on routine patrol noticed him and called 911. Officer Annie DeYoung stayed with the injured man, monitoring his medical condition, until rescue personnel arrived. Firefighters needed the Jaws of Life to free the man and rush him to the emergency room.

The firefighters credited DeYoung with saving the man’s life—for assessing the situation quickly and applying the medical treatment that kept his airway and breathing clear until they arrived.
Office space: or how I spent 18 years in the closet at Augsburg

by Doug Green

Why I didn’t move out of my little hole in the wall of an office when I had the chance, I’ll never know. It’s one of the smallest spaces in the maze that is Memorial Hall, a former dormitory and the second oldest surviving building on campus. The room can’t be more than 6 x 6 and would be more suitable as a walk-in closet—or perhaps a very large coffin.

My office desk, an old metal one of modest size and a rosy beige hue, faces the wall beneath an enormous Saul Steinberg print of America as viewed from Manhattan. Before I got my laptop, Manhattan was unfortunately hidden behind my computer, just as Minnesota has blotted out most of my New York past over the last 20 years.

On the wall behind me as I sit at my desk, the floor-to-ceiling shelves are overflowing with books, papers, knickknacks (mostly mementoes from past students and pictures of my wife and son), and last year’s posters for campus events. The filing cabinet next to the door obscures some of the shelves and is buried under debris. Confidential student records are now filed on top of the cabinet for easy access—even to passers-by in the hallway: It’s my version of the Freedom of Information Act.

Behind the door and next to the desk is another freestanding bookcase, also overflowing and surmounted by stacks of texts and papers—for creative writing, I think. The walls and the hallway side of the door are plastered with notices, reminders, pictures drawn by my son, and posters of events I had a hand in—like the first GLBT alumni reunion and art show: “Out and About.”

The window, however, I love best. When I sit at my desk and look out, it’s like Rear Window; I can spy on a whole set of neighboring offices. But if I push back just a little and face the outside, I see Augsburg’s little quad, an Edenic version of my little closet.

Maybe that’s why I can’t leave: because this little cubby across the floor from an old dormitory bathroom that sports mold from the era of Warren G. Harding and College President George Sverdrup is the quintessential professorial space. Like the brain in Dickinson’s poem, my office “is wider than the sky.” My little cabinet contains a world of thoughts—from the books behind and beside me to the computer on my desk to the many visiting colleagues and students who come to share their inner lives with me. I need their stifling and stimulating proximity.

My office is certainly no “proud, ambitious heap” nor “built to envious show,” but a place in which, like the Sidneys at Penshurst in Jonson’s famous poem, I can “dwell.”

Doug Green is professor of English. This story first appeared in Augsburg Echo in September.
1 THE NEW GUTHRIE
Only a mile away, the Guthrie Theater’s new home makes it even easier for actors and technicians to visit Augsburg seminars and teach as adjunct faculty.

2 CORPORATE DOWNTOWN
Internships downtown with non-profits, Fortune 500, and other companies are but a quick light rail or bus ride away for students and often lead to future career opportunities.

3 MEETING HIS CONSTITUENTS
City Hall is his home base, but Minneapolis mayor R.T. Rybak enjoys getting out to meet the new students on campus.

4 PLAY BALL!
The Twins, Vikings, Gophers—and the Auggies, for one game per season—compete several blocks away at the Metrodome.

OUR CITY …
OUR CLASSROOM

BY BETSEY NORGARD
WHAT EXACTLY DOES BEING A COLLEGE OF THE CITY MEAN FOR AUGSBURG? WHAT OPPORTUNITIES DOES IT BRING TO THE AUGSBURG LEARNING COMMUNITY—TO STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF?

If one were to look at just a TWO-MILE RADIUS AROUND AUGSBURG, what would be found?

The answer is A LOT …

the most diverse neighborhood in Minneapolis …

the downtown business district …

a Super Bowl pro-sports dome …

a brand-new home for a world-class theater …

a Big 10 university and teaching/research medical center…

a quick train ride to the largest shopping mall in the country…

miles of running, walking, and biking trails along the Mississippi River.

Here, we highlight some of the myriad opportunities our location offers to learn, serve, volunteer, intern, experience, shop, compete, perform, keep fit, have fun, and so much more!

Teach. Reach. Feed. Lead.

That’s the motto of the Campus Kitchens Project, based in Washington, D.C., that combines preparing and delivering meals, partnering in the community, training for employment opportunities, and providing service learning for students. Since opening on campus in 2003, the Campus Kitchen at Augsburg has served more than 25,000 meals to community organizations. The program, which is student organized and run, is based in the College’s food service facilities, and works with surplus food from the food service and local food banks.

Two shifts of student volunteers each week prepare meals and deliver them to six locations the next day. The students spend time in each location, getting to know and talking with the people being served.

Above, at Peace House in the Phillips neighborhood, junior Jeanette Clark talks with a visitor. She and other students deliver meals on Thursdays to the 30-50 people who drop in to Peace House for conversation, fellowship, and nourishment.

During the summers, Augsburg’s Campus Kitchen operates a job training program to train and certify unemployed people in food management culinary skills to help them find jobs.
Trick or treat—dorm style

Each Halloween, ghosts, goblins, and other costumed characters wander the halls of Urness and Mortensen Halls, going from door to door trick-or-treating.

They’re neighborhood children invited to campus by LINK, the student service organization, for fun, games, treats, and, sometimes, a haunted house. LINK provides the candy, and students provide the fun for the kids.

A day at the Soap Factory (map #10)

As part of AugSem, their first-year seminar, students in ART 102 Design spent an afternoon at the Soap Factory. This turn-of-the-century wood and brick warehouse, which formerly housed the National Purity Soap Factory, has been turned into an art gallery featuring work by emerging artists, and offering available studio space.

The afternoon was part of City Service Projects Day, which started with a 20-minute walk to the gallery through the historic flour mill district. At the gallery, the students helped take down one show and prepare to install another. They cleaned floors, scrubbed and squeegeed walls, and moved furniture.

The students got first-hand experience in what a gallery is—or not, i.e. it’s not just clean floors and bright lighting. Since a number of these students intend to major in art-related fields, this gave them an opportunity for a service project in something that really interested them.

Plus, the gallery director told them that what they were able to do for the gallery in three hours would have taken the staff all week to complete.

Targeting a career (map #2)

Tim Benson ’00, graduated with a business administration/marketing major and a minor in management information systems.

Benson picked up his first downtown corporate experience at a summer internship with Accenture (then Andersen Consulting). He found it to be great preparation for the business world that he couldn’t have learned in a classroom—“protocols, unwritten rules, and business speak”—that helped him get a foot in the door at Target Corporation.

He started as a business analyst and was eventually promoted to a supply chain expert. Now he is manager of an eight-person team in the kitchenware department, which is responsible for about 1,000 items and hundreds of millions of dollars in sales annually in all 1400+ Target stores.

