

# Augsburg Now

A PUBLICATION FOR

AUGSBURG COLLEGE ALUMNI & FRIENDS

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# Notes

from President Pribbenow on...

## Being a college in the city

**B**ut seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare will you find your welfare. (Jeremiah 29:7, RSV)

One particular afternoon last fall, I was shepherded through the nearby Cedar-Riverside neighborhood by our legendary community ambassador Mary Laurel True. She introduced me to good people whose lives and work intersect with the College. We sat in one of the four mosques in the neighborhood and spoke with the elders about peace and the God of Abraham, about our lives here together, about our children, and about the world and how frightening it can be to live with strangers. In other words, we spoke as fellow humans living together in the city.

I love the city (despite my rural upbringing) and my recent experiences in our neighborhood lead me to revisit some of the historical themes that fascinate me about city life.

My first thoughts go to the role that neighborhoods play in a strong urban life. Though we are a city, we live our lives in neighborhoods. It is in the neighborhood where I come face to face with the challenges and joys of negotiating my life with others. I think of Jane Addams, who made the west side Chicago neighborhood near Hull-House the sphere of action for her efforts in the late 19th and early 20th centuries to build a stronger democracy. There are many of us who still believe her settlement house idea has relevance for the 21st century. It is not a philosophical exercise—it is the daily living with, abiding with, meeting the needs and sharing the aspirations of neighbors that defined the work of Miss Addams and her colleagues, and that needs to define our lives in cities as well.

A second theme about cities is the ways in which they reflect our abiding pursuit of civilization. Sir Peter Hall in *Cities in Civilization* suggests that great cities have been at the center of artistic growth, technological progress, the marriage of culture and technology, and solutions to evolving social problems. Cities are places “for people who can stand the

heat of the kitchen: places where the adrenaline pumps through the bodies of the people and through the streets on which they walk; messy places, sordid places sometimes, but places nevertheless superbly worth living in, long to be remembered and long to be celebrated.”

Finally, I think of the late Jane Jacobs, the legendary urban theorist, whose *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* was a clarion call to arms for all those who loved the diversity and energy of cities that was being ravaged by trends in architecture and city planning. One of Jacobs’ main points was that the well-being of cities is defined primarily by common, ordinary things, like sidewalks, parks, defined neighborhoods, and a diversity of architecture styles and buildings of different ages. These common, ordinary things, when thought about with the needs and aspirations of citizens in mind, will create healthy, sustainable, and vital urban centers. It is not about spending a huge amount of money, but rather about a reflective practice of city life—the genuine work of urban planning.

During my short time here at Augsburg, I have been challenged to think again about the role of colleges and universities in an urban setting. I am committed to the mutual dependency of colleges and the city. The paradigm for the relationships between cities and higher education must be less about extracting benefits from each other, less dependent on incidental impact, and more focused on the various resources that can be shared in the pursuit of a more robust, healthy, and meaningful urban life. I look forward to our efforts at Augsburg to give substance to this new (but not really so new!) paradigm of urban citizenship.

Yours,

Paul C. Pribbenow, president

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**On the Cover:** Congressman Martin Olav Sabo, Class of 1959, retires from a lifelong career serving his constituents in Minneapolis and earning high respect from colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

*All photos by Stephen Geffre unless otherwise indicated.*



## NOTEWORTHY



A team of Augsburg and University of St. Thomas students received honorable mention at the National Model United Nations Conference in New York in March.

### Model UN team wins award

A team of Augsburg and University of St. Thomas students received honorable mention at the National Model United Nations Conference in New York in March—Augsburg's first award in nine years of competition.

More than 4,000 students from the U.S. and 31 countries participated, with opening and closing ceremonies held in the UN General Assembly Great Hall.

The student team represented the interests of India in the conference and met with the Indian Mission to the UN during the week in New York.

### Matt Broughton named a Fulbright Scholar



Matt Broughton '06, who graduated summa cum laude with dual degrees in English and

physics, has been named a Fulbright Scholar to Germany during 2007-08. He will spend the year at the Technical University of Braunschweig, working in space physics research.

It was during an internship with the National Academies' Space Studies Board that Broughton began to see how research he had been doing fits into the larger context of national and international physics research, studying the relationship between the sun and earth.

At the Technical University, he will study ultra-low frequency (ULF) waves in the magnetosphere, using data gathered from four satellites in the Cluster mission. He will be able to analyze the data with use of a wave telescope, a multi-spacecraft analysis tool, using techniques that scientists there developed. He already has a working relationship with the scientists and has received some training on the wave telescope.

This summer Broughton will spend 10 weeks in Washington, D.C., in an intensive German language program.

### Brian Krohn awarded a Goldwater Scholarship



Junior Brian Krohn, who is majoring in chemistry with a biology minor, was awarded a Barry M. Goldwater

Scholarship for the 2007-08 academic year. A total of 317 schol-

arships were awarded from the more than 1,000 nominations made by college faculty in the fields of natural sciences, mathematics, and engineering.

Krohn will join a research group this summer at the Graz Technical Institute in Austria, funded by the National Science Foundation.

Two other Augsburg students received honorable mentions—Kent Bodurtha and Reid Larson, both in physics.

### Coach and athletic director Ernie Anderson dies



Ernie Anderson '37

Ernie Anderson '37, who served Augsburg College as its men's basketball coach for 23 seasons and as its athletic director for 34 years, died on March 18 at the age of 90.

Anderson was a part of the Augsburg community for more than 40 years. He attended the Augsburg Academy as a prep student in the early 1930s. He played basketball and baseball at Augsburg, graduating from the College with a history degree in 1937.

Anderson served as men's basketball coach for the Auggies from 1947-70, and as the school's athletic director from 1947-80. He was inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1975.

In 1984, Augsburg named its outdoor athletic field Anderson-Nelson Field, in honor of Anderson and fellow longtime coach Edor Nelson '38. In 2001, the center competition court at Melby Hall was named Ernie Anderson Court in his honor, while the outdoor athletic field was rechristened as Edor Nelson Field.



Men's basketball coach Ernie Anderson is lifted in the air as the team celebrates its conference championship in 1963.



## PA students excel on certifying exam

All 28 of Augsburg physician assistant 2006 graduates passed the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) exam, required for physician assistants to practice in most states.

While the mean score for all new grads nationally was 506, Augsburg's mean score was 581, which put the program in the 91st percentile in comparison to other programs.

## Physics students receive award

Augsburg's chapter of the Society of Physics Students (SPS) was selected as an Outstanding Chapter for 2005-06. This is the fourth time in the last five years the chapter has been recognized among the top 10 percent of chapters nationally.

Recognition is given for the breadth of SPS activities in research, public science outreach, physics tutoring programs, and interaction among its members. Brian Wood '08 serves

as chapter president and Professor Mark Engebretson is faculty adviser.

## Best Workplace for Commuters

**BEST**  
Workplaces  
for Commuters<sup>SM</sup>

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Transportation

included Augsburg among the Best Workplaces for Commuters in Minneapolis. It was recognized as an employer offering good benefits to employees for alternatives to driving alone to work every day. Augsburg faculty, staff, and students can buy discounted travel on buses and light rail, can make teleworking arrangements, and use carpools.

Augsburg also hosts an HOURCAR hub in the Cedar-Riverside community, making a hybrid-fuel vehicle available for hourly rent by qualified drivers on campus and in the community.

## Students and money—dollar/sense



Sophomore Cody Warren (left) and financial aid counselor Carly Eichhorst (right) teamed to teach students about financial literacy.

Studies show that more than half of all college students acquire their first credit card during their first year in college. Nearly half of all college students have credit card debt, with the average debt over \$3,000.

Combine that with the fact that most parents feel they are neither prepared to talk to their

kids about personal finances, nor do they feel they are good role models concerning financial planning and decisions. And few high schools offer courses on financial matters.

Last year, Augsburg's Financial Aid Office decided to do something about this and provide resources for students to

become more fiscally literate and learn to make responsible money choices. "Does Your Money Matter?" was offered as a series of formal presentations.

This year, financial aid counselor Carly Eichhorst and sophomore student worker Cody Warren teamed up to revamp the program and ratchet up the level of conversation and participation.

"I knew my peers didn't have the [financial] information," Warren said, as they planned a new program they called "dollar/sense."

Five sessions (three of which were repeated) were offered on weekday evenings:

- **Embark:** Begin the Financial Journey
- **Build:** Establish Credit. Maintain Credit
- **Plan:** Chart Your Course
- **Renew:** Financial Aid Springs Anew
- **Share:** Time. Talent. Gifts

Lots of audience response and visuals in a relaxed atmosphere, plus some food, brought home the message to 20 to 40 students who came to each session of "dollar/sense."

