Everyday work advice for Auggies
Magazine survey results
A tale of two Auggies
Nobel Peace Prize Forum
This winter, Augsburg College was honored with a $10 million philanthropic gift that will support a new signature academic building housing the College’s science, business, and religion programs. Visit augsburg.edu/csbr to learn about the celebration to announce the building’s name and the capital campaign’s progress toward its $50 million fundraising goal.
2015 is off to a remarkable start at Augsburg!

The announcement on the facing page about the $10 million gift to name the Center for Science, Business, and Religion certainly ranks as our most exciting news. The momentum to break ground on this signature academic building is now palpable on campus and beyond as we imagine its transformational impact on our community for generations to come.

And this issue of Augsburg Now is full of many other examples of the good news of this academic year. News of national recognition for community engagement and interfaith initiatives. News of special events featuring Bill Nye the Science Guy (a fellow bow tie lover!) and Nobel Peace Prize Laureates U.S. President Jimmy Carter and The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. News of more than 100 Augsburg students and faculty from five academic departments collaborating to create an interactive exhibit to engage people in the topic of peace.

For me, all of this good news points to a core value at the heart of Augsburg’s identity and character—we are a community of abundance in a world of scarcity.

What do I mean by abundance? It is a way of life that calls our community to live and work together with a focus on our common wisdom, experience, and aspirations. It is an ethic that challenges us to believe that we can do more and better together than on our own. It is a vision that says we are small to our students and big for the world.

As I near the end of my ninth year as Augsburg’s 10th president, I am more and more struck by the abundance of our lives together, the many ways in which the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of our community aspire to embody a way of life that links faith, learning, and service to the neighbor.

I also am struck by the abundance of our place, the remarkable work of Augsburg as an institution and community in this neighborhood, city, and world, and our firm resolve to send our students out into the world as educated and faithful citizens, to be good stewards of our environment, and to embrace hospitality and generosity for our fellow humans.

Finally, I am struck by the abundance of the promise we make each and every day to each other as we dedicate ourselves to collaboration, to doing things differently, and to working together to meet the needs of students and neighbors. Where others say there is not enough, we say there is more than plenty if we believe and bring resolve, courage, and imagination to our efforts to educate, to feed the hungry, to clothe the poor, and to meet the needs of strangers.

What a deep privilege it is to be a partner in this work of abundance at Augsburg College. Thanks to all of you for your abiding support and passion for this good and faithful work.

Yours in Augsburg,

Paul C. Priibbenow, President
Augsburg Now magazine survey: What you told us

This past summer, Augsburg College participated in a national higher education magazine survey developed by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. This survey has been used by more than 350 college and university magazines across the United States, allowing Augsburg to compare its results with national benchmarks.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RESULTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who took the survey</th>
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<tr>
<td>More than 600 people responded to the Augsburg survey, with 541 completing the entire questionnaire.</td>
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| NATIONAL | AUGSBURG | 30 percent of the Augsburg Now survey respondents were 65 years of age or older, nearly 10 percentage points above the national response rate. |

#### Top ways the magazine helps keep Auggies connected

- **As a reminder of your college experience:**
  - Augsburg’s results: 87%
  - National results: 80%

- **Keeping you in touch with your graduating class:**
  - Augsburg’s results: 53%
  - National results: 46%

- **Encouraging financial support for the College and current students:**
  - Augsburg’s results: 46%
  - National results: 39%

#### Auggies are connected

Survey respondents confirmed that Augsburg Now strengthens their connection with the College. In fact, 80 percent of respondents older than age 35 agreed with this notion, and 70 percent of respondents under age 35 agreed as well.

#### SO, WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS MEAN?

### Readership, connection, and format

The magazine will build on its strengths in order to maintain high readership levels and the strong connection that the magazine helps Auggies feel with the College. Augsburg will continue publishing the magazine in both print and online versions, but those who prefer a digital format are encouraged to let us know their preference for receiving notifications instead of printed editions.

Go to augsburg.edu/now for more information about changing your Augsburg Now delivery format.

### Topics of interest

The topics of greatest interest across all age groups align well with the College’s Augsburg2019 strategic vision, which states that, in 2019, Augsburg will be a new kind of student-centered, urban university that is small to our students and big for the world. Stories about student achievements, alumni in their professions, and campus facilities and growth illustrate our commitment to educating for lives of purpose, being “at the table” with our partners and neighbors, and building a vital and sustainable institution.

In addition to those topics, the magazine will continue to include events, speakers, obituaries, and class notes given that these topics garnered strong response rates, especially among readers over 35 years of age.

See augsburg.edu/Augsburg2019 for information about the strategic plan.
Magazine readership
Most respondents indicated that Augsburg Now was the No. 1 way they get information about the College, and 82 percent said they read all or most of each issue.

Most respondents said they prefer to read the printed version of Augsburg Now, although some favor digital formats.

64% prefer print
13% prefer online
23% prefer both

Topics of interest
When asked what topics readers preferred to see in the magazine, the following categories rose to the top.

1. Cultural events and performances 68.1% ★
2. Alumni in their professions 67.5%
3. Class notes 67.4% ★
4. Institutional history and traditions 66.5% ★
5. Obituaries 65.8% ★
6. Campus facilities and growth 62.5%
7. Student achievements 61.2% ★
8. Visiting speakers 60.3% ★

Renaming the magazine
Although the name of the magazine was not specifically addressed in the survey questions, the time has come to rethink the name of the publication. “Augsburg Now” served well for decades, but in an age of digital communication, a publication that comes out three times per year cannot reasonably include information about what’s happening at the moment.

As a result, the plan is to announce a new name for the magazine in the summer 2015 issue and officially change the masthead in the fall. Look in the summer issue for more information about these future plans for the Augsburg College magazine!
The Augsburg College Convocation Series each year offers the community a chance to hear from outstanding leaders and visionaries who ignite important conversations and contribute to making the world a safer place for future generations.

The first event held during the spring semester was the Martin Luther King, Jr. Convocation in January, featuring collaboration among on-campus student groups and ARTS-Us, a St. Paul-based arts education organization; Dare 2 Be Real, a Twin Cities-based interracial student leadership program; and Triad:4Christ, a renowned gospel choir led by Jamar Esaw ’05.

The Batalden Seminar in Applied Ethics in February welcomed Rami Nashashibi, executive director of the Inner-City Muslim Action Network and a visiting professor at the Chicago Theological Seminary. Nashashibi spoke on “The Sociology of Seerah: Reclaiming Prophetic Tradition for Our Time and Place.”

The Koryne Horbal Lecture in March featured Janell Hobson, associate professor of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at the University at Albany. Hobson’s presentation was titled “Historical Consciousness and Black Feminist Imagination.”
WELLS FARGO MAKES $100,000 GIFT to the Center for Science, Business, and Religion

In recognition of Augsburg College’s leadership in closing the higher education disparity gap for students of color in Minnesota, Wells Fargo made a $100,000 gift to the campaign to build the Center for Science, Business, and Religion. Wells Fargo joined several other corporations—including 3M and General Mills—in supporting the CSBR.

Dave Kvalme, CEO of Wells Fargo Minnesota, in a statement expressed admiration for Augsburg’s commitment to partnering with college access programs to help recruit, support, and retain first-generation and low-income students.

“We support Augsburg College’s commitment to provide opportunities for a college education for those students who may face life challenges to attain it,” Kvalme said. “We know our donation will help Augsburg be successful in developing Minnesota’s future business and community leaders.”

DID YOU KNOW?

Wells Fargo also supports a scholarship program through the Minnesota Private College Fund. The fund, started in 1976, provides scholarships at each of the 17 Minnesota Private Colleges, including Augsburg.

U.S. BANK SUPPORTS STUDENT VETERANS and Center for Science, Business, and Religion with $125,000 gift

Augsburg College and U.S. Bank celebrated the opening of the new U.S. Bank Veterans’ Lounge on campus with a dedication ceremony this fall. U.S. Bank recently pledged $125,000 toward the building of the Center for Science, Business, and Religion at Augsburg, and the College recognized the contribution to the campaign by granting naming rights to the Veterans’ Lounge.

The renovated space, located in Oren Gateway Center, honors the contributions student veterans have made to their country. U.S. Bank and Augsburg College are nationally recognized as top supporters of veterans and military families. Augsburg was named a 2015 Military Friendly® School for its ongoing efforts to provide transitioning veterans the best possible experience in higher education.

FROM SCREEN TO SCRIPT: Auggies win big at film festival

Augsburg students were recognized for their excellent work at the fourth annual Student Film Festival hosted by the Associated Colleges of the Twin Cities.

- Thomas VandenDolder ’15 won Best Experimental Film for “Oblivious.”
- Rebecca Schroeder ’18 won the Best Music Video award for “We Are The Art.”