Staying connected with kids (map #9)

Kristy Bleichner graduated from Augsburg in 2002 with a major in social work. While a student, she began to volunteer for Wednesday Night Out, a program sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Church. For this, Trinity partners with community organizations, including Augsburg, to provide suppers for neighborhood families, giving them a place to gather and talk. After supper, Bleichner and other student volunteers take the children to a nearby gym for games, making it more convenient for their parents to talk with each other about family and community issues.

Even after graduating nearly four years ago, Bleichner has wanted to stay connected with these families and continues to devote time to the Wednesday Night Out program.
A school of many cultures (map #5)

Five blocks from Augsburg lies the only school in the country located in a high-rise apartment building. The Cedar-Riverside Community School, a K-8 charter school sponsored by Minneapolis Public Schools, is in the midst of Minneapolis’ most diverse neighborhood, largely Somali and East African.

The school serves mostly immigrant children, from nearly a dozen different countries, some of whom never had any formal education before arriving in the U.S. Each week nearly 30-40 Augsburg students tutor and mentor at the school, and provide instruction or support during the year in music, art, piano lessons, physical education, science, and health.

Augsburg elementary education students in Professor Jeanine Gregoire’s science methods class teach hand-on science units at the school. In the photo, Pa Kou Yang ’05 is working with two second-graders.

Around-the-world food

When Augsburg moved to the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood in 1872, it was home to a thriving community of Scandinavian immigrants. Again, it is a center for many people recently arriving in the U.S., primarily from Somalia and East Africa.

The neighborhood has more than 20 restaurants, most of which serve ethnic foods; as well as ethnic clothing stores, grocers, and art galleries; and a Lutheran church and a mosque. As part of the first-year AugSem group, students visited area businesses and tried out some of the nearby restaurants. In this photo, a group sits around the table at Addis Ababa, an Ethiopian restaurant down the block from campus.

Helping women stay fit at FOLC (map #5)

Eilidh Reyelts ’06 (facing front at right in photo), a senior biology and pre-medical major, began volunteering last year with Rachel Domier ’05 (left) at Family Opportunities for Living Collaboration (FOLC) at Riverside Plaza. This center encourages community members to work together at meeting the needs of neighborhood residents, many of whom are immigrants or refugees with little understanding of English or of American customs and health practices.

Reyelts and Domier were both Lilly Interns and designed internships to explore areas within their vocational interests. Twice a week at FOLC they taught exercise to immigrant and refugee women, and helped them monitor their weight and blood pressure.

Reyelts also is a Citizen Scholar through the Campus Compact program. As an AugSem leader, she took new students on a tour of the neighborhood and to FOLC. Reyelts’ vocational goals include a career in medicine or public health.

Caring for the mighty Mississippi

With the Mississippi River within a stone’s throw, Augsburg has joined the network of “river stewards” and has “adopted” a section of the river just downstream from campus. Planned activities involve students in litter clean-up, trail monitoring, placing stenciled warnings on storm drains to prevent pollution into the river, monitoring invasive species, and trail monitoring.

In the summer, political science professor Joe Underhill-Cady teaches Environmental and River Politics, a course that looks at the challenges of balancing economic development, social justice, and environmental stewardship. Students spend time on the river and meet with people involved in river-related issues.
The days were long, the work was physically exhausting. What Augsburg alumni Paul Mueller ’84, M.D., and Rick Seime ’70, Ph.D., encountered in the hurricane-devastated areas of southern Louisiana was far worse than news reports could show. But, Mueller describes returning to Minnesota rejuvenated and thankful for the opportunity to help. Seime says he would do it again in a heartbeat.

Mueller, an internist with a public health background, and Seime, a psychologist, both at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., served on different medical relief teams. They were a part of Operation Minnesota Lifeline, a collaboration of healthcare volunteers from Mayo Clinic, University of Minnesota, College of St. Catherine, and the American Refugee Committee.

Sponsored by the Louisiana Department of Health, their work helped to bridge the crisis period by treating immediate medical needs and connecting people to resources until more permanent public health clinics were set up.

For two weeks each, Mueller's and Seime's teams operated from a base in Lafayette, La., and were housed at a Baptist church. Each day they set out in vans supplied with medicines, supplies, and vaccines, to treat people in the field, most of whom were either Hurricane Katrina evacuees from New Orleans or residents of the areas ravaged by Hurricane Rita.

The medical teams were multidisciplinary, including physicians, nurses, social workers, and others. But, everyone served as a mental health counselor because the need was so great. Many people had lost everything they owned, had lost contact with family members, and had lost their medications and medical providers. Many simply just needed to talk.

Despite their adversities, Seime was “impressed with their resiliency, in the faith they had, and in the way they came together to help each other out.” Both Mueller and Seime remark about the gratitude expressed by hurricane victims for the care they received from the medical teams.

In Johnson's Bayou, La., a coastal town almost totally destroyed by Hurricane Rita, Mueller met Rhonda, “a salt-of-the-earth person” and one of a very few who had returned to her home.

Above: Mayo Clinic internist Dr. Paul Mueller ’84 (left) and Sr. Romana Klaubaus (right), a nurse from the College of St. Catherine, posed with residents of Johnson's Bayou (La.). There they met Rhonda (second from right), a local emergency medical technician, who helped them find and treat the residents who had moved back.
I was part of the second team of Public Health Service (PHS) officers deployed into Baton Rouge, La. Our initial assignment was staffing and coordination of a temporary hospital established in two buildings on the Louisiana State University campus—an acute care “emergency room” with intensive care unit (ICU) containing about 150 beds, and a lower acuity hospital containing 200-500 beds (depending on need). While both were operating as hospitals over about a 15-day period, approximately 15,000 individuals were “triaged” and about 3,000 admitted, cared for, and discharged. When the demand for acute care diminished, the smaller facility was closed and the lower acuity facility converted to a special needs shelter. At that point additional PHS officers were available to participate in needs assessment and establishment of surveillance systems with the state health department.

Teams were also assigned to manage medical and mental health needs of first responders from New Orleans. Miss Cindy was so grateful for the medical team’s help that she baked a Cajun meal to thank them and drove it 35 miles to the church where Seime and his colleagues were staying.

Drawing on his background in both internal medicine and public health, Mueller felt “called” to respond to the medical needs in Louisiana. Seime considered it a privilege to serve and was glad for the opportunity, even taking into account the 21 hours each way on the bus.

Paul Mueller ’84, M.D., is a member of the Augsburg Board of Regents and serves on the Science Center Task Force. Rick Seime ’70 is a Distinguished Alumnus and member of Augsburg’s Science Advisory Board.

Emergency medicine in a field hospital

by Donald Mattison ’66, M.D.

I left Lafayette at 4:45 a.m. and worked until 10 p.m. that night. The team consulted all day, but still could not meet with everyone seeking help.

His most vivid memory is of Miss Cindy, who came to be vaccinated in Eunice, La. He listened to her story of riding out the storm in her apartment building in New Orleans. When the levees broke, she told of trying to get help to rescue the other tenants in her building, and of wading in the water to get to boats. Not all survived, and she told of an elderly man who had to turn back. They saw him drown without being able to offer assistance.

Miss Cindy was so grateful for the medical team’s help that she baked a Cajun meal to thank them and drove it 35 miles to the church where Seime and his colleagues were staying.