Eichhorst was delighted at the response. "[A student who] attended last night's event on credit scores ... came to me this morning and told me he pulled his credit report right away last night and wanted to talk about a discrepancy," she said. "[Another attendee] was a student who experienced financial problems last year ... and he attended every single session of 'dollar/sense'."

The word reached parents as well. One mother e-mailed, "It is really a shame that you don't get more students attending those sessions since they are truly REAL LIFE and kids so often complain about learning things they think they will never use. Thanks to everyone in the Enrollment Center who put them on."

—Betsey Norgard

## Japanese artists visit Augsburg

For two days in late February, Ayomi Yoshida and Bidou Yamaguchi engaged the Augsburg community with their talents and art.

Yoshida is a printmaker, installation artist, and designer, whose work ranges from a colorful gift wrap line designed for Target to multi-story installation art. She is a fourth generation member of the illustrious Yoshida family of printmakers, which also included Toshi Yoshida, who taught at Augsburg during two summers in the early 1970s.

For an exhibit at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (MIA) in 2002 featuring her family, she created a large installation of wood grain panels. The installation was purchased by Target Corporation and re-installed in their corporate executive suites in downtown Minneapolis.

“Reverberation Ad Infinitum” is made up of four columns and

a wall, each running three stories high, flanking a stairway. Out of each red column, Yoshida carved repeated lines of oval chips with a scoop chisel. The red chips were then glued to the white wall, creating positive and negative polka dots. Over 60,000 chips were carved, with three people working on it for three months.

MIA curator Matthew Welch led a group of Augsburg students to Target Corporation to view Yoshida’s installation—an opportunity for the students to see the artwork in this restricted, non-public area. They appreciated the centuries-old, handcrafted nature of the installation, says Kerry Morgan, Augsburg’s coordinator of galleries, and were captured by “the physical process, the amount of work, and the time and dedication needed for it.”

Morgan recounts that as people walk through the installation, “fascinating things happen to the eye, the grid becomes diagonal and casts shadows.”



Students explore the panels of a multi-story art installation created by Ayomi Yoshida at Target Corporation headquarters.

Bob Ulrich, chairman and CEO of Target Corporation, greeted the group and told them that Target employees prefer walking the stairs through the installation to taking the elevator.

Yoshida also is a designer for Target. Her gift wrap line, with polka-dot-and-lined patterns, has been described as making packages “too pretty to open.”

Yoshida’s husband, Bidou Yamaguchi, is a master carver of masks for Noh drama. He is trained as a graphic designer, but became enchanted with the ancient craft of carving masks and their long history as part of an ancient art form.

Carved and smoothed from a block of cypress wood by knives and chisels with three layers of steel, the masks are lacquer coated many times and then stressed to show age and wear.

Yamaguchi tried his own hand at carving, and sought out a master carver with whom he could apprentice. After five years of study—only half the normal

time—he was awarded the master carver status. He was also given his artist’s name, Bidou, a combination of words meaning the “god of war” and “a stack of wood.”

Yamaguchi has lectured and demonstrated his craft at numerous institutions in Japan and other countries. His masks are part of the permanent collections of Target Corporation (which the students also were able to view on the tour) and the MIA.

Bringing Yoshida and Yamaguchi to campus was a collaborative effort among the art galleries, Art Department, Theatre Arts Department, Art Club, Pan-Asian Student Services, and professor emeritus Eugene Skibbe, a friend of the Yoshida family. The presentations made by the artists were open to the public, and scheduled to involve classes in Asian-American theatre, sculpture, art history, and design.

—Betsey Norgard



Bidou Yamaguchi demonstrates his master skills in carving masks from cypress wood for Japanese Noh drama.



## Augsburg Stewards: Preserving history, keeping traditions alive

The Augsburg Stewards have been involved in nearly every recent Augsburg event, and they are not much more than a year old. The 14-member group has already participated in Homecoming, orientation, an event honoring the Augsburg Associates, the annual Scholarship Brunch, and other events with alumni.

Augsburg students can't help but notice the Stewards, but many wonder, "Who are they?"

If you refer to the group's official statement, the Augsburg Stewards' mission is "to engage students in the mission of Augsburg College in order to cultivate pride in place and purpose."

Lead Steward Solveig Mebust says, "We combine three important aspects of the College: we look at the history, the present traditions, and the future of the College and then try to make it all something to which students can relate. We basically provide the link between the students and the alumni."

"We make connections with people whom you might not otherwise have met, and these are powerful people," she says. "They make the difference between having an Oren Gateway Center or not, having a scholarship to go to college or not."

The Stewards don't just make connections with alumni, but also focus on students. In an interview in spring 2006, Augsburg Stewards' founder, Paul Cumings '06, said, "Students are trying to find ways to connect with Augsburg, to



The Augsburg Stewards seek ways to engage students in the history and traditions of the College and create links with alumni. (L to R) Rikki Starich '07, Marie Sager '09, lead Steward Solveig Mebust '08, Sarah Valasek '09, Cody Warren '09.

create meaning behind the school."

"That's exactly what we try to do," Mebust confirms. "We want students to be invested in this school, to take pride in our rich history, be involved in present traditions, and to help sculpt the future of the College."

The Stewards have already started working toward that goal. Each Steward receives a copy of the late professor emeritus Carl Chrislock's *Fjord to Freeway*, a centennial history of Augsburg College. They then share the College's history with the student body.

For example, during Auggie Days, an orientation program for first-year Augsburg students, Steward Chris Kuhn presented a brief history from Chrislock's book.

The Stewards began in December 2005 when Cumings, the student body president, came up with the idea. "It's important to learn the history of the College, to open up our past. That helps us learn why deci-

sions have been made," he said.

Cumings asked a few students to join, wrote a constitution, and submitted the constitution to student government. In January 2006 the Augsburg Stewards became an official student organization.

Currently the organization is structured into three main committees: the History Committee, the Present Committee, and the Future Committee, each led by a Steward member and focusing on one of the three main components. However, Mebust plans changes to the structure to make it easier for students to participate more fully. Formal recruiting for new Stewards has taken place during spring semester.

In December the Stewards hosted an event called "What is an Auggie, anyway?" With information tables in Christensen Center, the group focused on what it means to identify as an Auggie and provided students with information, food, presentations, and a documentary about the College's history.

"There's something unique about Augsburg. It's always been the odd child out of the Lutheran colleges because we've never felt the need to compete," says Mebust. "We produce amazing alumni who are leaders of both the political and religious realms, and their children are now attending Augsburg."

Mebust hopes to learn more about why Augsburg is so unique. She assigned the Stewards a long-term goal of discovering the personal history of the College. "*Fjord [to Freeway]* is a great history based on institutional life, but not [its] personal life."

Even while still evolving, the Augsburg Stewards are working hard to reach their goals. Mebust says, "We do our best to be involved ... and to be the best representation of the College."

—Kari Aanestad '08

Kari Aanestad is a junior, with double majors in English/writing and political science.

## SUPPORTING AUGSBURG

### Sabo Scholars ... 'Walking the talk'

One year after he graduated from Augsburg, 22-year-old Martin Olav Sabo was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1960 as its youngest member. In 1978 he was elected to the first of 14 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives and served as one of its most liberal members. Throughout his entire career, he has exemplified Augsburg's motto, "Education for Service," and he leaves a legacy as one of the most fair-minded and principled legislators.

In 1990, his friends, family, and alumni established the Martin Olav and Sylvia A. Sabo Scholarship in recognition of Sabo's distinguished record. The

scholarship is awarded to students who study political science and/or have engaged in public service, and aspire to careers in public policy.

In 1994, fundraising began to build the Sabo Endowment for Leadership in Public and Community Service. In addition to the Sabo Scholarships, a summer leadership program for high school students, a lecture series, and academic support to public service are envisioned.

Since 1995, nearly 50 students have been named Sabo Scholars, and some served internships in Sabo's Washington office. A number have since chosen careers in public service.

Garry Hesser, professor of sociology and director of the metro-urban studies program, says, "What we're trying to lift up with the Sabo initiative is that graduates in urban studies walk the talk ... They stand for elected office and grapple with the complexities of public issues and

public policies."

Here are four Sabo Scholars whose lives are centered around walking the talk of public service.

For Minneapolis native **Breanne Dalnes '03**, it took a year at another Lutheran college to realize she was an urbanite at heart.

Once at Augsburg, a metro-urban studies major became an instant fit. "I knew as soon as I discovered there was such a thing as neighborhood organizations that I wanted to get involved on such a grassroots level," she says.

While at Augsburg, Dalnes spent one semester with HECUA's Metro-Urban Studies Term (MUST), which she says opened her eyes to a new way of thinking. She also served as a planning

intern for the City of St. Paul. Her last semester, she spent a week in Washington D.C., where her group visited various non-profits and Sabo's office. "It was the perfect send-off to graduate school."