This year’s ACTC festival included a new screenplay contest. Students who have participated in courses in the Augsburg Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program took home top awards in all three categories.

- Michelle Herrin ’15 MFA won the Overall Excellence award for “Side Effects.”
- Amanda Symes ’15 MFA received an Honorable Mention, Feature-Length Narrative for “Celia.”
- Mark Woodley ’14 received the Best Short Screenplay award for “Missing.”

The festival included work submitted by students from Augsburg College, Hamline University, and the University of St. Thomas. More than 100 people attended the film festival screenings this year, and all films were created during the 2013-14 academic year.
Bush Foundation grant supports DIVERSITY IN TEACHING

Augsburg College’s Department of Education was awarded a $150,000 grant from the Bush Foundation through its Teacher Effectiveness Initiative. The award will be used to fund a project that builds the College’s capacity to recruit and support students of color as they work toward a degree in teaching. Augsburg was one of only five higher education institutions selected to receive this one-time award.

Augsburg’s Department of Education Chair and Associate Professor Margaret Finders will lead the project in partnership with Minneapolis Public Schools, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, and St. Paul Public Schools. This team will create a coordinated, sustainable infrastructure that will recruit high-quality teacher candidates and reduce attrition. This infrastructure will help the partner institutions engage in proactive recruitment of teacher candidates of color from multiple entry points, improve experiences for teacher candidates of color, and foster smooth transitions into teaching.
This winter, AUGSBURG COLLEGE PRESIDENT PAUL C. PRIBBENOW joined other private college leaders in testifying before the Minnesota State Senate Higher Education Committee. Pribbenow thanked senators for their support and discussed the ways in which Augsburg works to best educate the state’s future leaders.

DAY AT THE CAPITOL

During the 2013-14 academic year, more than 34 percent of all Augsburg undergraduates—1,054 students—received Minnesota State Grants totaling more than $3.4 million. This February, Augsburg College students and members of the larger Twin Cities community met at the Capitol with their respective representatives and advocated for the Minnesota State Grant program.

Augsburg’s StepUP® program, the EAST (East African Student to Teacher) program, Student Financial Services, Multicultural Students Services, and Athletics partnered to recruit and train students before the event. The students’ agenda included a policy and lobbying briefing with comments from House and Senate members representing Augsburg and a breakfast with alumni legislators followed by a meeting with representatives.
AROUND THE QUAD

128 AUGGIES

exhibit at the American Swedish Institute

Led by Assistant Professor of Art Christopher Houltberg, 128 students and six Augsburg faculty members contributed to a collaborative exhibition, Shaping Peace, at the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis. The project is a collaboration involving the disciplines of art and design, English, music, political science, and religion.

Shaping Peace, a visual exploration of the past 128 Nobel Peace Prize laureates, is on display from February 28 through May 24 and aims to broaden the awareness of the Nobel Peace Prize. The interactive installation encourages viewers to actively participate in exploring the history of the prize by contributing their own ideas surrounding the concept of peace.

AUGSBURG YEARBOOKS AVAILABLE ONLINE SOON

The Augsburg College student yearbook, the Augsburgian, is being digitized for online viewing. Issues are being scanned from newest to oldest, and all editions dating back to the early 1900s will be available online soon. Check for your yearbook at augsburg.edu/now.
During spring semester, Augsburg College invited leaders with experience in the for-profit and nonprofit sectors of the Twin Cities business community to share their expertise as part of the annual Clair and Gladys Strommen Executive Speaker Series.

In February, Lynn Casey, CEO at PadillaCRT, spoke on building and protecting reputations in real time. Casey also discussed her work at the Minneapolis-based headquarters of PadillaCRT—the largest employee-owned agency in the United States.

The College welcomes MayKao Hang, president and CEO of the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, in April. Hang leads the foundation as it works to live out its mission to promote the social welfare of persons resident or located in the greater St. Paul metropolitan area.

"When we’re talking about building and protecting reputations, high standards, good character, and good operating principles up-and-down [an organization] are really essential ingredients."

—Lynn Casey
Dave Conrad has honed his knowledge through decades of work as an independent business consultant, his experience in sales and marketing for public and private companies in a range of industries, and his positions in higher education. He’s author of “Ask Dave,” a column for the Rochester Post-Bulletin. His first book, which shares the same name as his column, is available for purchase at the Augsburg College bookstore.
The majority of American workers report being unhappy in their jobs. One of the biggest factors for this dissatisfaction is poor workplace communication, according to The Conference Board’s annual survey of 5,000 U.S. households. Other top factors that contribute to workplace dissatisfaction include issues related to compensation, recognition, and career development.

None of this is surprising to Dave Conrad, assistant director of the Augsburg College Master of Business Administration program at Rochester and associate professor in Rochester and Minneapolis. Each week for the past eight years, Conrad has shared straightforward business and workplace guidance with 100,000 readers of his column, “Dear Dave,” published in the Rochester Post-Bulletin since 2006.

Conrad said that while he fields plenty of questions on workplace communication issues, he also responds to queries on everything from conflicts among coworkers to issues of company culture, managing change, and problem solving. There’s probably no question that has been left unasked of Conrad. And his advice is so popular that he published a book based upon his column and has another one in the works.

Conrad dispenses usable guidance that blends management processes with leadership thinking so that readers can gain insight into the worlds of their coworkers.

“My readers tend to be everyday, hard-working staff employees or mid-level managers who need everyday advice,” he said.
Clear counseling cleans up clumsy communication

Conrad doesn’t really need to be told by a national survey that communication problems vex employees at all levels. He knows it because, time and again, he receives questions from readers struggling to give voice to their opinions or to share information about the direction an organization is heading.

“People are bursting at the seams with ideas, input, and feedback, but there often is no one listening,” he said.

When one reader in 2013 asked Conrad why it seems that managers don’t interact with employees—not even to ask how the employees are coping—Conrad delivered his trademark guidance, mixing simple steps with insight:

“Organizations thrive on communication and dialogue. It is crucial that managers simply interact with employees ... and ask if they can help the employees in any way,” Conrad wrote. “Managers should pass along information about the company that will help employees understand the mission, vision, goals, and objectives pertaining to where the company is heading.”

Conrad said that the reason this type of communication is critical is because it creates what he calls “we-ness,” a shared purpose among employees that can inspire everyone to work toward shared goals.

Conrad also offers practical guidance for how managers should communicate with employees: share honestly, strive to promote dialogue, ensure every voice is heard, and welcome ideas and input without chastising the messenger.

When a manager asked Conrad how to more effectively guide change after learning that her employees felt she didn’t connect well with those employees who most needed information, Conrad first shared insight on the organizational need to develop a change-management communication plan. The creation of such a plan is an important step in ensuring that the manager delivers the right information to the right people at the right time.

He followed up with the types of information to include in the plan so all his readers could understand steps toward shaping and managing change.

“Communication gaps and weaknesses must be discovered, and a systematic means of providing instructions, information, and feedback must be created and implemented,” he responded via the 2014 column. “To get and keep people on board: Explain the ‘why’ of the change. Clearly communicate the vision, mission, and the objectives of the change management initiative. Have and articulate ideal outcomes. Get people interacting and sharing ideas and perspectives.”

Insight for Auggies

Conrad’s approach was no different when we asked him what insight he has for Augsburg College alumni just starting out in the work world and those who want to grow their careers.

Conrad said that it’s likely Auggies who are beginning their careers will need to perform unglamorous—and possibly, humbling—work for a while. But that’s normal.

“I love the saying: If you do what you love, you will never work a day the rest of your life,” Conrad said. “The problem is, when you’re just out of college, it’s easy to get confused about what you can do in the workplace, or even what you want to do.”

Just as Auggies are sorting through what they might want to do, employers will be watching. Conrad encourages Auggies to stay positive, maintain enthusiasm, and take on tasks they never thought they would have to perform. Early in their careers, he said, Auggies should show off their work ethic no matter the task assigned.

Conrad’s tips for young employees include taking on the assignments nobody wants, asking managers for feedback on their work, and seeking guidance for how to earn promotions.

“Not only is this a way to demonstrate drive and ethic, but it also offers a way to practice the communication skills that make a workplace more rewarding,” he said.

For Auggies further along in their career, Conrad offers similarly upbeat advice.

“Keep things fresh, engaging, and constructive—dare I say ‘positive,’” he said. “Volunteer for small and big projects, mentor budding managers, be there for people in need, learn new things, and do anything that shows care about the productivity and well-being of the organization, others, and especially yourself.”