Drawing on his background in both internal medicine and public health, Mueller felt “called” to respond to the medical needs in Louisiana. Seime considered it a privilege to serve and was glad for the opportunity, even taking into account the 21 hours each way on the bus.

Donald Mattison ’66, M.D., a senior adviser at the National Institutes of Health and a U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) medical officer, led a team to Louisiana on Aug. 31, just after Hurricane Katrina struck, for a two-week deployment.

Donald Mattison ’66, M.D., was honored on campus last fall as a Distinguished Alumnus.
Hurricane Katrina, a personal perspective

by Shira Hussain

I was recruiting in Wisconsin when Hurricane Katrina was set to hit the Gulf Coast. My dad was determined not to leave and actually held my family back from evacuating as soon as they wanted to. I even called home and was crying because I just didn't have a good gut feeling about this hurricane.

Frequently people in New Orleans do not evacuate for hurricanes because they are so common, and people fear their houses will be looted if they leave.

My parents, sister, and brother evacuated to Lake Charles, La., the day before the storm hit. I watched the news and was happy to see that the storm came and went.

Then disaster struck on a whole new level. The minute the levees were declared breached, I knew things were going to get a lot worse. I saw the city under water and couldn't stop crying. I didn't hear from my family and friends and cried even more. I was finally able to reach my mom two days after the ordeal and cried for more positive reasons. Eventually, I got in touch with the rest of my family and also my hometown friends.

Although I couldn't explain why all of this happened, I did have the choice to find something positive out of all of it.

I just didn't have a good gut feeling about this hurricane.

Shira Hussain was on the road attending college fairs when she heard the news that her New Orleans neighborhood was under water.

Helping my fellow “N’awlins” neighbors in any way I could was in turn helping me deal with everything.

Although I couldn't explain why all of this happened, I did have the choice to find something positive out of all of it. The fact that my family and friends were alive is what kept me going. A few weeks later, my parents returned to the house, which was completely destroyed. Fortunately, my mom was able to get our family Bible and photos. They plan to rebuild in the same area.

I, too, took a hard hit with all of this. I lost the house I grew up in and the schools I went to. Most of my hang-out spots were gone, and the worst part was being so far away from my family during all of this.

So I did what I could. I got advances on my checks and sent money home. I headed up fundraising efforts at Augsburg for hurricane evacuees. I even passed out my number as a resource to Minnesota locals who were hosting, donating to, and/or aiding evacuees.

Helping my fellow “N’awlins” neighbors in any way I could was in turn helping me deal with everything.

From all of this, I’ve truly accepted that nothing material lasts forever. I’ve also learned that we are not as in control of things as we think we are. (My parents, like so many others, are still waiting for their insurance checks and their trailer from FEMA). This whole experience gives us all so many reasons to be thankful. And it emphasizes that minor problems, petty grudges, and bad intentions are really things we shouldn't hold on to, because major things beyond our control will happen—both good and bad, easy and challenging.

A family friend of ours did drown in her house while waiting for her nephew, who never came to get her. My mom took it particularly hard because she had wanted Miss Gerdy to evacuate with them. I just trust that she died peacefully in the house as I believe many people did who were stuck behind.

Shira Hussain is senior admissions counselor in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.
OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS
I’ve been reading about a topic dear to my heart—teacher leadership. At Augsburg, this concept undergirds our teacher licensure programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

What teacher leadership means to Augsburg’s Education Department is that the teachers we prepare have both the right and the responsibility to exercise leadership within their classrooms, schools, districts, and communities.

Recognizing that teachers lead within the classroom is not difficult; it is accepted enough to seem like common sense. But once you get beyond the classroom walls, the concept of teacher leadership is less well established.

Some would say “teacher leadership” is an oxymoron. Principals lead, not teachers. They would go on to say that teachers carry out the will of the school district by teaching the designated curriculum, following the standards determined by the state, and upholding the expectations of the community. Teachers, in other words, follow the direction of others who make the decisions, creating classrooms, in turn, where students learn what they are required to learn.

This philosophy exists, but it isn’t the one we believe in or work from.

Certainly our vision incorporates the idea that teachers have a responsibility to the school district, the state, and the community to educate students in the best ways possible. That’s a given.

But rather than simply doing what they are told, we believe teachers must—truly must—see themselves as active participants in deciding what should be taught and how to teach it.

In our vision, teachers come to the table with administrators, parents, other community members, and sometimes students to define what it means to be an educated person and then to map out how that education will happen within a given setting.

Teachers count themselves among the grown-ups and accept the responsibility and risks from making the decisions they make.

This conceptualization of “teacher” that includes an element of leadership frightens some. Responsibility and risk bring with them accountability, but along with that they also can bring a fine sense of exhilaration, energy, and eminent satisfaction in a job well done.

Roland Barth, in Learning by Heart, says, “I think of a teacher leader as one who has a positive influence on the school as well as in the classroom ... all teachers have the capacity to lead the enterprise down a more positive path, to bring their abundant experience and wisdom to schools.”

Like Barth, at Augsburg we believe all teachers can be teacher leaders and share in leading the collective “enterprise” of making schools positive places with learning at the heart. Teachers who understand their role in this way—risks and all—are more likely to define teaching as their vocation rather than simply their job.

Vicki Olson is associate professor of education.
MARGARET KNUTSON ’91
Fifth-grade teacher at Orono (Minn.) Intermediate School

Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award in 2004

My goal is to inspire students to find the learner in themselves, to challenge themselves and to find meaning in their education. To that end I have always yearned to try new things in order to find ways to more effectively connect students to learning on a real and personal level. When I discover or create methods I find successful, I share these with colleagues at my school as well as lead workshops for schools around the state.

So, being a teacher leader involves keeping your mind and eyes open for new methods, being a risk taker and pioneer in applying new methods, and then not being shy about sharing your successes with others ... and to humbly educate other teachers.

Above: Maggie Knutson tries to keep her students engaged in ways that challenge and inspire them to find learning meaningful.
JOSEPH ERICKSON  
Professor in Augsburg’s Education Department, and chair of the Minneapolis Board of Education

My personal philosophy of teaching is based on the assumption that my primary role is to motivate learners to gather information and develop themselves—I don’t make them learn. I think that’s a kind of leadership; sparking curiosity and motivating learners. I think that is central to good teaching.

In my role on the school board, I’m constantly meeting people who have opinions about what should and should not be done in Minneapolis Public Schools. It’s hard to underestimate how much rumor and gossip is out there. My role is to help educate the public when I meet people who hold information that is wrong or misleading.

More importantly, I try to make sure that I take every opportunity I can to inspire optimism and confidence in MPS’s future. Sometimes inspiring confidence is even more important than competent administration.

JACKI BRICKMAN ’97  
Mentor at Elizabeth Hall International Elementary School, Minneapolis

From my second year of teaching, my classroom has been a public place—to current and new teachers, to district officials, politicians, and parents. Teachers are at their best in their classrooms facilitating learning, and when teachers open their doors to one another and make their classrooms a public place, we are able lead and teach at the same time. Both the teacher observing and the teacher being observed can grow in their practices if they engage in reflective conversation after this shared experience.