She received a Master of Urban/Regional Planning degree at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute in 2005 and currently serves as an associate planner for the City of Ramsey.

"I'm putting my passions to good work and watching out for people who are too busy making ends meet to get involved in their communities or politics."

**Erica Champer '04** chose Augsburg "for its integration into a world-class city." She also chose metro-urban studies because, in

Junior Kari Aanestad's internship teaching a recent immigrant to write has brought to life issues around community needs that her classes in political science have introduced.

## The Sabo Scholarship

The Martin Olav and Sylvia A. Sabo Scholarship, established in 1990 by friends, alumni, and family is awarded to students with demonstrated financial need and academic achievement who study political science and/or have engaged in public service or have interest in public policy.

"I hope your college experience has taught you to listen, and that you will continue to listen. ... I hope you will develop your convictions and your beliefs. I hope that you will pursue your passions. And I hope you do get involved and choose your causes. But always remember to listen. And remember—you may not be absolutely right."

— Martin Olav Sabo '59  
Augsburg Commencement address, 1983





her words, “it intertwined all of the areas I was interested in—history, economics, sociology, and politics, all with a focus on making the city a better place.”

She now serves as an associate director of quality and compliance at Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights in Chicago. Champer climbed the ladder in a short period of time, becoming the youngest director in a company of 800.

“At Augsburg I learned about public housing in Chicago and what a disaster it was, and now I’m here two years later working on a real solution!” says Champer. “I am working on issues that are meaningful to me—affordable housing, human rights, and more.”

**Kari Aanestad** graduates next year with double majors in political science and English with a writing concentration. During her time at Augsburg, she has taken advantage of many opportunities to reflect on vocation, community service, and building democracy.

“I love helping people and being a servant of the people,” Aanestad says. Her Honors Junior Colloquium, taught by President Pribbenow, focused on humanitarian Jane Addams, and what Aanestad took away was a deep appreciation of Addams’ belief that in serving people she did not expect to teach them, but to learn from them.

Aanestad says her four classes during spring semester all seemed to synthesize around public serv-

Ana Chilingarishvili’s international interest in children’s rights stem from her own experience growing up in the post-Soviet Union Republic of Georgia.



## Making a gift to Augsburg

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ice. In political science theory, she studied what it means to be a civil leader and servant of the people. A statistics course taught her how knowledge is used and how public policy is translated for the general public. An internship gave her the chance to work one-on-one with a 46-year-old East African man, teaching him to write. She learned how education is empowerment, and how leaders have a responsibility to empower their people. Lastly, in American literature, she studied what it means to have a voice, and how in poverty people do not have any voice.

Her thoughts after graduation include work with the Lutheran Volunteer Corps or AmeriCorps, giving her chances to offer community service and better understand the role of civic associations in a democracy.

**Ana Chilingarishvili** graduates this year with a major in international relations and will begin law school in the fall. Her

sights are set worldwide, beyond local and national boundaries. A native of the Republic of Georgia, she was 6 years old when the Soviet Union came to an end and independence was declared. Her family endured the civil war that followed and were fortunate to receive help from a number of international organizations.

Chilingarishvili’s interest is in human rights law, especially children’s rights, so that she can help others in the same way. She doesn’t yet know exactly what that will be, but feels that Augsburg’s focus on vocation has helped her prepare for whatever may develop.

When the Sabo Scholars had the opportunity to meet Martin Sabo on campus this spring, Chilingarishvili was amazed to hear about the roots of this legislator who has traveled the world—a tiny North Dakota community and a high school graduating class of three.

—Bethany Bierman and  
Betsey Norgard

## SPORTS

## Auggies win 10th national title, claim nine All-Americans

Claiming three individual national titles and making collegiate wrestling history for one of its wrestlers in the process, the Augsburg wrestling team won its record-10th NCAA Division III national championship in the last 17 seasons with a dominating performance in the tournament, held in March in Dubuque, Iowa.

With nine All-Americans, including three titlists and two runners-up, Augsburg finished with 135.5 points, 36 points ahead of second-place Wartburg (Iowa), the defending national champion, with 99.5 points. Wisconsin-La Crosse finished in third with 92.5 points, Luther (Iowa) finished fourth with 86.0 points and the College of New Jersey finished fifth with 46.5 points.

Augsburg head coach Jeff Swenson '79 was named National Coach of the Year by the National Wrestling Coaches Association, the sixth time he has earned the

honor in his 25-season career. After the championships, Swenson announced his resignation from his coaching position, in order to focus on his responsibilities as the school's assistant dean for athletics and recreation. Sam Barber, who has served as an assistant on the Auggie staff for six seasons, was named the team's new head coach.

"We had a lot of ups, mostly, and a few downs," said Swenson. "It's hard for me when the year comes to an end because of the great seniors, but the bottom line is I'm proud of them as a group. They really came together in the last month of the season."

Augsburg has finished among the top two teams in national competition 19 times since 1975, has finished among the top four



Wrestling head coach Jeff Swenson steps down after 25 seasons.



With a commanding win, Auggie wrestlers captured their 10th national championship in March, with nine All-Americans.

nationally the last 19 seasons in a row (the only NCAA school in any division that can make that claim), and has finished in the top 20 nationally every season since 1971 (NCAA from 1983 to present, NAIA pre-1983).

Augsburg's Marcus LeVesseur, a senior from Minneapolis, became the first Division III wrestler ever to win four national titles, and the second college wrestler ever to finish his career unbeaten and untied. LeVesseur, who won Division III national titles at 157 pounds three times (2003, 2004, 2005), finished his senior season at 31-0, and his collegiate career at 155-0, the second-longest winning streak in college wrestling history. Cael Sanderson went 159-0 during his career at Iowa State from 1998-2002, winning four Division I national titles.

"It's unbelievable," Swenson said of LeVesseur's accomplishment, "... no one had ever won four titles (at the Division III level), and only two guys have ever gone through their careers undefeated. He's in great company with Cael [Sanderson]."

Junior Quincy Osborn claimed his first national championship at 141 pounds. Osborn finished his first season as an Auggie with a 44-3 record, completing his third national tournament appearance. As a Division I wrestler at the University of Minnesota, he competed in national tournaments in both 2004 and 2005. Osborn is now 104-35 in his college career.

Junior Jeremy Anderson also earned his first national championship, completing his second All-American season with a win in the 157-pound class. Anderson, who was a national runner-up last season, finished his junior campaign at 39-2 overall and his 83-5 in his two seasons as an Auggie.

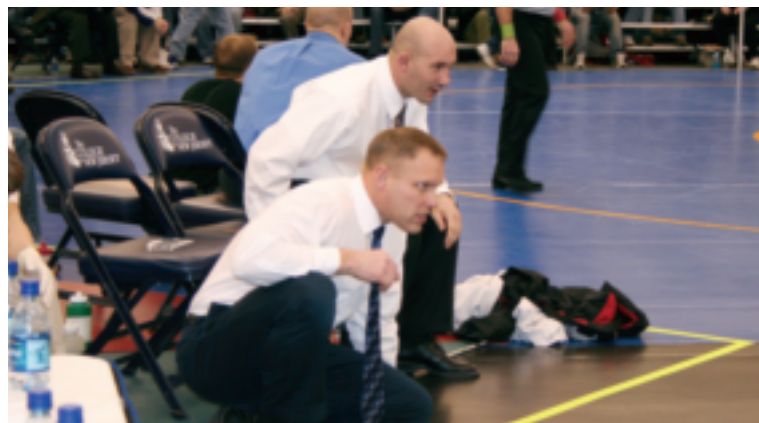
At 133, junior Jafari Vanier repeated his second-place finish from a year ago, and sophomore Seth Flodeen claimed national runner-up honors in his first national finals appearance at 125 pounds.

Senior Jared Evans, a three-time All-American, closed out his career with his second straight fourth-place finish, and junior Robbie Gotreau finished his campaign at 41-6 overall. Heavyweight senior Andrew Neumann, in his second national tournament, finished fifth overall. At 197, junior Wally O'Connor finished eighth.

Augsburg finished with an 11-1 dual-meet record this season. For the third time in the six-year history of the event, Augsburg claimed the championship at the National Wrestling Coaches Association/Cliff Keen Division III National Duals in January.

Academically, Augsburg finished 11th among Division III programs in the NWCA's academic national rankings, with a 3.283 team gradepoint average. Five Auggies earned NWCA Scholar All-American honors—Evans, Neumann, Paul Bjorkstrand, Josh Hansen, and Brandon Klukow.

—Don Stoner



Auggie coaches Jeff Swenson (lower) and Sam Barber (upper) watch their team wrestle to a national title.



## Jeff Swenson resigns as wrestling coach

Augsburg wrestling head coach Jeff Swenson announced in March that he is resigning his coaching post in order to focus on his responsibilities as the school's assistant dean for athletics and recreation.