Employers are attracted to employees who understand the importance of their work on their team, department, and organization. Through the reflective practices and hands-on learning built into an Augsburg College education, Auggies leave campus knowing how their work makes a difference in the world, and they are ready to lead in organizations ranging from nonprofits to Fortune 500 businesses. And, they are ready to do it well.
More than 1,300 donors gave Augsburg College more than $430,000 on Give to the Max Day 2014. For the second year in a row, Augsburg surpassed every other Minnesota college or university in this annual online fundraising event. The achievement reflects the work of alumni, faculty, and staff who championed nearly three dozen unique projects.

**IN THE CLASSROOM**

$1,605 was raised to help students purchase essential—but sometimes pricey—textbooks for class.

The College launched its first student-run publishing organization, Howling Bird, which is part of the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program.

The Communication Studies Department purchased a drone camera that takes student filmmakers’ work to new heights. (above right)

**ON-CAMPUS RESEARCH**

Biology students will benefit from the opportunity to fund additional DNA sequencing critical to their research.

Faculty in the Department of History will further their research on topics ranging from the deathbed conversions of medieval knights to Minnesota after the Civil War to women’s medicine in the Victorian era.

**AUGGIES ON THE MOVE**

The Augsburg College women’s hockey team traveled to four European countries, playing games against international opponents, and touring historic and cultural sites.

Gifts from Give to the Max Day helped to fund student learning and success through 34 projects. Find the full list at augsburg.edu/now.
Unique course makes science approachable for all students

Ceviche is a South and Central American favorite that’s also been popularized in the United States. It’s a bright and flavorful seafood dish that’s not raw, but it’s not exactly cooked either. In fact, it’s never exposed to heat.

Although it’s not cooked in the traditional sense, the raw fish in ceviche goes through a chemical process that rearranges or “denatures” its proteins, much like what happens when meat or other protein is cooked with heat. The acid in citrus juice cures the raw fish, which makes it safer to eat.

This is just one of the fascinating processes students learn in one of Augsburg College’s popular physics courses: The Science of Food and Cooking, taught by Associate Professor Ben Stottrup.

Among other concepts, students in the course learn the fundamental physics and chemistry of materials science through hands-on preparation, like the phase change that occurs when spinning cotton candy and the Maillard reaction caused by searing a steak. They are taught the mechanical properties of ricotta cheese and the states of matter in a root beer float.

And the students love experimenting with various cuisine.

“My biggest takeaway from this class is that science is, in fact, present in everything in our daily lives,” said Cynthia Del Villar ’15, business administration and economics major. “Even eating is a daily reminder that food undergoes its own scientific transformation through cooking or even combining certain ingredients, like oil and vinegar.”

Del Villar took much away from the class—from learning how to prevent freezer burn to emulsifying a mayonnaise to gaining an understanding of heat transfer through a molten chocolate cake. But she also made a personal contribution to the course—her Mexican family’s traditional shrimp ceviche recipe for experimentation in the lab. (See recipe on the next page.)

Restaurant reviews, cook-offs, and potlucks

But it’s not just the food that gets students engaged—Stottrup also introduces competition and community involvement. For example, while baking cupcakes, some groups are allowed the use of measuring devices while others are not. Or some use measurements based upon volume versus weight. This, of course, determines the outcome of each recipe.

At the end of each lab, guest judges from

“This is a traditional family recipe from my parents’ home state of Nayarit, on Mexico’s west coast.

- Cynthia Del Villar ’15

*SPECIAL THANKS to chefs Erick Harcey of Victory 44, Landon Schoenefeld of Haute Dish, and Karyn Tomlinson of Borough for lending their expertise to the course.
various departments on campus decide whose dish was most successful. The competition and participation of the wider campus community “creates an educational, memorable, and interactive experience,” Stottrup said.

Members of the greater Twin Cities restaurant scene also play an important role in the class. One requirement of the course is that students dine at one of three well-known Minneapolis restaurants and then write a restaurant review describing the materials science on their plate. Afterward, one chef from each restaurant comes to campus to participate in a panel discussion on the creativity and lifestyle of being a chef.*

Community members participate in these panel discussions each term, which range from local cooks revealing the process of handcrafting the perfect scoop of natural, organic ice cream to urban planners explaining sustainable food systems to entrepreneurs from the craft beer industry talking about the chemistry of brewing.

To wrap up the semester, the class participates in a “Minnesota potluck,” where each student makes a dish to share and describes the science behind it to their peers. These engaging, communal activities make science “fun and accessible to all students, not just science majors,” Stottrup said. He hopes the class helps students gain a new appreciation for science, as well as “for growing, preparing, cooking, and simply enjoying food.”

BY CHRISTINA HALLER

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**SHRIMP CEVICHE FOR A CROWD**

Serves 20

**INGREDIENTS:**
- 4 pounds headless shrimp
- 10 medium limes
- 10 medium tomatoes
- 4 large cucumbers
- 1 purple onion
- 8 small green serrano chili peppers
- 2 tablespoons salt
- Tortilla chips

**PREPARATION:**
1. Cleanse shrimp in water, peel completely, and chop into half-inch pieces. Place in large bowl and set aside.
2. In a blender, combine lime juice and serrano chili peppers and blend until smooth. Pour over shrimp.
3. Add 2 tablespoons of salt to mixture and stir.
4. Cut onion into thin slices and add to shrimp. Allow mixture to sit for 20 minutes.
5. In the meantime, dice tomatoes and cucumbers into small cubes and add to shrimp.
6. Mix all ingredients well and salt to taste.
7. Serve with chips or tostadas.
A TALE OF TWO AUGGIES

COLLEGE EXPERIENCES SHAPE WORK BY ALUMNI IN THE MINNESOTA CAPITAL AND ON THE NORTH SHORE

BY STEPHANIE WEISS

As a young man growing up on Minnesota’s far western prairies during the 1960s, Allan Torstensen ’75 felt the lure of big cities tugging at him when he was deciding where to go to college.

He considered leaving his hometown of Dawson, Minn., for campuses on the coasts in Berkeley, Calif., or New York City, but it was the beehive of activity in Minneapolis and near the Augsburg College campus that drew him in.

“I was watching the anti-war movement unfold on television. People in a counter culture were fighting construction of HUD-planned communities, including Cedar Square West,” he said. “It was all happening on the West Bank of Minneapolis. I wanted to be there to watch it.”

At the same time that Torstenson was responding to the pull of Augsburg and all that its location in the heart of Minneapolis offered students, Mark Johnson ’75 found himself similarly drawn to Augsburg from his hometown of Two Harbors, Minn., on the scenic north shores of Lake Superior.

When the two young men arrived at Augsburg, they began to explore life in the city. They were among the first to enroll in what was a brand new interdisciplinary major, metro urban studies.
This new program would prove to build a solid foundation for the careers of both men, equipping them to navigate constantly changing landscapes in their careers. Torstenson’s Augsburg College education provided the skills and knowledge to begin work as an intern in 1981 for the City of St. Paul—where he continues to work today as principal city planner with responsibility for planning and zoning.

Johnson’s education allowed him to successfully return to Two Harbors where he took a detour from city planning for more than 20 years to run the family business before becoming the city planner from 1999 until his retirement in 2001.

Industry changes reshape Minnesota cities

Two Harbors is the birthplace of Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing (3M) and was long shaped by the railroad and an ore shipping port. St. Paul is the state capital and has been home to breweries such as Hamm’s and Schmidt’s, manufacturing such as Whirlpool and the Ford Assembly Plant, and more.

When the dominant industries in the cities served by Torstenson and Johnson inevitably shifted over time, the two planners needed to interpret what those changes meant for their communities.
In Two Harbors, the changes meant an opportunity to reclaim what once were private railroad beds and begin converting rails to trails. It also meant the opportunity to create greater public access to the waterfront.

In St. Paul, Torstenson was faced with answering questions about how to respond to a changing economy that has resulted in the shuttering of multiple large businesses.

“Our big building and manufacturing companies—Ford in Highland Park, Whirlpool on the East Side, [and] the breweries are all gone,” Torstenson said. “Our challenge was to begin to address the economic, structural, and job training issues left in the wake of these closings.”

One of the problems faced by Torstenson is that the underpinnings of earlier city planning—as it was practiced in the United States after World War II—wasn’t flexible or resilient, two concepts now at the forefront of civic design.

From the 1950s through the early 1980s, city planning primarily relied upon a single-use approach that identified different areas—or zones—for different uses. Single-family housing was clustered in one area, and apartments and condominiums in another area. Businesses were situated somewhere else, and industrial areas were planned in yet another spot. This type of planning, possibly largely because of the automobile, created what we now understand to be an expensive form of spread-out development often called “sprawl.”

This type of segregated development can make responding to changing markets and demands difficult.