JUDY SCHAUBACH ’68  
President of Education Minnesota

Being a teacher and a leader are for me inseparable. In my early years as a teacher I was a strong voice for ensuring a positive work environment that included advocating for professional development opportunities, insisting on compliance with state and federal laws, and working together with the administration to insure a safe and respectful learning environment. The more I took responsibility for these issues the more I grew as a professional.

Being involved at the local level and gaining a sense of empowerment was what prompted me to get involved at the state and national level. As a union leader I rely on my teaching experience to help policy-makers understand what needs to be done …

I believe that teachers should not be passive bystanders to what is occurring in their classrooms, schools, or communities, nor should they be silent about policies and laws that have a direct impact on their profession and the students they teach. This philosophy has been the impetus for my leadership, even when it is sometimes difficult and may be controversial.
AUGSBURG NOW

Teachers who lead, leaders who teach

BRUCE PALMQUIST ’84
Professor of physics and science education at Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Wash.

Washington State Professor of the Year, named by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

I started teaching while I was a student at Augsburg. I tutored first-year physics students. This taught me that it takes more than good grades in a subject to be a good teacher. I learned that I needed to understand what the students knew and didn’t know before I could help them. …

In general, a good teacher is one who leads by example. I try to make my science teaching methods courses relevant by developing interesting opportunities for my students to interact with children. My teaching methods students have been among the first at my university to teach science lessons in the local schools, to develop after-school science clubs, and to provide children with practice items for the Washington state science assessment.

(To become better acquainted with Bruce Palmquist, see Auggie Thoughts on p. 32)

ADAM THRONSON ’99
Social studies teacher at Coon Rapids (Minn.) High School

2005 Anoka-Hennepin School District Teacher Outstanding Performance (TOP) award

Teachers are leaders by researching and implementing new strategies into their classroom. It means you take a risk. Teachers usually try methods that other teachers have found success with, but leadership comes when you blaze a new trail by trying something new.

I have been a leader who teaches when I’ve accepted and encouraged the work of other teachers. This could be new programs like Link Crew or just cooperation dealing with the same student. I have been a teacher who leads by staying positive, supporting administration, and trying new things in my classroom.

ALLEN TRIPP ’69
English teacher at Rush City (Minn.) High School

2005 Leadership in Educational Excellence Award, selected by peers

After 35 years of teaching English, I can look back and see many times where I have been both a teacher and a leader. The teacher role is six classes a day September through May. However, the leader role has grown on me over the years as I became more experienced in my profession and familiar with the people in the community. …

Teaching ability and leadership skills are a necessary combination for any successful teacher. When I look back at my first year of teaching, I see I had the knowledge to teach effectively, but at times lacked the confidence to lead. By talking to experienced teachers and gaining experience in the classroom, the leadership skills evolved. When you demonstrate confidence in yourself as a teacher, you will clearly communicate goals to the students; and they gain confidence in themselves as learners. It’s a win/win situation.
ALYSSA SNYDER ’98
Adjunct instructor in Augsburg’s Education Department

It is in the classroom where we have the most direct impact on our students; however, it cannot end there. As educators we must challenge one another’s ideas and philosophies through professional dialogue in order to gain insight into how to better meet the needs of our learners.

My top priority is having high standards for all my students. This is why I feel fortunate to be an instructor in the Weekend College program. I want to influence potential educators to advocate for all of their students, not just the smart and well behaved. A true teacher leader is willing to do this by going against the status quo knowing the student must come first. When I can influence future teachers, I can impact more students positively.

DAN BRUSS ’75
President, Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, Minn.

I have been connected to the teaching enterprise of higher education nearly 25 years. As a professor I saw myself not just as a champion of my area of expertise, but primarily as a role model, an individual concerned with the wide variety of struggles students have during their college experience. For me life in the classroom was seamlessly interwoven to the life outside of it.

As a college president I still see my chief function as a role model, although now my teaching crosses constituency boundaries. As an administrator I look for the professor who can have the biggest impact on students’ lives. They generally have more lasting influence than programs or buildings.

JOHN-MARK STENSVAAG ’69
Charlotte and Frederick Hubbell Professor of Environmental and Natural Resources Law at the University of Iowa College of Law

University of Iowa 2005 President and Provost Award for Teaching Excellence

All of my great teachers led by example. Every day, I try imperfectly to emulate what my greatest teachers showed me; every day, I expect my students to outshine me in their future endeavors. The enterprise is driven by love: love of learning, love of the subject matter, and love of the students. My greatest teachers led by illustrating such love. For me, “leading” is nothing more than striving to reflect their love to a new generation of students.

A POSTSCRIPT: After this story was completed, announcement came of the appointment of Augsburg history professor Bill Green as interim superintendent of Minneapolis Public Schools. As he steps from the classroom into a leadership role in a difficult situation, Green has been quoted as saying that he is “first and foremost a teacher.”
In December, John Paulson, together with Norma Paulson, pledged a $1 million gift on behalf of his family to name the front entrance and atrium of the new Science Center.

This is the Paulson family’s second major capital gift to Augsburg. In 2001, the family provided major funding to complete the enclosed skyway link from Lindell Library to the two-story atrium between Memorial and Sverdrup Halls.

“One does not have to be on campus long to see what an important need was met by the Paulson Link,” said Stephen Preus, director of development. “This new, special gift by the Paulsons will provide for an equally important and highly attractive space.”

While Paulson is not an Augsburg alumnus, three of his children and a son-in-law graduated from the College—Mary Jo (Paulson) Peterson ’80, Laurie (Paulson) Dahl ’76 and David Dahl ’75, and Lisa Paulson ’80.

The motivation behind the Science Center gift, however, may date back much farther than his family’s education.

Paulson served in the Second Infantry Division during World War II and was part of the Allied invasion landing on D+1 at Omaha Beach, Normandy, France, in June 1944. He was a frontline soldier until July 28, 1944, when he was wounded during the St.-Lo breakthrough. Among the awards Paulson received were the Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart.

In June 2004, Paulson and his wife, Norma, traveled to France to take part in the 60th anniversary commemoration of the event that proved to be the turning point of the war.

The festivities brought together thousands of people—war veterans, military officials, local people and tourists, as well as Hollywood celebrities whose acting roles had recreated the battles on movie screens. Standing in his Army uniform, wearing medals depicting D-Day service, Paulson enjoyed the commemoration.

Following the ceremony, however, he noticed lines of French citizens forming to shake hands and request autographs from the U.S. veterans. Puzzled, Paulson finally asked someone why he wanted a soldier’s autograph.

“Don’t you understand,” the Frenchman told him, “you saved our country.”

Paulson recounted how vivid an impression these words made. When he thought about the statistics—the staggering numbers of soldiers who were killed or wounded during the invasion—he realized that he was, in fact, a survivor. And with that realization also came the insight that he had been blessed with many gifts in his life that should be shared with others.

“I believe it is important to leave this world in better condition than it was when we arrived,” Paulson said, “so contributing to Augsburg and other worthwhile organizations is part of this process.”