Swenson, a 1979 Augsburg graduate, served as head coach of the Auggies for 25 seasons (1980-84, 1986-2007), building the squad into a national small-college wrestling powerhouse. Under Swenson's leadership, Augsburg won a record-10 NCAA Division III national championships and produced a career dual-meet record of 321-44.



Associate head coach Sam Barber takes over as head coach.

Sam Barber, who served as an assistant coach on Swenson's staff for six seasons, is taking over head coaching duties for the Auggies. Barber has served as associate head coach for the last two seasons. A 1995 Upper Iowa University graduate, he served as head coach for the Peacocks in the 1999-2000 season.

During his Augsburg tenure, Barber has been a part of three national championship squads and two national runner-up squads, and has coached 46 All-Americans and 13 individual



Jeff Swenson '79 retires after 25 seasons, with a national title and Division III Coach of the Year honors. He shares the moment with his nearly-two-year-old son, Brady.

national champions. He was named Division III Co-National Assistant Coach of the Year by the National Wrestling Coaches Association in 2006.

In his role as assistant dean for athletics and recreation as a member of President Pribbenow's staff, Swenson supervises the 18-sport intercollegiate athletics program, the athletic facilities department, and the College's intramural athletic program. Swenson was named to the position on an interim basis in 2001, and his posting was made permanent in 2004.

"I look forward to working with Coach Swenson in the years ahead," Pribbenow said, as "we partner to make Augsburg one of the finest examples of NCAA Division III athletics in the country—a college that honors the connections between academics and athletics, that celebrates both sportsmanship and competition, and that helps our students to grow as individuals and teammates ... I can think of no one better than Jeff Swenson to lead us in this vision for intercollegiate athletics at Augsburg College. His track record speaks for itself. His love for the College is unparalleled. And he has the passion, commitment, and skills to guide our athletics programs into a bright future."

Swenson has been a member of the Augsburg community for more than 30 years—as a student, coach, and administrator. A national champion wrestler at

Augsburg in his senior year of 1979 with a career record of 102-17, Swenson began his coaching career in his first year out of college, as an assistant coach on John Grygelko's Auggie staff. Grygelko retired in 1980, and Swenson was named head coach.

Swenson said that two years ago, he made the decision that he would step down from his coaching post this year. He said that focusing on his role in athletic administration will help him in his goals to improve every aspect of Augsburg's athletic program among schools in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and NCAA Division III.

"For me, this is a cause for celebration. It's not a sad day. It's a great day. I'm able to listen to my vocational calling and lead the entire athletic department without having the coaching demands," Swenson said.

As an administrator, Swenson has led the Augsburg program through a period of unprecedented growth and improvement. This year, construction was completed on the new Kennedy Center addition to Melby Hall, which includes expanded classroom, meeting, and locker room space, along with a new fitness facility and a new wrestling training facility. Two years ago, a new SprinTurf surface was installed at Edor Nelson Field, and a new seasonal air-supported dome was installed for the first time this year over the field.

"I've been around Augsburg since the fall of 1975, over 30 years," Swenson said. "Augsburg has shaped me. Augsburg has made me who I am, and it's allowed me to pursue my passion to be a coach. Now, I have a greater passion to lead the entire athletic department as a full-time administrator. I've learned a lot about leading and coaching by being the head wrestling coach here for 25 years. That's going to help me as I lead Augsburg athletics into the future."

"I am proud to know Jeff Swenson and to be able to honor his remarkable career as our head wrestling coach at Augsburg," Pribbenow said. "He has accomplished great things with his wrestling teams—10 national championships, countless individual titles, team academic achievements, and so on. But perhaps more than anything, I am proud of Jeff's commitment and passion for that individual student who needs the guidance, support, and challenge to be the best he or she can be—as an athlete, as a student, as a person. Jeff exemplifies what makes Augsburg the special and rare place that it is—putting students first and helping them to grow to be successful, responsible, and good people."

"Jeff Swenson leaves a remarkable legacy as the Augsburg wrestling coach. He has built a program that will endure as a shining example of quality and achievement. Now he has made the remarkable decision to bring his skills and passion to bear on moving Augsburg's intercollegiate athletics programs to the next level of excellence. Surely there is no one better than Jeff to lead our athletics programs—both to the benefit of our student-athletes and the reputation of the College."

—Don Stoner

## Chris Brown named MIAC Men's Hockey Coach of the Year



Chris Brown

Augsburg men's hockey head coach Chris Brown was named Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Coach of the

Year. In his first year as the Auggies head coach, Brown led the Auggies to a 12-10-4 record and third-place conference finish (9-3-4), as the Auggies clinched a berth in the MIAC playoffs for the first time since the 2002-03 season.

Brown returned to Augsburg last season as an assistant coach under Mike Schwartz, a position in which he also served during the 1996-97 season. After leaving Augsburg in 1997, he was an assistant coach at Division I Alaska-Anchorage for three years, then served as head coach at Marian (Wis.) for four seasons (2000-04) and at Hamline for one season (2004-05).

Brown was also named as one of 12 finalists for the Edward Jeremiah Award as the NCAA Division III National Coach of the Year by the American Hockey Coaches Association.

## Aaron Johnson named MIAC Player of the Year

Senior forward Aaron Johnson was selected by MIAC as the conference Player of the Year in men's hockey. A three-time All-MIAC honoree, he also was



Aaron Johnson '07

In April, he was selected as one of two Division III players to compete in the NCAA Pontiac Frozen Four Skills Challenge during Division I men's hockey Frozen Four in St. Louis, Mo. He was also one of eight finalists for the Sid Watson Award, given by the AHCA to the Division III National Player of the Year.

## Ed Saugestad receives Hobey Baker Legends of Hockey Award



Former Augsburg men's hockey coach Ed Saugestad '59 was recognized for his lengthy and outstanding

service to college hockey with the 2007 Hobey Baker Legends of Hockey Award. The award was presented by the Hobey Baker Memorial Award Foundation on May 3 in St. Paul.

Saugestad coached Augsburg to a 503-354-21 record in a career that spanned 37 seasons. Only two other Division III coaches have amassed more than 500 career victories.

In his 37 years of coaching, Saugestad took teams to national postseason play on 10 occasions (nine NAIA and one NCAA),

named for the second year in a row as a first-team selection on the AHCA/RBK Hockey Division III All-American squad.

winning NAIA national championships in 1978, 1981, and 1982. He was named NAIA National Coach of the Year after each of the national championships. He coached 22 All-Americans at Augsburg.

Saugestad and his Auggies won Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) regular-season titles six years in a row (1976-77 to 1981-82), and Saugestad was MIAC Coach of the Year six times. In 1998, the MIAC's playoff championship trophy was christened as the Ed Saugestad Trophy.

Saugestad began his Auggie coaching career while still a student at Augsburg, in 1958. He graduated with a double major in physical education and biology in 1959 and went on to earn

his master's degree from the University of Minnesota in 1964. In addition to coaching hockey for parts of five decades, he also served on the Augsburg football coaching staff from 1959-84 (head coach in the 1970-71 seasons); men's athletic director from 1981-87; and during his entire Augsburg career served as an instructor in the Health and Physical Education Department.

Saugestad was named the 2002 recipient of the John MacInnes Award from the American Hockey Coaches Association for his contributions to the growth of amateur hockey in the United States. In 1996, the state of Minnesota declared Feb. 17 as Ed Saugestad Day, in recognition of his career accomplishments.



Sophomore Ed Saugestad (back row, second from left) played on the 1956-57 Auggie hockey team.



Coach Saugestad studies a hockey program during the 1961-62 season.



Saugestad's hockey team captured a national championship in 1981.

Archive photo





Weekend College student Tom Gouras uses his food service background as a volunteer in Augsburg's Campus Kitchen, a great way for him to meet other students and feel more connected to Augsburg.

## The kitchen connection

by Betsey Norgard

**"I can begin to see it take shape."**

Tom Gouras, the Monday night shift leader at Augsburg's Campus Kitchen, is looking at several pans of fried rice and vegetables, surplus food donated by a local restaurant through the Emergency Foodshelf Network. Alongside them sit other pans of pork riblets, wax beans and carrots, potatoes, and some melons.

From the donations they receive, the Campus Kitchen volunteer crew transforms the various components into healthy meals to be heated, delivered, and served the next day—to the Brian Coyle Community Center and Trinity Lutheran's Safe Place tutoring program in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood, and at the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center.

"I call this Chinese medley," Gouras says, as he combines several pans of rice and vegetables. It can be a challenge, as the crew never knows exactly what foods they'll find when they arrive for the cooking shift. Sometimes, he says, "what goes into the soup is interesting."