“Cities need to think about the social and market needs of the people who live there,” Torstenson said. “Cities also need to be resilient in their design so that they can be sustainable while evolving to meet changing needs.”

The more compact, high-density design used in Oslo, Norway, after World War II (and studied by both Torstenson and Johnson during their undergraduate study-abroad trip to Scandinavia in 1973) now is shaping the work Torstenson does for St. Paul. Multi-use design allows buildings to be placed closer together and to be used in multiple ways all at once. Business and light industry can be placed at street level with housing above. It means residents of a building have a greater likelihood of being able to walk to work and shop close to home. In addition, these environments typically include sidewalks, bike lanes, and public transit—whether in the form of light rail, trains, or streetcars.

“Many people want to live and work in a close, compact area,” Torstenson said. “Mixed-use and shared-use planning can create ways for us to change to meet the demands of a new and creative, diverse, and collaborative economy.”

Today, Torstenson continues to work to shape a city code that will guide higher-density development and redevelopment that also fosters efficient, flexible, and mixed-form uses with multi-modal transportation corridors—all things that are sought-after by the Millennial Generation as well as today’s teenagers who are putting off learning to drive in favor of public transit.

While Torstenson was working in St. Paul, Johnson was grappling in Two Harbors with a community that at first didn’t have a history of proactive engagement, which meant that change had the potential to be seen as negative and foster greater outcry.

“The question always has been: How can we manage change for the good of all?” Johnson said. “There are always unintended consequences of change. At the core, we have to respect the values of the community we work with, and we have to reflect those qualities in the work.”
Community-classroom connection MAKES REAL-WORLD IMPACT

Community engagement is an essential part of city planning, but how that takes shape beyond town hall meetings and open forums varies. City planners meet with community members, government entities, and local and federal agencies to gather perspective, priorities, and input from groups before projects are undertaken. But getting community participation that represents the diversity of viewpoints and priorities of any community is challenging.

The Friendly Streets Initiative in St. Paul is an emerging model of community engagement that aims to identify the shared needs and wants of people directly impacted by proposed change. It’s a model being forged by Lars Christiansen, lead organizer of FSI and associate professor of Augsburg’s interdisciplinary metro-urban studies program. Christiansen, who also is chair of the Augsburg College Sociology Department, is known for his teaching and scholarship focused on urban resilience and sustainability, and public engagement.

Because of this community-classroom connection, metro-urban studies majors such as Darius Gray ’15 have augmented classroom experiences with hands-on learning.

“We engage [people] to give input on how they want their street to be designed,” said Gray, who has worked as an FSI intern for the past three years. “Basically we throw block parties and ask questions like: What if this was on your street? How would you feel?”

FSI staff facilitates community organizing, gathers and examines information, and helps citizens understand how local government operates.

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The model of engagement used by the Friendly Streets Initiative invites in those who feel left out of planning processes or who believe their input is sought for projects that are already a fait accompli, Christiansen said in his article, “The Friendly Streets Initiative: Bringing Community Voices into the Planning Process.”

Christiansen writes that this groundbreaking work has unearthed lessons for successful community engagement, including bringing multiple voices into the mix before formal planning is underway; creating community engagement events that are fun, family-friendly, and easy to access; helping neighbors navigate formal city processes; and using multiple methods to garner input.

Through their work in the classroom and out in the community, a new generation of Augsburg College students is prepared to leave its mark on American cities and to steward the world’s resources well into the future.

Learn more about the Friendly Streets Initiative and model used at friendlystreetsinitiative.org.
In addition to regularly composing music for Twin Cities companies including Theater Latté Da, Stages Theater Company, and Wonderlust, Aaron Gabriel ’99 serves as resident composer for Interact Theater. Interact is a radically inclusive theater company that creates new musical theater for performers with and without disabilities, and Gabriel is committed to ensuring that each production is shaped by and for the performers. This winter, he took his expertise on the road—spending a month in Chiang Mai collaborating with Interact Thailand and the children it serves.

“We’ve created many new scenes and many new songs for The Love Show—a show about all the different ways we find love in life … We decided to write The Love Show because one of our performances falls on Valentine’s Day (a very popular holiday in Thailand). The songs and stories will all deal with different kinds of love: romantic love, love of friends and family, love of singing, love of disabilities, love of food.”

Thematically, the show resonates with nearly all audiences, but the cast and crew greatly anticipate one special attendee.

In July, the children will perform an excerpt of the show for Her Majesty the Princess of Thailand, who will be visiting the hospital that houses Interact Thailand for its grand opening, “so it’s important,” Gabriel said, “that the songs and scenes really showcase the stories and talents of these unique performers.”
AUGGIE VOICES

**MUSIC MOVES US.** It makes us smile, dance, cry, remember. Like Augsburg alumnus Jamar Esaw ’05, whose choral ensemble, Triad:4Christ, performed at the College this past Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Auggies are sharing their musical gifts with their communities and the world.

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**Conie Borchardt ’98** founded Grace Notes hospice choir, a group that sings to people in hospice care at Twin Cities nursing homes, and co-created the Arts Responding to Foreclosure (ARF) project, which, she says, creates a community for people experiencing foreclosure—turning an isolating experience into a supportive one.

Music, Borchardt says, transforms us and changes us from the inside out. She has witnessed music’s power to unite and soothe—both performers and audiences—during times of financial challenge and even in a person’s final hours.

“We have been blessed with so many meaningful moments … We sang for a gentleman who seemed at peace, though his breathing was labored. We sang to him about journeys. Later we would find out that he completed his earthly journey about 24-hours later.

“And then there are the stories we could tell you about other second-hand listeners! … Some non-hospice residents spontaneously decide to join our band of singers on rounds to the amusement of the nursing staff. Oh, and the staff smiles we see. Some are coy and some are gratefully enlightened for the service we provide. It is like watching the sunrise change your mood!”

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**Nicole Warner ’01** said, “There are times in life when I am absolutely certain, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that music, singing, movement, and dancing are how we heal ourselves,” said Nicole Warner ’01, an Augsburg College alumna whose major in music performance prepared her for life as an independent artist and professional ensemble singer.

In 2011, Warner had the opportunity to sing the Mozart Requiem in a United We Stand concert marking the 10-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Opportunities like this one remind Warner why the joy she feels while singing is only a small part of the performance’s real impact. It’s the audience, she says, who are truly benefiting.

“Most of the time, I think of the beauty of the people sitting in front of me, and I wonder at their ability to take in the music, to restore their souls, to be filled by and to fill up with the music,” she explained. “Time gets lost, and we all get lost in the music together.”

Comments are from the 2011 “To Sing is to Heal” blog post regarding Warner’s participation in the 2011 United We Stand concert. nicolewarner.com/blog

Photo courtesy of Intermedia Arts

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Quotations are from the Points of Light Music blog written by Borchardt.

pointsflightmusic.blogspot.com

Photo courtesy of Intermedia Arts
Augsburg College volleyball finds success on 40th anniversary of historic season

This fall, the Augsburg College women's volleyball team qualified for the NCAA Division III National Tournament for the second straight year, an achievement that marked its reemergence as a regional powerhouse.

Recent team successes—which include back-to-back co-conference championship seasons and several All-American honors—hearken back to the achievements of Augsburg's earliest volleyball teams.

THE FIRST FEW YEARS

Augsburg launched its varsity volleyball program in 1972 when students Nancy Soli Mollner '75, Marilyn Pearson Florian '76, and Cindy Schendel '76 walked into the office of Athletic Director Joyce Anderson Pfaff '65 to ask about joining Augsburg's volleyball team. Anderson Pfaff didn’t have the heart to tell...
the passionate students that there was no team at the time, so she created one on the spot. Augsburg’s first volleyball players proved their sport was to become a staple in Auggie athletics, and in 1973 the College hired star coach Mary Timm. The next year, the volleyball team earned a perfect 8-0 record at home.

While there were 14 women on the roster during the 1974 season, six Auggies played nearly every minute of the regular season and did, in fact, play every minute of the postseason. The Auggies completed the regular season with a 15-4 record, which earned them a spot in the Minnesota Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women State Tournament, where teams competed against one another regardless of their schools’ sizes or types. After beating Concordia-St. Paul, Bemidji State, and the University of Minnesota-Duluth, the Auggies faced the No. 1 seeded University of Minnesota in the finals. Soli—a setter and team captain—dislocated her thumb in the first game, but adrenaline allowed her to continue to play, ensuring that the Auggies could maintain the offensive strategy they had in place all season.

Augsburg didn’t win the tournament, but its second-place finish secured a bid to participate in the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Region 6 Tournament at the University of Nebraska. However, there was one more obstacle to overcome: the team was ineligible to participate because of an issue with its AIAW membership.