The Science Center atrium gift is provided in memory of Lois V. Paulson, Rose E. Paulson, and Johnny E. Paulson, by the Paulson family—John R., Sr., and Norma Paulson, John Reid Paulson, Mary Jo Peterson ’80, Deborah Stansbury, Laurie Dahl ’76, and Lisa Paulson ’80.
Donnis “Doc” Johnson ’52, an Auggie who died at the age of 23, well before his time, will not be forgotten by his friends. Five of his classmates and friends have joined together to name the A-Club office in the new Si Melby South Wing in his memory.

Raised in the small town of Newman Grove, Nebraska—the only Lutheran Free Church congregation in that state—Johnson followed his sister, LaRhea, and several relatives to Augsburg College, 400 miles away. He enrolled in 1948, majored in physical education, and became center on the football team.

After graduation in 1952 and two years in the U.S. Army at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., Johnson returned home to a teaching and football coaching position at the Elgin (Neb.) High School. This was to be his only year of teaching, as he died of bulbar polio in November 1954. Members of his high school football team served as pallbearers.

Early last year, Doc’s cousin, Mark Johnson ’54, together with Augsburg development officer Ron Main ’56, proposed a plan to name the new A-Club Office in Doc’s memory. Their gifts, with additional gifts from Louie Morseth ’51, Roger Stockmo ’54, Leroy Nyhus ’52, and Virg Gehring ’57 have made it possible.

In his senior year at Augsburg, Doc Johnson was elected president of A-Club. Now, it is the A-Club vice president from that year, Ron Main, helping to perpetuate Johnson’s legacy as an Auggie.
Sig Hjelmeland led fundraising efforts for 30 years  
by Betsey Norgard

Sigvald Hjelmeland '41 was the second of four generations of Augsburg graduates and spent three decades at Augsburg leading fundraising efforts that made possible a number of major capital projects. He died on Dec. 25 at age 90.

Hjelmeland returned to Augsburg in 1952 to serve as the College's first director of development. Major campaigns he headed led to the completion of the George Sverdrup Library, Christensen Center, Urness Hall, and Foss Center.

He is best remembered by colleague Jeroy Carlson '48 as “meticulous.” In the late 1950s, as donor and giving programs were being created, Hjelmeland drew on his expertise and passion for detail to create a manual accounting system and bookkeeping procedures for donor gifts. This included the use of a bank book to help donors track their monthly pledge payments.

In 1963, as the College moved through the transition from the Lutheran Free Church (LFC) into the American Lutheran Church, Hjelmeland, with his Norwegian LFC background, served a valuable role in helping many of Augsburg’s longtime LFC families stay part of and feel connected to Augsburg.

“He spoke Norwegian and had a great sense of humor,” Carlson says, “not just American humor, but Scandinavian humor as well.” Hjelmeland’s relationships helped to foster a culture of philanthropy that has nurtured many of Augsburg’s current donors.

In 1986, Hjelmeland, with his wife, Helen, and son and daughter-in law John ’70 and Lynn (Benson) ’69, established a scholarship in the name of his father, John Hjelmeland, who graduated from Augsburg Academy, College, and Seminary.

In 2003, Sig Hjelmeland received the Spirit of Augsburg award for his dedication and long service to the College.

Hjelmeland is survived by his wife, Helen; two children, Laurene and John; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. The family has directed memorial gifts to the Rev. John Hjelmeland Scholarship Fund.

Faculty-staff giving boosts campaign

From September through December, guided by a faculty-staff campaign committee, employees of Augsburg raised the bar on giving and encouraged awareness of a philanthropic culture.

A generous matching fund, matches from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for its members, and contacts from committee members helped to significantly increase both the dollar amount and the rate of giving within the Augsburg community.

Through December 31, an additional total of $133,000 was given or pledged by employees of the College, beyond the $635,000 since the campaign’s launch.

Even more important, however, was the increased rate of participation in the campaign—to more than doubling the overall rate of 17% in 2004-05. By the end of the year, the giving rate for full-time faculty and staff exceeded 50%.
Augsburg College is in the midst of many exciting changes this spring. Our first group of MBA students will graduate in May, along with candidates from our other master’s programs in leadership, education, nursing, physician assistant studies, and social work—plus our undergraduates from the day, weekend, and Rochester programs. Congratulations to you all!

The campus face is changing, too. I hope that you have had an opportunity to view the artist renderings of the planned Science, Gateway, and Si Melby additions. We welcome you back to campus to tour the grounds this spring and summer—our grounds crew does an amazing job beautifying the campus!

In Alumni Board news, three members will end their terms this spring. We would like to thank Beth Torstenson ’66, Andy Morrison ’73, and Paul Mueller ’84 for their dedication and hard work during their tenures. We hope to see them at many events in the future. Thank you!

Alumni Relations, along with Advancement Services and Information Technology, are pleased to announce the newly launched Augsburg Online Community, which will help you stay informed and involved with Augsburg via the Internet. See the information below for details.

Planning for Homecoming 2006 is well underway. This year’s theme is “Watch Us Soar,” and events are scheduled this September 25-30. Watch your mailbox for your Homecoming brochure in August. We have made changes to the usual Saturday activities, and we encourage all alumni, family, and friends to join us.

We look forward to hosting you at an Augsburg event in the near future. Please let the Office of Alumni Relations know if you will be in the metro area this summer—we would love to show you the campus!

Heidi Breen
Director, Office of Alumni Relations

Introducing Augsburg’s new online community

Augsburg’s online community has been developed just for you—alumni, friends, parents, and donors of the College. The new online community will help you stay informed and involved with Augsburg via the Internet. This is a great way to stay connected!

Visit the site and register today so that you can take advantage of the great new features to keep you connected to your Augsburg friends and classmates.

You’ll find:

Alumni Directory
• Learn where your classmates and friends are, and what they’ve been doing since graduation
• Connect with other alumni in your area of the country
• Update your personal profile so your classmates can get in touch with you

Class Notes
Tell us what you’ve been up to! As part of your personal profile you can now submit class notes online for possible publication in Augsburg Now.

Events
Wondering what events are taking place for Augsburg alumni? The online community is the place to search and register for events specifically for alumni and friends of the College. Check back often to learn about upcoming Auggie Hours, parent events, or just to find out the most up-to-date news around the Augsburg campus.

Online Giving
You asked, and we listened! Making a contribution to Augsburg has never been easier. Simply visit Augsburg’s online community and click on the “Give Now” link to donate online. Otherwise, click on “Giving at Augsburg” to learn about planned giving, our various giving programs, and of course, Access to Excellence: The Campaign for Augsburg College. Giving online is easy and secure—and there’s no need to be a registered user to donate.

It’s EASY
Simply go to www.augsburg.edu/alumni

It’s FAST
Moving? Changing your e-mail address? New addition to your family? Let us know instantly by logging in and updating your information.