Since Augsburg students are on break, Gouras' crew tonight is a group of four students from Fridley High School with their teacher, a father with his middle school son who is doing community service, and Augsburg alum Bill Ogren '73. All of them have become regular Monday night volunteers. Tonight, they cook the potatoes, chop the melons, and check out all the boxes of food to make sure everything is still fresh. Finally, pans are labeled—protein, starch, vegetable, and fruit—and everything is cleaned up to finish the evening shift.

Gouras is a Weekend College student who has been volunteering at the Campus Kitchen at Augsburg since January. His 15 years of experience as a cook and chef are valuable in the kitchen to lead the crews of students and community volunteers.

He entered Weekend College last spring after two years at Rasmussen College studying criminal justice. A native of St. Paul's East Side, Gouras recites a litany of blue-collar jobs he's held—furniture delivery, food service cook/chef, garbage truck driver,



loading dock worker, chemical dependency technician, greenhouse hand, and, currently, delivery truck driver for the New French Bakery.

While at Rasmussen, Gouras realized that in order to advance much higher than where he is and has been, he needs a four-year degree. He hopes his courses in psychology and sociology will prepare him for probation work with the county or state. He's also open to possibilities that may develop during his studies. "I've been asked if I know my calling," he says, "and I hope I find it. I'm open to it."

After two trimesters in WEC, Gouras began to understand how much of the college experience involves social interaction, and he wasn't feeling very connected to Augsburg. Campus Kitchen appealed to him because he could

use his food service experience, and he liked the program's mission of reaching out to others less fortunate, making sure they have hot meals.

Gouras is old enough to be father to most of the student volunteers, but he enjoys their enthusiasm, as well as sharing with them some of his "street smart" wisdom and common sense.

Rachel Vallens, Campus Kitchen coordinator, recognizes what this does for the program. "Tom's cooking experience and maturity really bring an added dimension to his cooking shifts," she says. "The students look up to him as someone who knows what he's doing and has done a lot in life."

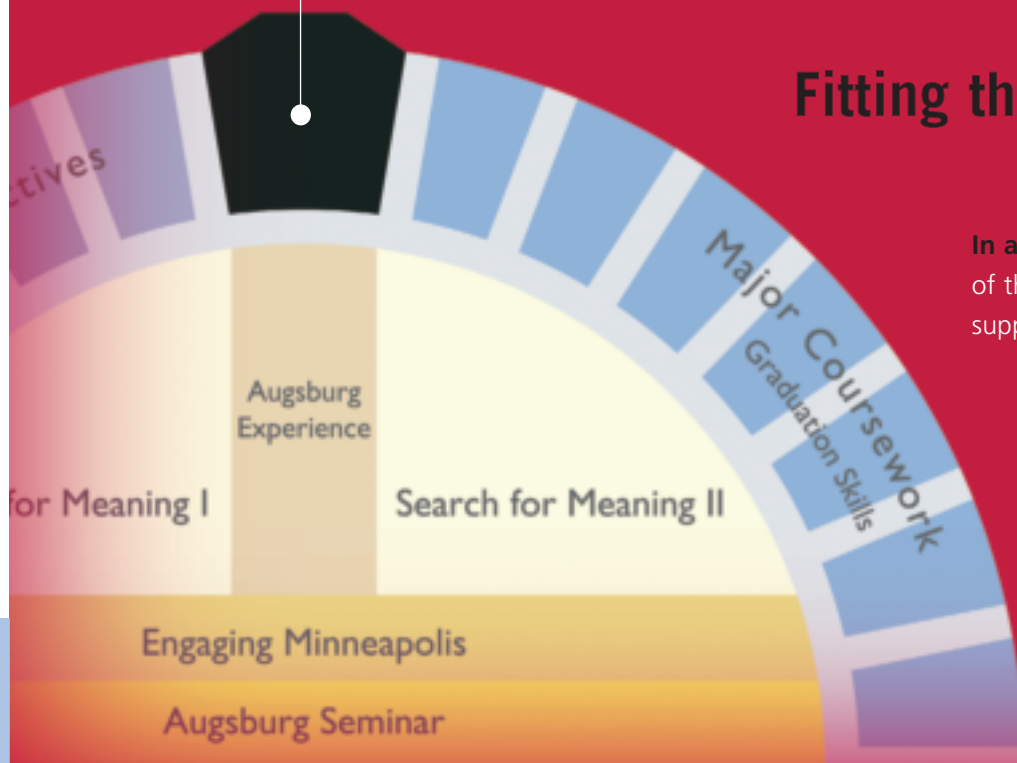
Recently, Gouras took on an additional task. Three days a week, sandwiches and deli items are donated from the University of Minnesota, and when no one else could pick them up on Thursdays, he volunteered. It's all part of giving back, which is why Gouras says he's in the kitchen every week. ■

*For more information about Augsburg's Campus Kitchen, go to [www.campuskitchens.org](http://www.campuskitchens.org).*

# Keystone courses

## Fitting the pieces together

by Betsey Norgard



In architecture, a keystone sits at the top of the arch and provides the shape and support to the curved pieces rising to it.

**In the Augsburg Core Curriculum**, the keystone is the final piece that integrates what students have learned in their required general education courses and their chosen major with everything else they have done at Augsburg—co-curricular experiences, leadership development, service-learning, study abroad, and other areas of their **Augsburg experience**.

First-year day students begin their Augsburg education with Augsburg Seminar, a semester that includes orientation to residence life; development of skills and strategies they need for success in college; introduction to the themes of an Augsburg education, including vocation, service, community; and learning about Augsburg's neighborhood and the city. It's all about transition to college, integration into Augsburg's learning community,

and reflection on how they become responsible learners.

Students learn that a hallmark of an Augsburg education is intentional reflection on vocation, or what they call the "v" word. All students study two semesters of "Search for Meaning," which includes critical conversations on understanding and discovering one's own gifts.

The senior-year keystone course becomes the other book-end. Students synthesize all their

in-classroom and out-of-classroom experiences as they focus on transition from college to the community, integration of what they've learned, and reflection on how they will use their gifts and knowledge—again, transition, integration, reflection.

What does it mean to be a professional in their major? What does it mean to be a biologist, accountant, social worker, English teacher, actor, or whatever?

Because conversations about



vocation are revisited during the keystone, faculty need to feel comfortable and confident in discussing issues of faith and vocation in this context. A grant from the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, “Common Vocation, Distinctive Callings,” provides funding for keystone faculty to partner with religion faculty members. Together they strategize on content and methods for these crucial conversations.

The vocation focus and other signature elements of the Core Curriculum—diversity, the city, service and service-learning—distinguish Augsburg’s keystone from other senior “capstone” courses. Russell Kleckley, associate professor of religion and coordinator of keystone seminars, explains that Augsburg’s keystones are “more intentional about the educational experience as a whole, to see how the general education experience has informed the [major] discipline and vice versa.”

Diane Pike, sociology professor and director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, says that keystones “take the time, with guidance, to help students figure out how the pieces fit together for them.” She says, “We’re equally serious about the transition from college outward as we are about the transition to college from high school.”

From the College’s point of view, the keystones measure how well Augsburg fulfills its promise to students. Are they satisfied with their experience, and do they feel well prepared and confident in what they know and will take away with them?



Psychology majors (clockwise from bottom) Rebecca Lewis, Tiah Colacci, Nghi Ngan, and Peter Chea played a version of the Game of Life in which the cards required players to discuss some of the bigger questions in life.

## the keystone variations

Most students take the keystone in their senior year, and most often in connection with their major. This past academic year was the first time all students have had access to a keystone course. With a fair amount of flexibility, departments have created or modified existing courses, or collaborated across departments or divisions to create classes.

## psychology: the game of life

The psychology keystone is a good example of a department capstone course that evolved into a keystone. All psychology majors have completed capstone internship semesters that includ-

ed time on the internship site, plus time in class, plus papers, portfolios, etc.

This year, the course changed to be one-half internship and one-half keystone, with about one-third of the total time devoted to issues around vocation. As part of the Wabash grant, Bridget Robinson-Reigler, associate professor of psychology, was paired with Mary Lowe, assistant professor of religion. Robinson-Reigler says that she and Lowe had five or six conversations about vocation, and that Lowe helped her plan new activities to engage her students.

“I was pleasantly surprised how unbelievably well the students have gotten into [the discussion of vocation],” says Robinson-Reigler. Early in the seminar, she offered her own

model of vocation, and by opening herself to them, she set a comfortable tone for class discussion.

In what became a popular activity, Robinson-Reigler introduced an adapted version of the Game of Life, in which a number of the play cards were rewritten with questions relating to vocation. Given this context, students felt comfortable first answering the questions themselves, then opening the conversation to everyone.