Anderson Pfaff was determined to remedy the issue, so she and Soli filed a complaint with the District of Minnesota fourth court. After the Auggies successfully argued their case, United States District Judge Miles Lord allowed Augsburg to participate in the regional tournament, but his ruling was made just one day before the tournament was set to begin. When they got the news, the Auggie crew jumped in vans and drove all night, arriving in Lincoln, Neb., at 3 a.m. only to find that there was no place to stay due to a Nebraska-Oklahoma football game that weekend.

At the regional competition, the underdog Auggies ended up playing 10 matches in only three days and earned a fourth-place finish—the best finish for an Auggie volleyball team until its NCAA tournament appearances in 1982, 2013, and 2014.

TODAY’S PLAYERS
Augsburg College volleyball alumnae from across the past four decades continue to support the talented students who take to the court in Si Melby gymnasium each fall. Alumnae involvement ranges from cheering in the stands to encouraging the young women as they venture out into their careers and callings after college.

Current Head Coach Jane Becker, a two-time MIAC and Region Coach of the Year, sees firsthand the ways that those from the College’s past help uplift its future.

“Being a part of rebuilding the Auggie volleyball program has truly been a remarkable experience,” Becker said. “I am so blessed to work with such a talented group of student-athletes and to be so supported by an amazing group of Auggie alumnae.”

BY KELLY ANDERSON DIERCKS
This spring, the 27th annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum embraced a new, interactive approach in fulfilling its charge to inspire peacemaking.

Even before opening its doors to audiences from March 6-8 at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Minneapolis, the Nobel Peace Prize Forum encouraged Augsburg College community members—and citizens across the globe—to share the ways they promote peace in their daily lives.

In 1989, the Nobel Peace Prize Forum was founded by five Norwegian-American colleges under the auspices of the Norwegian Nobel Institute to inspire peacemaking by exploring the work of Nobel Laureates and international peace builders. According to Gina Torry, executive director of the Nobel Peace Prize Forum, the event also has the power to change the dialogue around peace by uplifting the important roles all people play in fostering a more just, amiable, and nonviolent world.

Using a common theme, #peaceitforward, individuals spanning generations and continents shared in social media how their actions positively shape the present and the future.

The “#peaceitforward campaign was not just about the prevention of conflict but the promulgation of good,” Torry said. The campaign uplifted “the idea that you can be an ordinary person and still do something extraordinary, which is a powerful message that the Laureates send.”

This year’s Forum concentrated on the work of 2013 Nobel Laureate The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and also featured former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, the 2002 Nobel Laureate who presented, “A Call to Action: Women, Religion, Violence, and Power.”

The Forum welcomed more than 1,000 attendees, known as delegates, during its three days and invited these individuals to join in the important work of peacemaking—a task that aligns with Augsburg’s own identity and role in educating students to be informed citizens, thoughtful stewards, critical thinkers, and responsible leaders.
INSPIRING PEACE

1. Former Prime Minister of Norway Gro Harlem Brundtland [at left] stops to chat with Nobel Peace Prize Forum delegates after her speech on human rights and democracy.

2. Director-General Ahmet Üzümcü [at right], a representative of the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, speaks with Minnesota Public Radio host Tom Crann about demilitarization and the destruction of chemical weapons.

3. An ensemble of Native American women sings on International Women’s Day to honor and raise awareness of those Native American women who are victims of violence.


Rev. Mark Hanson ’68, Imam Muhammad Ashafa, and Pastor James Movel Wuye [L to R] share a laugh during their panel discussion at the Forum. Ashafa and Wuye are featured in a 2006 film, “The Imam and the Pastor,” which is a story about forgiveness and grass roots peace initiatives.

Augsburg College President Paul C. Pribbenow [at right] participates in the dearworld.me portrait project by having words of peace written on his arms. Robert X. Fogarty, founder of dearworld.me, brought his internationally renowned project to the Forum to help participants share their messages of hope and peace.
Dear alumni and friends,

I was connected to Augsburg as a student working in the admissions office, as a resident assistant, and even after college. But there’s something that comes with age, time, and distance that really makes me appreciate the Augsburg that I continue to be involved with today. When I began to connect with fellow Auggies and eventually the Alumni Board, my connections to the College were enriched, and they continue to grow.

Augsburg has grown, too. It’s exciting to see the ways in which the College has become larger—not only with new buildings and faculty, but through an energetic and engaged commitment to the city and the community—in both programs and leadership. Augsburg is thriving, and this growth makes me so proud to call myself an Auggie.

In honor of Augsburg’s sesquicentennial in 2019, the College is embracing a vision for its future that is both bold and rooted in values that are uniquely Augsburg.

Focusing on where the College wants to be in 2019, the Augsburg Board of Regents and President Paul C. Pribbenow engaged the College community in creating a strategic vision statement that includes three aspirational dimensions: the College will educate for lives of purpose, be at the table with our neighbors and partners, and be built for the future.

I believe my education at Augsburg prepared me for the future. When I see what’s happening at Augsburg today—and what’s planned—I know the College’s future is bright. Augsburg today is a place that calls many to the table to participate in the life of the College.

The time I first heard about the Center for Science, Business, and Religion, I may have wondered how all these disciplines would work together in the same space. I have come to know that this building represents the future, and its interdisciplinary emphasis is deeply Augsburg. It is a demonstration of the College’s vision to work with its community, to embrace the world, and to prepare its students for the future.

Today’s students know Augsburg as a place where faith, service, and learning intersect. It is a College we can be proud of, and I know I want to help build an Augsburg that continues to generate pride and equip graduates for the world in which we live. The outstanding scholarship and research being done by our faculty and students deserve to take place in a facility whose quality and capability match their exceptional work. I want to be a part of preparing for that future.

The interdisciplinary emphasis of the CSBR will match the world that today’s graduates enter and will truly demonstrate Augsburg is a sustainable and vital force for educating future generations. As you’ll see on the inside of the back cover of this magazine, we can all be part of building that future for Augsburg by buying a brick that will be a part of this important new building. Won’t you join me in helping Augsburg build for the future?

Sincerely,

CHRIS HALLIN ‘88, ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT

augsburg.edu/homecoming
IN FEBRUARY, Augsburg wrestling alumni celebrated the championship teams from 1975, 1985, 1995, and 2005 in the College’s Kennedy Center with a Reunion of the 5s. Teams from these class years exhibited exemplary accomplishments both on and off the mat, and their successes represent four of Augsburg wrestling’s record 32 MIAC Championship teams and two of the College’s record 11 NCAA DIII National Championship teams.

Former teammates and wrestling alumni from all classes gathered to hear coaches and managers Jim Moulsoff and Tony Valek ’12, and Athletic Director Jeff Swenson ’79 share memories and laughs about the incredible talents from these four wrestling classes. The crowd of wrestling legends, families, friends, and current Auggies cheered at the Battle of the ’Burgs competition as Augsburg took on longstanding rival, Wartburg College, on the elevated stage. Despite a packed house of enthusiastic supporters, Wartburg took the victory.

The two teams battled for the newly created Swens-Millboy Championship Belt. The belt is named in honor of Augsburg’s Jeff Swenson (nickname: Swens) and Wartburg’s Jim Miller (nickname: Millboy), the head coaches who led these teams to power. Both men won 10 national team championships as head coaches and now, retired from coaching, are active in supporting their winning wrestling programs.

The belt will travel with the previous year’s winner to the duel each year and will be engraved with the score and the winning team. Scores from previous years were engraved to mark the historic nature of this rivalry.

As Auggies, we are proud to celebrate the history, legacy, stories, and success of four generations of Augsburg College wrestling. Future Auggies can become a part of the action with our 29th year of summer wrestling camps. Augsburg wrestling coaching staff and athletes supervise these camps, which serve a variety of ages. Learn more at augsburgwrestling.com.

Mike Fuenflinger ’15 opened this year’s Battle of the ’Burgs match.
Augsburg alumni shaped and inspired by Professor Emeritus Joel Torstenson, known as the College’s “father of sociology,” have contributed more than $180,000 to the Center for Science, Business, and Religion to honor the legacy of the man who greatly influenced their Auggie experience.

Torstenson, who died in 2007 at age 94, was well known for his advocacy for civil rights and social services. His decades-long legacy is being extended and honored through generous gifts to name a hall for him in the new CSBR.

One alumnus central to the effort to honor Torstenson is the Rev. Herb Chilstrom ’54, the ELCA’s first presiding bishop. Chilstrom, who grew up in Litchfield, Minn., said being a student in Torstenson’s class opened his eyes to justice issues and pulled him from his comfort zone.

Then, as today, the College’s location in the city was an asset to its faculty and students. Torstenson’s impassioned teaching and perspective on civil rights inspired Chilstrom years later to fight for the rights of gay and lesbian people.