QUESTIONS?
If you have any questions, first read through the information on the Augsburg online community website. If you still have questions, send an e-mail to <healyk@augsburg.edu>.
Alumni Events

Please join us for these upcoming alumni events (see also the college-wide calendar on the inside back cover for additional Augsburg events); unless otherwise noted, call 612-330-1178 or 1-800-260-6590 or e-mail <alumni@augsburg.edu> for more information.

March
16 WECAN meeting (Weekend College Alumni Network), 6-8 p.m., Riverside Room, Christensen Center

April
18 Alumni Board meeting, Christensen Center, 5:30 p.m.
27 Senior reception hosted by the Alumni Board in honor of the Class of 2006, East Commons, Christensen Center, 4:30-6 p.m.

May
5 Graduation reception for all undergraduate and graduate business students, Marshall Room, Christensen Center, 4-6 p.m.
9 Alumni tour to China departs
18 WECAN meeting (Weekend College Alumni Network), 6-8 p.m., Riverside Room, Christensen Center

June
20 Alumni Board meeting, Christensen Center, 5:30 p.m.
25 Rochester Weekend College graduation banquet, Rochester Country Club, 5-8 p.m.

Augsburg Associates Spring Seminar

The Augsburg Associates invite you to their 20th Annual Spring Seminar, Saturday, April 1, 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Foss Center. This year’s guest speakers include Augsburg professor of religion Brad Holt ’63, Tsehai Wodajo, and Ann (Tjaden) Jensen. Wodajo emigrated from Ethiopia 15 years ago and received her MSW from Augsburg in 1997. Jensen served in the Peace Corps in Ethiopia after graduating from Augsburg in 1964. They are founders of REAL (Resources for the Enrichment of African Lives). Registration is $15 per person, payable in advance (this includes refreshments and materials).

Softball and baseball alumni receptions

Call your old teammates and join us at these upcoming receptions! Softball alumni are invited to gather at 5 p.m., Thursday, April 20, prior to the game against Carleton College; for more information, contact Carol Enke at 612-330-1250 or <enke@augsburg.edu>. Baseball alumni are invited to gather at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 29, prior to the game against Macalester College; contact Keith Bateman at 612-330-1395 or <bateman@augsburg.edu>.

Reunion celebrations

Attention Auggies from the classes of 1956, 1966, 1981, and Young Alumni 1990-2006: this is your reunion year! Plan now to join your classmates this September 25-30 for the annual Homecoming festivities and your reunion reception. Watch your mail and upcoming issues of Augsburg Now for complete details; please let us know your current e-mail address at <alumni@augsburg.edu>. You can also stay up-to-date by visiting the alumni website at <www.augsburg.edu/alumni>.
1956
Richard Thorud, Bloomington, Minn., has pursued a hobby of writing, illustrating, publishing, and marketing books since his retirement as a research and development engineer. His seventh book, *Mette Marie's Homestead Journal*, is based on his mother’s childhood memories of living in a sod hut in North Dakota; for more information, go online to <www.amazon.com>.

1967
Rev. Harley J. Refsal, Decorah, Iowa, is a professor of Scandinavian folk art and Norwegian at Luther College. He has earned national and international acclaim for his figure woodcarving—including a St. Olav Medal in 1996 from the king of Norway. Besides teaching at Luther, he has written four books and numerous magazine articles. He’s also the star of an instructional video, *Scandinavian Style Figure Carving with Harley Refsal*, which earned a prestigious 2005 Telly Award.

John N. Schwartz is serving as interim president and chief executive officer of St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center in Missoula, Mont. He previously served as interim president of Providence Medford Medical Center in Medford, Ore., and has 30 years of experience in the healthcare field and a long history in management.

1969
Allen C. Tripp was one of four Rush City, Minn., teachers selected by their peers for the Leadership in Excellence Award, which honors their teaching quality and commitment. The awards were presented in October at a banquet in St. Cloud. Tripp has been an English teacher at Rush City High School since 1970. In addition to teaching English, he has directed class plays and all school plays for 14 years and has been a junior high speech coach for 15 years. He has also served as an assistant track coach for 20 years. His wife, Linda, teaches first grade at Jacobson Elementary School. They have two sons, Ryen, 29, and Justin, 23. See more about Allen on p. 20.

1977
Timothy Strand was elected mayor of the City of St. Peter (Minn.) in November in a landslide victory. Strand, who by election time had served two years of a four-year term as a Ward II council member, was anxious to start his new role. “I’m very excited, and the first thing that comes to my mind is that I’m proud to have been elected,” he said in a post-election article in the *St. Peter Herald*.

Patricia Clausen Wojtowicz, Largo, Fla., is manager of...
Mike and Gail Koski: Traveling the missionary road

by Sara Holman '06

Working in the mailroom, falling in love with a fellow coworker, graduating in four years, and preparing for a bright future were just a few of the things that Mike and Gail (Niederloh) Koski accomplished while attending Augsburg. However, finding their joint calling to become missionaries happened just months after their marriage. Married in October 1972, the following July carried the Koskis across the ocean to Africa.

Mike, a 1971 graduate, came to Augsburg and studied history and secondary education. Gail graduated one year later with a B.A. in French secondary education. Both came from congregations that were involved in missionary work, yet each confesses that overseas missionary work had not been a part of their plan. When the inspiration came, Mike recalls, “It was an answer to prayer.”

“We just understood that this was the way God would want us to use our gifts and abilities,” Gail said.

After 32 years of missionary work in Kenya and Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of Congo), the Koskis are currently awaiting their next assignment. The couple works with the Minneapolis-based mission organization World Mission Prayer League (WMPL). When choosing a mission group, “WMPL resonated well. Its principles, policies, and practices fit the best,” Mike said.

Every four years, the couple comes back to the United States on furlough. During this one-year break, the missionaries continue their work and await news about their future destination. The Koskis were called back in September 2005.

The couple’s mission experience started in Zaire where they worked in a rural setting, often connecting with nomadic tribes. It was the couple’s responsibility to learn the language and culture and then present the gospel in a way that would be understood. Their time in Zaire was limited to only four months, and then their assignment changed.

Kenya has been a very permanent place for the Koskis’ mission work. They spent many years in the agricultural parts of northern and western Kenya but have been stationed in the city of Nairobi for the past 10 years. Mike became assistant director of the Urban Ministries Support Group (UMSG) in 1995 and then moved up to the director position in 1999. Gail’s work has consisted of many facets: UMSG resource center librarian, ESL teacher, Sunday school supervisor, and mission hostess. She was also in charge of home-schooling their three children. Now fully grown, their children have all graduated college and live and work at various places within North America.

The Koskis’ main goal in Nairobi was to help develop leadership within the Lutheran church. With strong leadership skills instilled, the church was able to discuss and respond to societal ailments such as poverty and HIV. To reach more people within the city, one church decided to split the congregation into five groups and build five new churches. Everything was planned and prepared ahead of time: pastors were found, worship teams were formed, and everything transitioned very smoothly. The five new congregations each held a special characteristic that made it fit perfectly into its new part of the city. For example, in the area where many university students lived, the church emphasized youth activities and provided a contemporary worship service.