In another session, students were asked to evaluate the effectiveness of their required liberal arts courses. Did they work? Why did Augsburg want them to study those courses? Some students responded by saying that without the keystone they never would have thought about these



John Knight, Center for Faith and Learning, encourages business majors to consider how their skills, beliefs, and values will influence decisions they make every day in the business world.

## business and vocation

John Knight, associate director of the Center for Faith and Learning, has taught several sections of the keystone course for the Business Administration Department, the College's largest department. The course is a collaboration between the business and religion departments, and he co-taught the day section with religion professor Hans Wiersma.

Titled *Vocation and the Meaning of Success*, the keystone objectives include reflecting upon the ways students have been transformed by their college experiences, especially in their business major; reflecting critically on beliefs and values they use in a diverse world; and reflecting on Augsburg's understanding of vocation and a comparison to their own vocation.

Knight finds that the feel of the class depends significantly on the class makeup—the day or weekend student mix, the mix of males and females, etc. Weekend College students, he says, who bring wider job skills and life experience to class, showed a “deep willingness to engage in the material ... and really wrapped themselves around the [vocation] issues by the second class.”

Some students are suspicious of the keystone as being a religion class and question its relevance to their future. Knight asks them to consider the bigger picture of meaning and purpose in their lives. What does it mean to be a business professional? How does he or she behave? He believes that somewhere down the road students will understand why they had to take this course and see the benefits from it.

questions, and this assignment helped them figure out what they had learned.

Robinson-Reigler's psychology keystone is a mix of day and weekend students, giving the class a combination of ages and experiences. While all students were in the same situation of finishing college and figuring out what was next to come, some interesting conversations were launched in the multigenerational class. One WEC student said that these discussions helped her understand her own daughter better. Some said it helped them understand and appreciate the younger day school population.

Robinson-Reigler confirms that students are not getting any less psychology in the new capstone-keystone with the addition of the vocation conversation;

they're just getting it differently.

“I've taught this class before, but I love teaching it now,” she says. “I enjoy grading the papers!”

## keystone-capable english courses

In their new curriculum, the English Department doesn't have a separate keystone course, but rather several advanced courses designed as “keystone-capable.” Students are required to take one of these courses as a keystone, for which extra work is indicated.

Much of that work is self-reflection, and requires students to consider, for example, their function as readers and to think about what is happening when they read. The nature and depth of their commitment to reading, and what, if any, responsibilities their reading entails.

This reflection is more seamless in some courses than others. When Professor Doug Green teaches *Advanced Studies in Language, Theory, and Method*, he integrates reflection and vocation throughout the course, even for the non-keystone students.

Last year he taught *Criticism and Theory* as a pilot keystone course. Students read Azar Nafisi's *Reading Lolita in Tehran* and wrote about how they viewed the place of literature in their own lives and cultures. They had to respond to questions like, “How has my understanding of ‘self’ (who I am as a reader, writer, student, English major, woman or man, and human being) evolved as a result of my experiences at Augsburg?”



## creating a life in the fine arts

Students in music, visual art, and theatre share a cross-disciplinary keystone course, *Creating a Life in the Fine Arts*.

The syllabus states that the course will “synthesize recurring powerful concepts of vocation with practical tools and realities.” Students will balance the “development of entrepreneurial skills with ‘intrapreneurial’ knowledge and awareness” while preparing for professional life in the community.

The idea of shared courses across the arts is not new—several short-term courses have taken place over the past few years. What’s new is the infusion of the larger issues integrating liberal arts and vocation.

Merilee Klemp ’75, associate professor of music, led the conversations among arts faculty around the new Core Curriculum.

Anticipating the need to create a keystone course, she sought a Lilly Endowment grant for the music faculty to explore topics in music and vocation with a consultant, Janis Weller.

Extending this conversation to art and theatre faculty formed the nucleus for the new keystone. It also promoted the building of a fine arts community among both faculty and students on campus. Weller taught the course, along with Klemp (music), Darcey Engen (theatre), and Tara Sweeney (art).

Critical conversations about vocation began and ended the course. These included visiting guest artists, who spoke about their roles in the community and world.

In conjunction with the

Wabash grant, Sweeney was paired with Lori Brandt Hale, assistant professor of religion. They met frequently, and Sweeney describes the experience, “What I am discussing in the service of teaching the keystone is inseparable from what I am learning about my own vocation and practice as an artist at the same time.”

Their discussions included how their religious upbringing or belief systems affected what and how they teach, and how they could challenge and support students to discover their own authentic voices.

The keystone seniors across art, music, and theatre were encouraged to find common ground. In one exercise, teams of students were given ordinary objects, like a chair, and together asked to consider it from a number of perspectives—how the object could move or be used with their bodies, what the visual elements of the object were, what kinds of sounds the object could make.

Practical sessions about being an artist were also included. Students practiced networking with introductions and business cards, and they had to prepare artist’s statements and professional résumés.

Several break-out sessions separated the students into their respective departments for discussions specific to their fields.

For the most, students resonated with the cross-disciplinary focus of the keystone. “I think working alongside artists in another genre is a rare gift in the college setting,” said music performance major Nikki Lemire. Still, she enjoyed working with her music classmates, however, and would have enjoyed more break-out time within her own

department and less full-group time.

Theatre major James Lekatz appreciated the practical elements of the course. Hearing from guest speakers—practicing artists, teachers, grants administrators—made him aware of their involvement in the community and the different styles they use. He said the course helped students deal with removal of the “safety net of Augsburg,” and taught them how to use specific skills, e.g., to get

gallery space, to plan a show, etc.

Over the next couple of years, the keystone courses will all be evaluated and revisions made where needed. But no matter what the form or content the senior keystone courses take, they will all continue to help students complete an Augsburg education as effective, informed, and ethical citizens. And to become adaptable and resilient—elements needed for success on whatever path they choose.

Studio art major Rachel Nelson (top), theatre arts major James Lekatz (middle), and music performance major Catherine DeVoe (right) explore the properties and possibilities of a stool.





Above: Martin Sabo smiles to greet a judge as he stands in the imposing Capitol Rotunda, 96 feet in diameter.

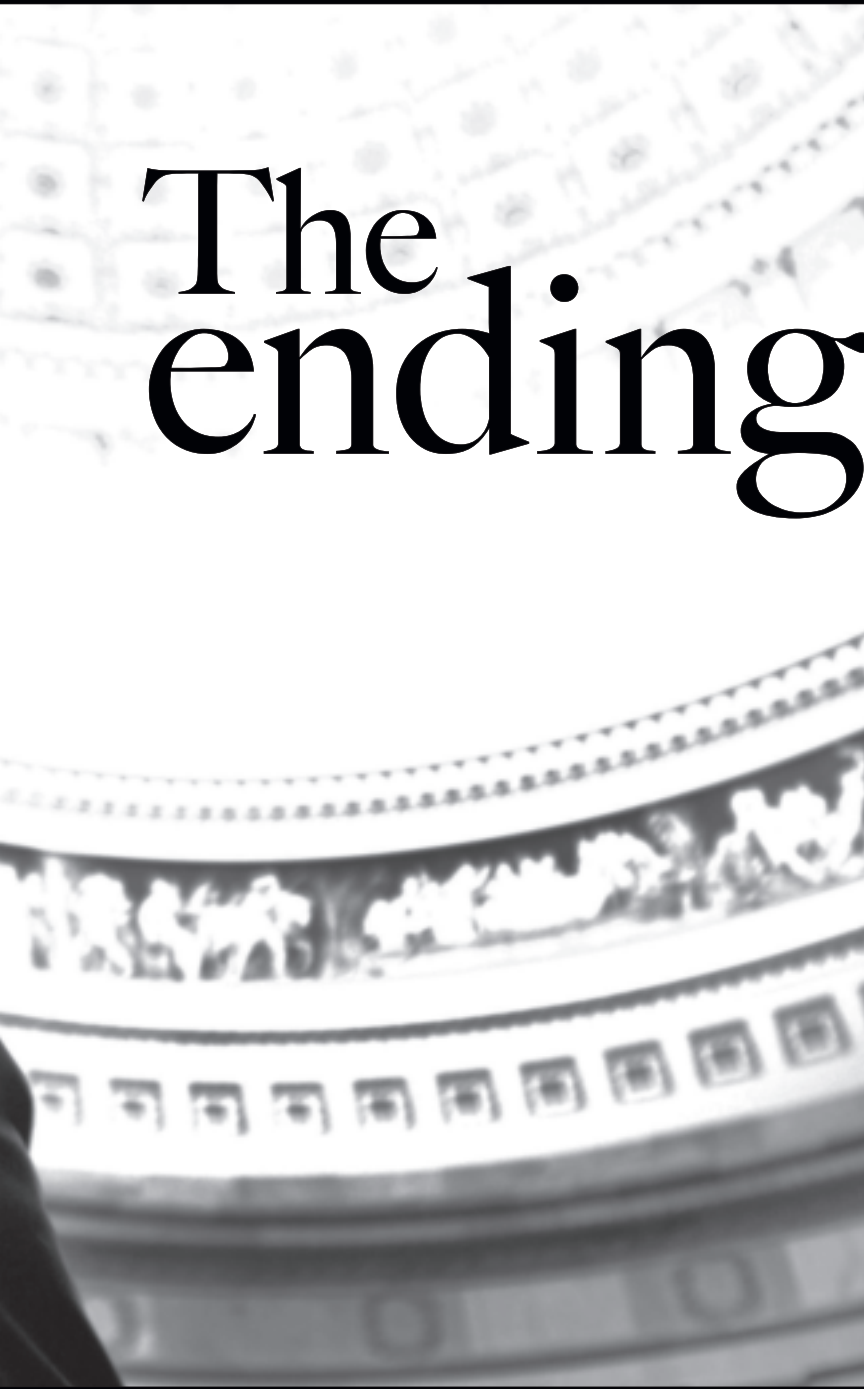
Left (top): In their suburban Virginia home, Sylvia Sabo, Martin's wife and college sweetheart, works on a crossword puzzle; her husband usually tackles Sudoku. According to Sylvia, playing the puzzles is part of their morning ritual.