“Dr. Torstenson impacted me not only during my student years but throughout the rest of my life,” Chilstrom said. “He taught that if you are a Christian, you need to face the problems of the world and be out on the front lines, even if it makes you unpopular.”

Torstenson challenged students to confront the world’s problems by engaging directly with individuals. It seems only fitting, then, that Augsburg’s proposed CSBR pay tribute to Torstenson’s influence on generations of people, including the Chilstroms and another family with deep roots in the College: U.S. Rep. Martin Olav ’59 and Sylvia Sabo.

“Clearly, people like Joel have an impact on what you think and who you are,” said Rep. Sabo, who spent 46 years serving his state and country as an elected official.

Rep. Sabo’s Augsburg connection never waned. He served on the Board of Regents from 1973 to 1984, and daughters—Julie ’90, a former state senator, and Karin ’86—are also Auggies.

The Sabos share enthusiasm that the CSBR will be a great addition to campus.

“The facilities need to keep up with the quality of the faculty,” Rep. Sabo said. Combining three disciplines in one facility, the Sabos believe, is a unique and positive step for the College, which has long embraced interdisciplinary and experiential education.

The Sabos also marvel at the lifelong friendships that evolved from Martin’s undergraduate experience, and the couple remains close to Torstenson’s widow, Fran.

“I’m always amazed at Augsburg,” Sylvia Sabo said. “I think so much good comes out of it, and Martin had such a great four years there. I think its size and location give it a specialness that a lot of colleges don’t have.”

Herb and Corinne Chilstrom pledged $30,000 to kick off the Torstenson corridor initiative.

“Giving is a lot of fun,” Rev. Chilstrom said. “We have been blessed, and we like to share our blessings. Giving to the CSBR means I can say ‘thank you’ to Dr. Torstenson for the major impact he had on my life, and maybe, by example, we can encourage others to do likewise.”

If you are interested in donating to the CSBR or honoring Torstenson with a gift, contact Doug Scott at 612-330-1575 or scottd@augsburg.edu.
Building connections, facilitating networking opportunities, and supporting students and graduates keeps the Alumni Board and Alumni Relations engaged with inspiring Auggies year-round.

Thanks to those who attended the annual Alumni Board-sponsored Auggie Networking Event, a reception that welcomed nearly 150 alumni and more than 100 current students for an evening of networking, conversation, career pointers, and speakers who shared their stories of finding success after graduation. Among the speakers were Tina Nguyen ’08, small business project analyst for U.S. Bank, and Greg Schnagl ’91, former educator and founder, TeacherCentricity.

The event was a partnership with the Clair and Gladys Strommen Center for Meaningful Work, which assists students in discovering their vocation; offers career and internship tips; and helps students with interviewing skills, resume building, and networking.

The Strommen Center also seeks to help companies recruit more Auggies. One company with a strong connection to Augsburg alumni is 3M. In January, Augsburg College President Paul C. Pribbenow joined more than 100 Augsburg graduates now working at 3M for an alumni event coordinated by Alumni Board member Holly Knutson ’03, ’07 MBA.

In addition to celebrating the amazing presence of Auggies in the Maplewood, Minn.-based company, the event honored Nicholas Gangestad ’86, who last summer was appointed senior vice president and chief financial officer at 3M.

3M also is a major donor to the Center for Science, Business, and Religion and a strong recruiting partner, hosting internships for Augsburg students and hiring Augsburg graduates.

If you are interested in hosting an alumni gathering at your workplace, contact Sara Schlipp-Riedel ’06, director of Alumni Relations, at 612-330-1178 or schlipp@augsburg.edu.

More than 200 Augsburg College students and alumni attended the 2015 Auggie Networking Event.

Katie Radford ’12 joined the Augsburg Alumni and Family Relations team in January as the new volunteer and alumni engagement manager. In this role, she hopes to continue to provide meaningful opportunities for students, alumni, and friends to connect, give back, and thrive together as Auggies.

Radford previously worked at Greater Twin Cities United Way, helping plan and execute corporate United Way campaigns dedicated to community outreach, volunteerism, and community giving. She is excited to be back at Augsburg to continue those initiatives in the College’s community. If you are interested in volunteering, mentoring, or serving in a volunteer leadership role, email her at radford@augsburg.edu.

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE

All over campus and in corporate communities, Auggies are connecting and sharing their insight and expertise. There are many ways to support current students and recent graduates as they move between classroom and career. No matter your position—whether you’re navigating a career change or looking to bring more Auggies into your workplace—Augsburg programs can help.

As alumni, you are invited to share your career expertise, interests, and life experience with Augsburg students. One way to do this is through the mentorship program Augsburg Builds Connections. Learn how to get started in this program by contacting Katie Radford, volunteer and alumni engagement manager, at volunteer@augsburg.edu.

To learn more about helping Auggies succeed or to take advantage of career planning services and graduate school information, contact the Clair and Gladys Strommen Center for Meaningful Work at 612-330-1148 or careers@augsburg.edu.
1951 John Garland lives in St. Paul and has fond memories of his time as sports editor for the Echo, including the rare time he covered a meeting of the Augsburg Women’s Club. He recently shared a couple of his columns with Augsburg Now. In his final column, he wrote, “I have a wonderful dry sense of humor. God bless you, Boyd.”

1953 Edmund Youngquist first remembers being drawn to Augsburg in 1945. Augsburg’s choir put on a concert at Calvary Lutheran Church in Mora, Minn., and soloist Evelyn (Amundson) Sonnack Halverson ’43 became a never-to-be-forgotten memory. “At Augsburg,” he writes, “I roomed in Memorial Hall with Jerry Elness ’54 and Wally Hanson ’54. An occasional visit to our suite was from blond, blue-eyed Herb Chilstrom ’54.” After graduation, Youngquist graduated from Luther Seminary in St. Paul and was ordained in 1958. His daughter, Margaret “Grit” Youngquist ’79, went on to become a president of the American Lutheran Church League. His cousin, Beverly American Lutheran Church Luther Youngquist ’79 in St. Paul and was ordained in 2000 as a senior principal research engineer. He was inducted into the Minnesota Inventors Hall of Fame in 2011 and was named a Distinguished Alumnus at Augsburg in 2009.

1956 Richard Thorud, who lives in Bloomington, Minn., with his wife, Darlene, was recently named Toro’s most prolific inventor for its first 100 years. He has 80 Toro patents and worked for Toro for 34 years before retiring in 2000 as a senior principal research engineer. He was inducted into the Minnesota Inventors Hall of Fame in 2011 and was named a Distinguished Alumnus at Augsburg in 2009.

1957 Stanley Baker was recognized as the Counselor Educator of the Year by the North Carolina School Counselor Association at its annual conference in November. He is employed as a professor of counselor education at North Carolina State University.

1961 Stan Nelson ’43 won a gold medal at the Minnesota Senior Olympics, shooting a 47 in the golf competition. In July 2015, he will compete in the 95-99 age group at the National Senior State Games held in Bloomington, Minn.

1967 Dennis Miller and his wife, Christine, spent the fall semester on sabbatical at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden. They are faculty members at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

1972 Rob Engelson is completing 34 years of full-time college/university teaching and department chairing, including the past 20 years at Ashford University in Clinton, Iowa. He recently rose to become chair of the Ashford University Faculty Senate, the governing body for 250 full-time instructors and more than 2,000 adjunct faculty.

1974 Kenneth D. Holmen was named president and CEO for CentraCare Health. Holmen, who is a medical doctor and has served as vice president of physician strategies and business development for HealthPartners, took leadership of CentraCare in January.

In the summer of 2014, Stan Nelson ’43 won a gold medal at the Minnesota Senior Olympics, shooting a 47 in the golf competition. In July 2015, he will compete in the 95-99 age group at the National Senior State Games held in Bloomington, Minn.

Mark S. Johnson ’75 and Allan Torstenson ’75 shape cities and build communities. See page 16.

1977 David Charles Friedman has fond memories of his stays in Urness and Mortensen towers and the delightful people he met during that time. He writes that he fondly remembers “the samurai movies that anthropology instructor and fellow karate-ka Jerry Gerasimo used to take us karate guys to at the Cedar Theatre on the weekends. It was lots of fun marching around inside and outside the Student Center, playing my bagpipes during Augsburg College Day. I just want to say,” he added, “that Boyd Koehler was the very best boss a guy could ever have. He was an uncle, big brother, therapist, and encourager to me, and (he) had a wonderful dry sense of humor.”

Neil Pauluk was a U.S. Infantry Army officer and later used the GI Bill to become a trial lawyer. He legally changed the spelling of his last name in 1978 to Paulson, for the convenience of others, and still goes by either last name. He set up a scholarship in his parents’ name at Augsburg and started a nonprofit organization, HelpTheVets.org. He writes that his Augsburg education paid off.