The couple’s greatest excitement is to see their fellow church members’ faith development. “We’ve been doing this for so long that we get to see young people grow into adults. We are able to see how their faith keeps growing and then how it impacts their families, vocations, and communities.”

Kenya holds a special place in both the Koskis’ hearts. They enjoyed the vibrant colors and temperate climate, but it was the people-oriented culture and relaxed pace of living that really appealed to the couple. Being concerned about people and taking time to establish relationships is a big part of missionary work, and the Koski family praises God for the rich experiences that were shared in Kenya.

Sara Holman is a senior English/communication studies major.
accreditations at Forensic Quality Services, Inc., in Largo.

1979

Paul Daniels, archivist for ELCA Region 3 and archivist/curator at Luther Seminary, traveled to Chennai (Madras), India, to assist the Lutheran Heritage Centre at Gurukul Theological College on several projects. Daniels had served there 12 years ago when the archives center was just beginning its work of collecting and making available records of the 12 Indian Lutheran church bodies. Over the years he has maintained contact with the staff, working on issues of collection development, preservation, and program expansion. Daniels and his wife, Sally (Hough) ’79, director of parent and family relations at Augsburg, live in Golden Valley, Minn., and have two daughters, Kristin ’09 and Maren.

1980

Nancy (Weatherston) Black, Cornelius, Ore., is a serial cataloger for Millar Library at Portland State University.

Rev. David L. Norgard, West Hollywood, Calif., has established a consulting practice for churches and other non-profits in the area of organizational development. He can be contacted at <davidnorgard@yahoo.com>.

1982

Kevin Gordon, International Falls, Minn., was quoted in an article in the St. Paul Pioneer Press newspaper about his son, Ben Gordon, who is a sophomore forward on the University of Minnesota Gopher hockey team. Ben acquired his hockey skills growing up playing on outdoor rinks and from his father, a former International Falls High School coach and an Augsburg All-American.

1984

Bruce Palmquist, Ellensburg, Wash., was honored as the 2005 Washington State Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). Palmquist is a physics and science education professor at Central Washington University, and is highly regarded for his commitment to improving public understanding of basic scientific principles and working to develop skills in the next generation of science teachers needed to successfully bring about a scientifically literate society. In his dual role as a physicist and a teacher educator, Palmquist has taken on many
initiatives, including developing a new CWU program at Green River Community College in Auburn, called Project TEACH (Teacher Education Alliance for Colleges and High Schools). In 2004, Palmquist was also named the CWU Distinguished Public Service Professor.

1988

Brad Anderson, Plymouth, Minn., teaches biology and human genetics at Wayzata High School. He also serves as head football coach, and this past season led the Trojans to capture the 2005 state championship. He and his wife, Maari Anderson ’87, have two daughters, Barrett and Isabelle.

1990

Kay E. Baker, Savage, Minn., is an account director hired to set up the new Minneapolis office of the Jerome Group, a direct marketing support firm based in St. Louis, Mo. She was recently featured as a “Mover” in the business section of the St. Paul Pioneer Press newspaper.

1992

Debra Carpenter has joined West Central Initiative in Fergus Falls, Minn., as a Connectinc Replication Project executive. She has several years of experience in the service industry, including serving as a board member for Restart Inc.

1996

Julie (Lindusky) Corcoran, Forest Lake, Minn., was elected in November to a four-year term on the ISD 831 School Board. She and her husband, Mike, have three children.

1997

Lars P. Dyrud, Amesbury, Mass., was one of approximately 70 selected worldwide by the Young Scientists Award Panel to attend the Union Radio-Scientifique Internationale (URSI) General Assembly at the Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi, India, last October. Participants were also given the opportunity to meet with the president of India at the Rashtrapati, the official presidential residence.

1998

Ann Rohrig, Lima, Ohio, married Stephen Jenkins in June, becoming a stepmother to two children. She is a social worker for a therapeutic foster care agency in Lima.

2000

Mauris De Silva, Miami, received a Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from the Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science at the University of Minnesota in May. He now works in the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Miami’s Miller Medical School of Medicine.

2001

Greg Barrett, St. Paul, graduated from the University of St. Thomas with a master’s degree in gifted and talented education.

Becki Frestedt, Seattle, received a Master of Public Administration from the Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington in June. She works for a community development organization, where she coordinates outreach for a land use study in the city.

Beth Nordin, Minnetonka, Minn., was named vice president of information technology by CHS Inc., an energy and grain-based foods company. She previously served as vice president of operations for Capella Education. Prior to Capella, she held several positions with Pearson Education, including senior vice president of information technology and chief information officer.

2003

Shawn Smith was acquired by the Quad City Mallards from the Port Huron Flags. Smith is a rookie-defenseman who has appeared in 14 United Hockey League games this season split between the Fort Wayne Komets and the Port Huron Flags.

Births/Adoptions

Lisa (Svac) ’85 and Lee Hawks ’85 in New Brighton, Minn., adopted a son, Andrew John, in December.
C.J. Beaurline '94 and his wife, Christin, in Ham Lake, Minn.—a son, Basil, in December. He joins older siblings Savanna, 7, Simeon, 4, and Sophia, 2. C.J. is a sales engineer at Vector Design Technology, and has also served as an NCAA hockey referee in the WCHA for eight years. He can be reached at <cbeaurline@vectordesigntech.com>.

Carley (Miller) '94 and William Stuber in Shakopee, Minn.—a daughter, Kirsten Rae, in May. Carley is executive director of the St. Francis Regional Medical Center Foundation in Shakopee.

Jay Lepper '95 and his wife, Bronwyn, in Savage, Minn.—a daughter, Rowan Jane, in May.

Jennifer (Polis) '97 and Dan Debe in Minneapolis—a son, George William, in September. He joins older sisters Allison, 5, and Emily, 3. Jennifer can be reached at <jendebe@yahoo.com>.

Summer Joy (Sorenson) '99 and Jeffrey Brackhan in Mondovi, Wis.—twin boys, Cole and Dakota, in February 2005.

Heidi (Erickson) '01 and Matt Segedy in Minneapolis—a daughter, Eleanor Catherine, in November. Matt is a pediatrician at South Lake Pediatrics, and Heidi is currently home with Nora.

Marissa (Skowronek) '02 and Michael Partridge in St. Michael, Minn.—a son, Logan Michael, in November.

Lisa (Ashbaugh) '04 and Darrel Stange in Bertha, Minn.—a son, Nathan, in September. Lisa and Darrel married in October.

In Memoriam

Bertha D. Lillehei '34, Minneapolis, died in January; she was 92. Following the example of her father, Lars Lillehei, who taught Greek at Augsburg, Bertha taught English at Augsburg in the 1930s and ’40s.

Sigvald Hjelmeland ’41, Edina, Minn., died in December; he was 90 (see p. 24 for further details).

Rev. Earl E. Dreyer ’56, Detroit Lakes, Minn., died in December of heart-related problems; he was 75. Ordained in 1959, he served parishes in Alexandria, Rochester, Canby, and Detroit Lakes.

Paul A. Benson ’85, Willmar, Minn., died unexpectedly in December; he was 42. He was a financial controller for West Central, Inc., and previously worked for R.J. Ahmann Company and Twin City Group.