Left (below): Leaving Congress means many farewells, in this case to Pennsylvania's 12th District congressman John Murtha, as the doors close in the Rayburn Building elevator.

Right: The transition in leadership begins to seem more real as Sabo sits in a nearly barren office watching Rep. Nancy Pelosi read the results for the new Democratic leadership in the House.







# The ending of an era

## CONGRESSMAN MARTIN OLAV SABO,

Augsburg College Class of 1959, represented Minnesota's Fifth Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives for 28 years and became a fixture in the Democratic party. In 2006 he made the decision to retire from Congress and return to life as a private citizen.

Augsburg staff photographer Stephen Geffre tagged along on the day Sabo and his staff vacated the corner office in the Rayburn House Office Building he had earned through seniority. Sabo actually spent the last month of his term in a basement cubicle in Rayburn HOB, with room enough for him and only one staff member.







# Martin Olav Sabo

THE ENDING OF AN ERA



Above: Martin Sabo takes a moment to read through the mail delivered to his desk.

Left (top): After a rainy day, the sun finally breaks through to illuminate the dome of the United States Capitol, a stately presence in the nation's capital city.

Far left: Bonnie Gottwald, Sabo's scheduler, packs up her small portion of the D.C. office. She is one of only two schedulers Sabo has had throughout his 28-year tenure in Washington, and she echoes the entire staff in saying that Sabo was always a joy to have as a boss.

Middle left: Each departing representative receives a lengthy final checklist, to ensure as smooth a transition as possible.

Left: Martin Sabo's staff poses on the Capitol steps for their last official photo.





## THE ENDING OF AN ERA

Above (top): Sabo chats with Kevin Bonderud, who served as his first communications director, during the office-closing party. Scattered across Sabo's desk are mementos of more than two decades in the House of Representatives, including mock baseball cards with Sabo's stats on them, photos, ashtrays, and T-shirts.

Above: Back in his Minneapolis office, Sabo takes a few minutes to go through the mail. The plaques, hanging outside the door, are just a small sample of the honors and awards that mark the achievements of a long legislative career.

Right: Each successive file drawer marked "empty" means that staffers are getting closer to having all files reviewed and sorted.





## Auggies at the forefront

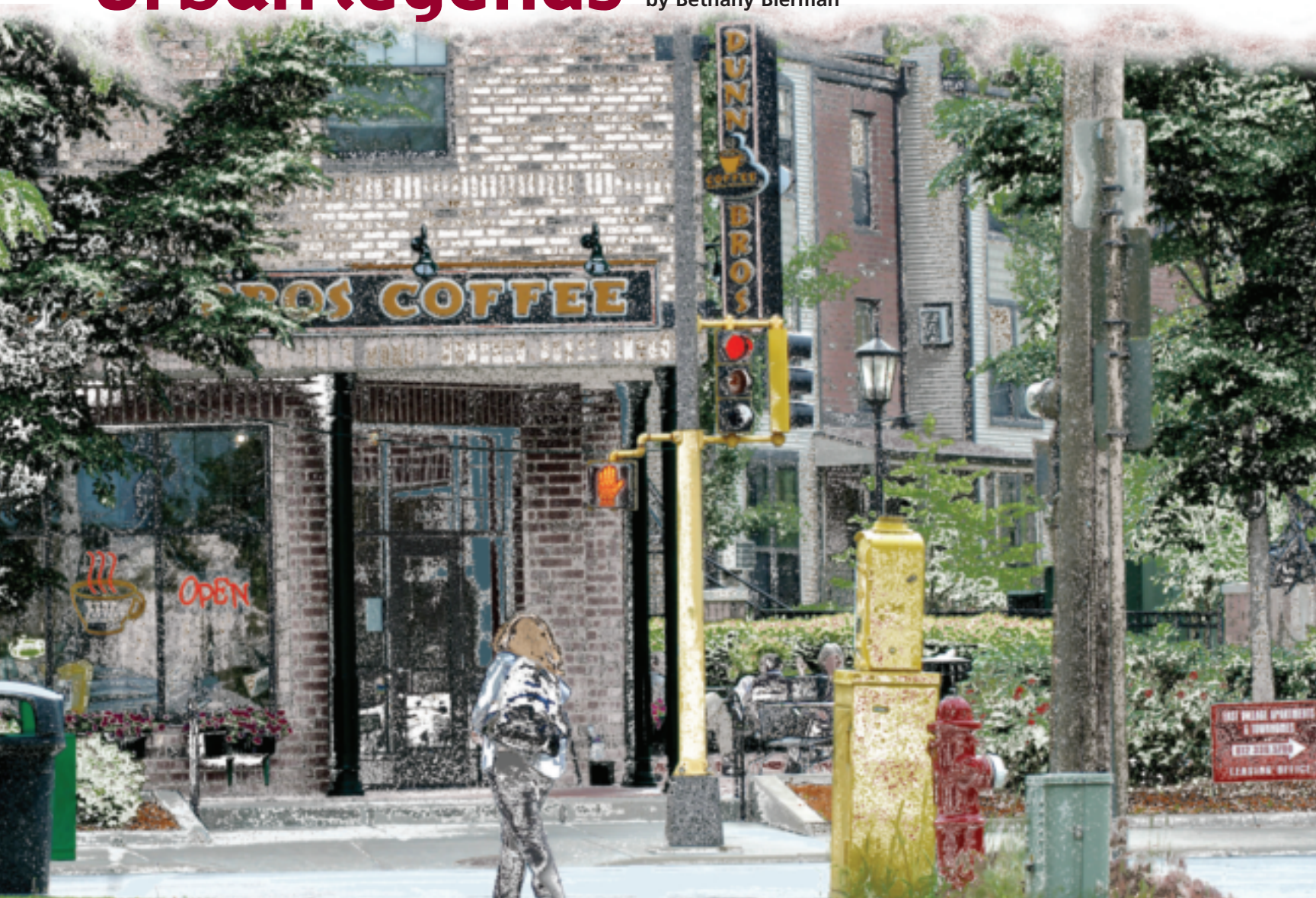
in city planning

It was the late sixties, and American cities were in crisis. General civil unrest swelled across the nation. Detroit was rioting, and downtown Minneapolis was starting to empty. College students demanded social change, and colleges responded with programs centering on the urban crisis. And, Augsburg College was at the forefront.

Thirty-five years later, thanks to a visionary professor, an enterprising faculty, and a supportive administration, Augsburg's metro-urban studies program graduates leaders who are making decisions about current issues and future needs, and planning for livable and sustainable neighborhoods and cities.

# Urban legends

by Bethany Bierman







Joel Torstenson's vision laid the foundation for an urban studies program. His wife, Fran, joins him here.



Garry Hesser is professor of sociology and chairs the metro-urban studies program.

## A program is born

Joel Torstenson came to Augsburg as a history major from west central Minnesota. After graduating in 1938, he worked in education for Farmer's Co-ops, earned a master's degree in history and sociology, and began teaching part time at Augsburg.

During the war years he joined the peace movement and community organizing. In 1947, he returned to Augsburg to develop its social work and sociology programs while completing his PhD in sociology. These programs provided a natural foundation for urban studies 20 years later.

Torstenson writes in his memoirs, "The more [Augsburg] became involved in urban affairs, the more we began to ask the question—what is the appropriate role of a liberal arts college located at the center of an exploding metropolis?"

In 1966, Torstenson used his sabbatical to explore this question. He visited urban studies programs at East Coast schools. Upon returning, he wrote a position paper with the rationale and proposal for a metro-urban studies program at Augsburg.