1967 Sue Nelson was given the title of Community Hero for her 10+ years of service to the John Deere Classic. She has worked tirelessly to support other organizations, including the National Education Association, Missouri Valley – U.S. Tennis Association, and Special Olympics. She also has gone to Yale University and the University of North Carolina as Team Iowa tennis coach for the World Games.

1970 The newly released book, “Waters Like the Sky,” is a short adventure tale of a young voyageur and is authored by the late Agnes Peloquin Rajala and her daughter, Nikki Rajala (pictured), who are direct descendants of voyageurs, explorers, and fur traders. After Agnes passed away in October 2013, Nikki carried the legacy of the book forward, determined to share this historical adventure with readers. The story is steeped in the history of the French-Canadian voyageur journeys in the early 1800s in North America. To learn more about the book, visit nikkirajala.com. Nikki is available for interviews and presentations at schools, meetings, and other events.

AUGGIE SNAPSHOTs
**ALUMNI CLASS NOTES**

Pauluk runs into Ron Robinson, also in Orlando, Fla., from time to time. “God has blessed me more than I can imagine. Good friends, good family, and good times. I run marathons in each of the 50 states in 2010 to 2012. I am director of the Orlando Marathon each year. Look me up if you come to Orlando, The City Beautiful!”


**1979** Karla (Wiese) Miller was honored with the 2014 Minnesota Choral Director of the Year award. She is in her 21st year as full-time music instructor/director of choral activities at North Hennepin Community College in Brooklyn Park, Minn. At Augsburg, she received a bachelor’s degree in piano performance with a vocal music (K-12) certification.

**1980** John Edwin Carlson is a lead chaplain at Redeemer Health and Rehabilitation Center in Minneapolis, which provides senior housing and health care in the spirit of Christ’s love.

**1981** Carla (Isachsen) Kukkonen is working at Allina hospice as a medical social worker.

**1989** Steven Torgerud is an assistant professor of life sciences at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa, where he teaches neuroanatomy and biomechanics courses. His students have selected him “Teacher of the Year” three of the past four years.

**1990** Peter Morlock began serving a new call as pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church and Lost Island Lutheran Church in western Iowa in February 2014.

**1991** In September, Bill Koschak was appointed a vice president of the global internal audit division at General Mills. In this role, he will provide leadership and guidance to the global internal audit team and support the audit committee in executing its charter.

**1993** Heidi Staloch is now vice president and senior corporate counsel, managing U.S. Bank’s legal channel for default accounts nationwide. Heidi is an active alumni volunteer, serving as a member of AWE–Augsburg Women Engaged.

**1996** Justin Grammens presented “The Science of My Life and Career After Augsburg” in an AugSTEM seminar. He provided insight into current technology trends and advice on what employers are seeking from graduates in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields. Grammens is a software architect and has been a business owner for the majority of his career. He is an engineering co-founder at Code42 Software where he is protecting the world’s data with high-performance hardware and easy-to-use software solutions. He enjoys family movie nights with his wife and two children.

**1981** Bev Benson was elected to the judiciary for the 4th Judicial District of Hennepin County, Minn., in November. Augsburg alumni supporting her campaign included former roommates Leeann Rock ‘81, Brian Anderson ‘81, Kristine Johnson ‘81, Kristin Lehmann ’08, Peggy Larkin ’09, and Benson’s son, first-year student Robb Benson-Ernst ’18 (pictured), as well as Gaynelle (Webb) Buckland ’81, Fred Buckland ’81, Molly (Olson) Blomgren ’81, and Jim Blomgren ’81. Benson thanks her Auggie supporters, including Martin O. ’59 and Sylvia Sabo and professors Milda Hedblom, Norma Noonan, and Janelle Bussert.

**2010** John Ideen has been named executive chef at Covenant Village of Golden Valley, a continuing care retirement community in Golden Valley, Minn. In his new position, Ideen will manage day-to-day food operations for the 344-resident community, including casual and formal dining in the residential and assisted living, memory support, and health care settings. He is responsible for managing and training a kitchen staff of 65; creating innovative, healthful menus; and managing the community’s catering services.
1992  Terri Burnor is interning at the Minnesota Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice.

Conie Borchardt ’98 transforms lives with song. See page 20.

1992  Terri Burnor is interning at the Minnesota Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice.

2000  In May 2014, Ann Staton received a master’s of English in technical communication from Minnesota State University Mankato. She accepted a one-year visiting instructor appointment to teach technical communication during the 2014-15 academic year at Montana Tech of the University of Montana in Butte.

Debbie Heard, a tax managing director for KPMG’s San Francisco office, was honored with Silicon Valley’s 40 Under 40 award.

2001  Sarah Grans is a new director of confirmation and youth ministry at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Shoreview, Minn.

Michael Reed has taken a new position with Robbinsdale (Minn.) Area Schools as a district behavior coordinator and focuses on reducing racial disproportionality in suspension rates.

Nicole Warner ’01 gets lost in the music. See page 20.

2002  Christy Blake completed a master’s of urban planning from Virginia Tech’s Alexandria campus in 2007. She has been working in local government and economic development. She resides in Winchester, Va., in the Shenandoah Valley.

2005  Charles “Rusty” Brace graduated from Luther Seminary in May 2014. He is looking for a call somewhere in the Twin Cities area.

From the NOW@Augsburg blog. Visit augsburg.edu/alumni/blog to read more.

2005  Charles “Rusty” Brace graduated from Luther Seminary in May 2014. He is looking for a call somewhere in the Twin Cities area.

2007  Brett Cease began a doctoral program in public policy and political economy with an emphasis in sustainable development at the University of Texas-Dallas.

Andrew L. Johnson is a manager of franchise recruiting and engagement at Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., in Cleveland.

Molly Shortall recently became engaged to Brian Kaszuba of Brooklyn, N.Y. She is a senior annual giving officer at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and also serves as one of the primary musicians for the Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens.

2009  Amber Davis is working as a moderator at the Zürich International Film Festival.

Stephanie (Holman) Hubbard works as a music therapist for St. Paul Public Schools. She is attending St. Mary of the Woods College for a master’s in music therapy.

2010  Sylvia Bull is studying at Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, N.J., for Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Christian education degrees. Her anticipated graduation date is May 2015. She is a candidate for ordination in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Gabriella Hamerlink is a doctoral candidate in ecology at the University of Iowa. She is an alumna of Augsburg’s biology and mathematics departments, as well as the McNair Scholars and North Star STEM programs. In addition to Hamerlink’s academic successes at Augsburg, she was a two-sport athlete who participated in soccer and track.

2006  Tyra (Jensen) Taylor is completing her graduate-level internship. She is working with elementary students needing mental health services. She plans to graduate in May 2015.

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Sara Kaiser ’08, a social worker for Rice County, Minn., has seen first-hand the need for daily support for single moms. In addition to helping families, she convinced the mayor of Northfield, Minn., to designate a month for “Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness,” and she has worked in collaboration to create a young moms’ support group. She interned at the Northfield Women’s Center and worked at the Crisis Pregnancy Center. She has found her life’s calling and is pursuing a master’s of social work from the University of Southern California.

From the NOW@Augsburg blog. Visit augsburg.edu/alumni/blog to read more.

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Michael Hamm has accepted a position with the Dakota County Sheriff’s Office in Minnesota. He has been an officer with the Department of Public Safety at Augsburg for the past several years, and he will move to on-call status with DPS.

Grant Rostad is employed with Best Buy for Business as an account manager. He also is a licensed certified public accountant.

Katia Iverson celebrated two years at Minnesota Council of Churches Refugee Services in February 2015. She recently was promoted to a case manager position.

Kim (Saukkola) Simmonds is an executive director at the MonDak Heritage Center in Sidney, Mont., and is completing a master’s degree in public and nonprofit administration at Metropolitan State University.

2013 Since graduating, Alex Bennett has gotten married and had a beautiful baby, Layla. He graduated with a degree in music business and has accepted a position at Mystic Lake Casino in the entertainment department.

Kayla Johnson is in medical school at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

Rachel Rixen graduated from the American University of Paris with a master’s in cultural translation.

2014 Janelle Holte has a new job as a marketing and communications coordinator at the University of Minnesota.

After a summer internship with Dart Transit, which is owned and operated by Don ’53 and Bev ’55 Oren, Mike Schumacher landed a position as a fleet leader with Transit America.

Anne Skriba is happy to share the news that she is employed at Bemidji State University as an assistant women’s basketball coach.