Rev. Louisa (Goplen) Fure ’95, Albert Lea, Minn., died in December after an automobile accident; she was 53. Ordained in 1999, she served as an associate pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Owatonna. She was also active in community theatre, with roles in Somerset Theatre of Austin, Little Theatre of Owatonna, and Footlights Dinner Theatre in Rochester.

Jason Jenness ’01 died in July 2001 of Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma; he was 31.

Holly Ebnet '03 married Jeremy Knutson in August 2004; the couple resides in Hugo, Minn. Holly is pursuing an MBA at Augsburg, and Jeremy is a pipefitter for Yale Mechanical in Bloomington. The couple can be reached at <hknutson04@yahoo.com>.

Niels Neve ’97 married Darlene Knutson in September; the couple resides in Pine Island, Minn. Niels is an account representative at UnitedHealth Group, and Darlene works for the Mayo Clinic in cytogenetics.
Auggie Thoughts

Editor's note: Bruce Palmquist '84 was honored as the 2005 Washington State Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for Advancement in Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). Eschewing the normal media interviews that accompany such honors, Palmquist decided to introduce himself to readers through the eyes of his best canine friend, Jack.

Bruce DOES know Jack, or

Jack, Bruce’s Jack Russell Terrier, interviews Bruce about teaching

**Jack**: What is your favorite aspect of teaching?

**Bruce**: I like answering students’ questions and helping them make sense of concepts they are having problems with. Some professors go into the classroom with an elaborate presentation all planned out. But, that’s not me. I know where the class should end up by the end of the week. And, I have planned, in general, how we will get there. But, the students help create the path with their specific needs and questions.

**J**: You often teach late night astronomy labs or organize public observing sessions that go late. How can you stay up so late and still get up at 5 a.m. to take me outside?

**B**: Well, it isn’t easy. The Central Washington University Astronomy Club helps out a lot. In fact, they plan most of the late observing sessions you mentioned. But, I think it is important that introductory astronomy students get familiar with the nighttime sky. The best way to learn about the night sky is to observe it with some expert help. By the way, taking you out at 5 a.m. is better than cleaning up after you in the house.

**J**: Speaking of expert help, you write a weekly astronomy column …

**B**: I hope Augsburg Now doesn’t misspell that as “weakly column.”

**J**: It would be a Freudian slip if they do. Anyway, why do you volunteer your time to write a newspaper column in the Ellensburg Daily Record?

**B**: Science is such an important topic. And, it is woefully under covered in the popular press. Astronomy is a very attainable topic. The stars and planets are always up there for people to see. And, I have selfish reasons for writing the column, as well. If my column helps the general public have a more positive outlook toward science, they are more likely to support science teaching in the schools and universities.

**J**: Talk a little bit more about science in the schools, especially the state’s standardized test called the Washington Assessment of Student Learning, or WASL.

**B**: Even dogs know that the WASL is a sensitive subject. In general, children are over-tested. I think no child gets left behind, because they leave such a long paper trail of standardized test sheets. But, the science WASL is much better than the typical multiple choice standardized test. The science WASL requires students to write about science and to design scientific experiments. Simply memorizing facts will not result in a good WASL score. And, the WASL’s emphasis on designing experiments means that teachers will need to include more experiments and the analysis of experiments in their classroom. This is a good thing.

**J**: What is your favorite constellation?

**B**: Canis Major, the great dog. During the winter, it is low in the southern sky.

**J**: Good answer.

For more about Bruce Palmquist’s thoughts on teaching and leadership, see p. 20.
Music

For music information, call 612-330-1265

March 28
Augsburg Jazz Ensemble
7 p.m.—Hoversten Chapel

March 29
Augsburg Choir
5:30 & 7 p.m.—Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church; Minneapolis

April 1
Augsburg Choir
7 p.m.—St. John Lutheran Church, Owatonna, Minn.

April 2
Augsburg Choir
8:45, 10, & 11:15 a.m.—Calvary Lutheran Church; Golden Valley, Minn.

Riverside Singers
9:30 & 11 a.m.—Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church; Excelsior, Minn.

Augsburg Choir
4 p.m.—Cambridge Lutheran Church, Cambridge, Minn.

Brass in the Chapel
Joint concert of the Augsburg & St. Thomas brass ensembles
7:30 p.m.—Hoversten Chapel

April 9
Masterworks Chorale
4 p.m.—Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church, Minneapolis

April 22
Augsburg Symphony Orchestra
4 p.m.—Sateren Auditorium

April 23
Riverside Singers
8:30 & 11 a.m.—Mayflower Congregational Church; Minneapolis

April 26
Chamber Music Recital & High Tea
4 p.m.—Sateren Auditorium & Arnold Atrium

April 9
Augsburg Concert Band
7 p.m.—Hoversten Chapel

April 30
Musical celebration honoring the service of President William V. and Anne Frame
2 p.m.—Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis

May 8–21
Augsburg Choir
Tour to Hungary, Czech Republic, & Germany

Theatre

For ticket information, call 612-330-1257

April 7–23
Metamorphoses
By Mary Zimmerman
Directed by Darcey Engen
April 7, 8, 20, 21, & 22 at 7 p.m.;
April 9 & 23 at 2 p.m.
Tjornhom-Nelson Theater

Exhibits

For gallery information, call 612-330-1524

April 7–May 7
All-Student Juried Art Exhibition
Opening reception: April 7, 4:30–6:30 p.m.
Gage Family Art Gallery

April 7–May 14
Senior Art Exhibition
Opening reception: April 7, 5–7 p.m.
Christensen Center Art Gallery

Seminars, Lectures, and Films

January 25–May 20
Augsburg Native American Film Series
www.augsburg.edu/home/ais/filmseries/

Other Events

April 12
Speech and booksigning by Norwegian Crown Princess Martha Louise
4 p.m.—6 p.m.—Hoversten Chapel
612-330-1176 or jorgensd@augsburg.edu

April 18
Pan-Afrikan Year-End Celebration
6–9 p.m.—Christensen Center
612-330-1022 or bolden@augsburg.edu

April 27
Senior Athletes Award Banquet
6–9 p.m.—Christensen Center
612-330-1243 or grauerp@augsburg.edu

May 5–6
Commencement 2006
Featured speaker: Dr. Peter Agre ’70
Recipient of the 2003 Nobel Prize in Chemistry
www.augsburg.edu/commencement/

May 22
Third Annual Healthcare Conference:
“Building Minnesota’s Healthcare Workforce Through Diversity”
8 a.m.—5 p.m.—Melby Hall
www.augsburg.edu/healthcare
Send us your news and photos!

Please tell us about the news in your life, your new job, move, marriage, and births. Don’t forget to send photos!

For news of a death, printed notice is required, e.g. an obituary, funeral notice, or program from a memorial service.

Send your news items, photos, or change of address by mail to: Augsburg Now Class Notes, Augsburg College, CB 146, 2211 Riverside Ave., Minneapolis, MN, 55454, or e-mail to alumni@augsburg.edu.

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Send us your news and photos!