Lani (Langanki) Hollenbeck ’77, ’11 MAN is a staff nurse in an infant care center at Children’s Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota in St. Paul. She was named 2014 Nurse of the Year by March of Dimes Minnesota, Children’s Hospitals and Clinics, and Minneapolis-St. Paul Magazine. “We do not get to rock babies all day long,” she said of her care team. “We’re very like-minded in focusing on the developmental needs of infants.”

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GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Rebecca (Johnson) Koelling ’76, ’91 MAL has been named director of leadership development and senior consultant for Learning Sciences International. LSI is a learning and performance management company focused on continuous improvement at all levels of the system.

Tom Driscoll ’07 MBA was featured in the Minneapolis Star Tribune as one of the construction industry’s “Movers and Shakers” due to his work as partner and vice president of business development at the Minneapolis office of Big-D Construction.

Chris Wolf ’09 MAN recently became a nurse manager for Ask Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

Physician Assistant Kelly Kleven ’10 MPA joined the hospitalist department at Essentia Health-St. Mary’s Medical Center in Duluth, Minn. Kleven is certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants.

Lori (Langager) Higgins ’94, ’12 MAL was appointed to the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission by Gov. Mark Dayton. Since 2010, she has been the president of the MetroNorth Chamber of Commerce, which is the fourth-largest chamber in the Twin Cities metro area. She lives in Blaine, Minn., with her husband and two children.

In September, Carmen (Crockett) Williams ’12 MBA accepted a position as director of business development at Mediaspace Solutions in Hopkins, Minn. Carmen and her husband, John (who works in mortgages and finance), recently purchased a home in Burnsville, Minn.

Christine Dawson ’13 MSW was featured on the cover of the Regions Hospital Foundation newsletter for her outstanding work with the HeroCare Program for veterans at Regions Hospital. Dawson, who is herself a veteran, coordinates services and advocates for patients in Regions Hospital’s mental health programs.
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! (Digital photos must be at least 300 ppi or a 1 MB file.)

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 email alumni@augsburg.edu. You can also submit news at augsburg.edu/alumni/connect.

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Kaydee Kirk and Peter Spuit welcomed Paul Johann Spuit, who was born May 27, 2014, and joins 3-year-old sister, Miriam.

Ellen (Kvitek) Saj and her husband, Nathan, welcomed their second child, Hazel Christine, at home on April 26, 2014.

Korri (Yule) Corrigan married Joshua Corrigan on December 13 in Hoversten Chapel at Augsburg College.

Jessica (Hilk) Kociemba and Joel Kociemba celebrated their marriage with Auggies Amy Opsal ’12, Katie (Christensen) Beadell ’11, Laura (Harms) Faruq ’09, Katelyn Berens ’14, Amanda Rueb ’09, Janila Lee ’13, Korri (Yule) Corrigan ’11, Colleen Ourada ’14, Julie Jenkins ’09, Denielle Johnson ’11, Amanda Unze, and Morgan Baumgarten ’14.

Are you an Auggie in public service?

Whether you are serving as an elected, appointed, or volunteer official, we would love to hear from you! Submit a Class Note, and we’ll enter you into a raffle to win an Augsburg College swag bag to display your Auggie pride at work.

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Full name

Maiden name

Class year or last year attended

Street address

City, State, ZIP code

Is this a new address? □ Yes □ No

Home telephone

Email

Okay to publish your email address? □ Yes □ No

Employer

Position

Work telephone

Is spouse also a graduate of Augsburg College? □ Yes □ No

If yes, class year

Spouse’s name (include maiden name, if applicable)

Your news:
In memoriam

Nellie I. (Thorud) Blake ’38, Barron, Wis., age 98, on October 16.

Albert S. Olson ’40, Amery, Wis., age 97, on November 7.


Mildred I. (Krinke) Sandel ’42, North Mankato, Minn., age 94, on September 9.

John R. Bergeron ’43, Detroit Lakes, Minn., age 93, on October 12.

Floyd J. G. Rodmyre ’43, Eden Prairie, Minn., age 92, on September 17.

Verona A. (Woyke) Blasing ’44, Mankato, Minn., age 89, on October 7.

Dayel M. Olson ’44, Storden, Minn., age 92, on October 7.

Peter A. Lokkesmoe ’47, Elgin, Ill., age 90, on March 20.

Christine M. (Westman) Behrend ’48, Manistique, Mich., age 88, on October 29.

Rona B. (Quanbeck) Emerson ’48, Kenyon, Minn., age 90, on November 1.

Anna M. (Strand) Olson ’49, Amery, Wis., age 88, on September 10.

Edward M. Alberg ’50, Minnetonka, Minn., age 87, on September 22.

Delphine J. (Jensen) Bakke ’50, Hendricks, Minn., age 85, on November 30.

LaVerne “Lu” A. (Gothe) Engelstad ’50, Moorhead, Minn., age 86, on October 16.

Sylvia R. (Kleven) Hanson ’50, Big Lake, Minn., age 86, on November 7.

Ann B. ( Spencer) Zaudtke ’50, Meadows Place, Texas, age 86, on October 5.

Luella ( Neumann) Hanson ’51, Phoenix, Ariz., age 90, on August 15.

Robert M. Sletta ’51, Dayton, N.J., age 86, on September 27.

Warren C. Nelson ’52, Buffalo, Minn., age 86, on July 7.

Elwood Nestvold ’52, Houston, Texas, age 81, on January 11, 2014.

Orville B. Walters ’52, Minnetonka, Minn., age 89, on November 29.

Marlys P. (Stock) Giese ’53, Morris, Minn., age 83, on September 15.

Wayne G. Steinbrecker ’55, Princeton, Minn., age 82, on November 2.

Mark C. Thorpe ’56, Kirkwood, Mo., age 80, on October 30.

Birgit E. Birkeland ’58, Minneapolis, age 87, on October 23.

Sylvia A. (Moe) Overlund ’59, Portland, Ore., age 90, on October 26.

Louise A. (Heydenreich) Swenson ’60, Princeton, Minn., age 89, on October 7.

Gail W. Castor ’61, Redwood Falls, Minn., age 83, on September 16.

George O. Johnson ’61, Pequot Lakes, Minn., age 77, on December 4.

Richard “Dick” “Pork Chops” M. Thompson ’61, Long Lake, Minn., age 74, on September 11.

Richard L. Strand ’66, Mayville, N.D., age 70, on December 1.

Dale L. Strom ’66, Venice, Fla., age 71, on October 24.

Paul W. Frank ’69, Brooklyn Park, Minn., age 66, on September 18.

Jeffrey T. Kosse ’70, Minneapolis, age 67, on September 16.

Arnold “Bud” M. Rader ’71, Minneapolis, age 69, on December 23.

Elizabeth V. Koenig ’72, Minneapolis, age 91, on December 2.

Julia C. Blixrud ’76, Lawrence, Kan., age 59, on October 29.

Dennis C. Callahan ’82, Grand Rapids, Minn., age 55, on December 22.

Wendy J. (Miller) Johnson ’90, Sanford, N.C., age 58, on August 22.

Eric H. Peterson ’91, Minneapolis, age 45, on November 19.

Kathleen M. (McCullough) Zander ’91, ’04 MAN, Minneapolis, age 54, on October 2.

Sarah (Christiansen) Schuck ’95, Hager City, Wis., age 64, on November 29.

Sandra “Sandy” S. (Hawley) Hamann ’00, Fredericksburg, Iowa, age 58, on October 23.

Nancy J. Mohs ’08, Lakeville, Minn., age 46, on October 30.

Professor Emeritus Henry Follingstad, Arden Hills, Minn., age 92, on October 1.

The “In memoriam” listings in this publication include notifications received before January 10.
Augsburg College invites you to join your fellow alumni and participate in the Buy a Brick, Build a Legacy program. When you buy a brick, you are doing your part to help make Augsburg’s newest academic building, the Center for Science, Business, and Religion, a reality.

The CSBR will replace the existing 60-year-old Science Hall and bring together academic disciplines that reflect our commitment to interdisciplinary education and academic excellence.

WITH YOUR DONATION:

- Augsburg will inscribe a brick with your name or the name of someone you’d like to honor.
- Each brick will be incorporated into the building of the CSBR, creating a lasting legacy for the future of Augsburg.
- You will receive official recognition of your participation.

START BUILDING TODAY  ➤  augsburg.edu/csbr

For more information, call 612-330-1085.
Bill Nye wows audience at Augsburg College

Bill Nye “The Science Guy” captivated 1,800 guests at a sold-out, on-campus presentation during Augsburg’s Scholarship Weekend, a time when high school seniors visit the College to vie for highly competitive scholarships. During his address, “How Science Can Save the World,” Nye spoke about planetary science, climate change, environmental awareness, and more. Nye took a “selfie” with the delighted crowd, which included 650 high school students from 12 states.