In order to set this in motion, courses centering on the city were needed. Torstenson, Miles Stenshoel of the political science department, Orlo Gisselquist in history, Ed Sabella in economics, Ron Palosaari in English, and other faculty embraced this concept.

In 1968, when Martin Luther King Jr. was killed, the director of youth programs for the American Lutheran Church, Rev Ewald Bash, wanted to address the cultural challenges head on. Colleagues encouraged him to contact Torstenson, who had a reputation for his pursuit of racial justice and human rights.

"The Crisis Colony" was born from their conversation. Students lived on the north side of Minneapolis, first in public housing and later in an abandoned synagogue, while learning from people who lived and worked in the community. Led by Torstenson, Bash, and Stenshoel, it grew from an intense summer program, to a semester program, to the Metro Urban Studies Term, or "MUST," the first academic program of the Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs (HECUA). Today, MUST is a key element for all urban studies majors and is one of the premier interdisciplinary experiential education programs in the nation.

Torstenson took his second sabbatical in Scandinavia in order to explore how to build cities without crisis. Out of this came the Scandinavian Urban Studies Term, or "SUST," the second program of

HECUA. Based at the University of Oslo, students attend seminars, go on field excursions, and volunteer with various community and governmental organizations.

"Two unique ingredients contributed to the success of the [metro-urban studies] program: commitments from faculty ... and the programs offered through HECUA, which became catalysts and capstones for the major," says Garry Hesser, professor of sociology and chair of the metro-urban studies program, who was hired in 1977 to succeed Torstenson.

While the University of Minnesota and other private colleges established urban studies programs in response to the mid-'60s urban crisis, most have not survived.

"Augsburg's is one of the few that has retained faculty and administrative commitment," Hesser says. "Over the past 35 years there has been a steady stream of graduates who have become professional planners, city administrators, elected officials, and citizens serving on planning commissions, hearkening to the call to public service."

With monies from the Lilly [Endowment] grant, a spring break trip to Washington, D.C., has run the past five years, exposing students to vocations in community development and public service. Up until this year, the group visited Martin Sabo at his office. This year they met with newly-elected congressman Keith Ellison and his staff. Many students decide on metro-urban studies majors after the trip.

Here are several stories of careers that have been shaped by the metro-urban studies program.

## Allan Torstenson '75 Transforming neighborhoods

One of the first graduates of the metro-urban studies program was Allan Torstenson.

In his first semester at Augsburg, the Dawson, Minn., native took his Uncle Joel Torstenson's "Man in Modern Metropolis" course (now called "Community and the Modern Metropolis") because it fulfilled a graduation requirement. "I tried my best not to disappoint him, and found it to be a fascinating subject," says Allan.

As a sophomore, he took an Interim course on new towns, which included meeting with architects and city planners and visiting HUD officials in Washington, D.C., and Columbia, Maryland. He loved the trip, but was still unsure of a major. He considered taking a break





Allan Torstenson '75 speaks to a metro-urban studies class about community development.



Paula Pentel's life experiences have informed her work in urban studies at the University of Minnesota and with her City Council seat.

from school, but when he shared this with his uncle, Joel suggested the new SUST program, which was being offered for the first time in 1973. That cross-cultural experience was the eye opener he needed to decide on metro-urban studies.

Today, Allan is a senior planner for the City of St. Paul, where he has worked since 1980. One of his most challenging and gratifying projects has been the Phalen Village Plan and redevelopment project. Through strategic vision, neighborhood involvement, and hard work, a run-down, auto-oriented area surrounding a failed shopping center was transformed into a more pedestrian- and neighborhood-oriented "urban village" with new housing, new jobs, a restructured neighborhood commercial area, a restored wetland, and a new sense of community.

More than just "the guy who wrote the plan," Allan researched solutions and wrote grants addressing the larger issues. In 1993 he authored the Phalen Corridor Redevelopment Proposal, leading to the Phalen Corridor Initiative and affecting much of St. Paul's East Side.

"The transformation in only a few years has been amazing," Torstenson shared with one of Hesser's classes recently. "A lot of what I did in this effort was influenced by the urban studies program at Augsburg. It's not just about design, but addresses the real problems neighborhoods deal with to build and sustain socially and economically viable communities." He also credits the SUST program as a foundation for many of the project concepts he considered.

## Paula (Brookins) Pentel '78 Teaching the next generation

It was at Minneapolis North High School that Paula (Brookins) Pentel '78 began her life-long interest in civic engagement. She witnessed the unequal distribution of resources while visiting various Minneapolis high schools with the debate and cheerleading teams, and also watched "white flight" from her north-side neighborhood. "I became interested in social justice and wanted to understand and affect change in how the city works."

Pentel chose Augsburg because it offered a biology major and allowed her to commute.

"I rode the bus to and from campus for four years," she recalls. "That's how I really became interested in urban studies—riding down

Washington Avenue down through the scrap yards ... up through Cedar-Riverside, which in the early '70s was very vibrant—it was a fascinating trip through time that I took every day."

A course she took from Joel Torstensen really resonated with her, and she abandoned the biology major.

While at Augsburg, Pentel got involved in collective decision-making as one of the volunteer coordinators of North Country Co-op. Pentel also participated in SUST the fall of her junior year. "What I took back was planning *for* versus planning *with* the public."

Between Augsburg and graduate school in geography at the University of Minnesota, Pentel interned for the City of Richfield and became involved in her neighborhood organization. In 1985 she and her husband moved to Golden Valley, where she continued volunteering in the community, serving 12 years on the Planning Commission, seven years as chair.

In 2004 there was a vacant seat on the Golden Valley City Council. Pentel was appointed to fill out the term and was reelected in 2005. During her tenure, she's seen considerable improvements in regard to environmental stewardship, construction of the Luce Line bike trail, and creation of a vibrant downtown area.

Pentel stays connected to her North Minneapolis roots by serving as a board member on the West Broadway Area Coalition and being active at the Hollywood Studio of Dance, a non-profit, parent-managed endeavor.

"To be effective in what I do in my public life, I have to be articulate, informed, accepting, and open. A lot of that I developed at Augsburg," she says.

In her professional work, Pentel serves as undergraduate advisor for the urban studies program at the university. "I help students find their calling and what interests them." She is particularly proud of mentoring Patricia Torres Rey, who became the first Latina woman elected to the Senate in the State of Minnesota.

Pentel developed and now teaches a course on the urban environment, which examines the urban effects on air, water, and soil. "All environmental issues have a local component," Pentel says. "I tell my students to look at Augsburg's new low-impact parking lot [on the east edge of campus]. It's a great example of a very innovative way to mitigate pollution from storm water runoff."

Pentel also continues the Torstenson legacy of hosting an annual open house for her advisees—about 80 of them. "I tell them, 'This is your private college experience.'"

## Tammera (Ericson) Diehm '93

### Giving citizens a voice

Growing up in Coon Rapids, Minn., Tami Diehm was fascinated by the “inner city.” Her plan to be a social studies teacher changed when she took a metro-urban studies class from Andy Aoki her freshman year. “For me, the program was the perfect way to combine my interests in people, government, and the urban environment.”

In the spring of her junior and senior years, Diehm interned with Anoka County, and during her senior year, she examined multicultural education in Minneapolis public schools for her senior honors project.

Following graduation from Augsburg in 1993, Diehm spent several years raising three children but kept in touch with her interests through her appointments to the Columbia Heights Charter and Planning Commissions. She also kept in touch with Aoki, her adviser.

While discussing her graduate school plans with him over lunch one day, he asked her if she could do anything, what it would be. Her answer? Law school, although she thought her three young children prevented her from pursuing it. Aoki said she owed it to herself to check it out.

Three years later, in 2003, Diehm graduated summa cum laude from William Mitchell College of Law, which she attended on full scholarship. She clerked for Justice Russell Anderson of the Minnesota Supreme Court for one year and currently is an attorney at Winthrop & Weinstine, P.A. Her practice focuses primarily on land use and real estate, assisting clients as they seek development approvals from local government. She also serves as the city attorney for Mendota Heights.

In addition to her legal work, Diehm is serving her second term on the Columbia Heights City Council, and was elected as council president in 2006. She is also a member of the Economic Development Authority and the chair of the city's Housing Redevelopment Authority.

“There was a strong sense that Augsburg students should not only be an active part of the College community, but also an active part of the larger community in which the College is located,” says Diehm. “This desire to ‘give back’ has stayed with me and directly impacted my decision to run for my position on the City Council. I saw a need in our community—the need for young families to have a voice in the decision-making process of the city.”

“Through my experiences at Augsburg, I realized that I could use my gifts to serve a need in the world, and thus follow the Christian concept of vocation,” says Diehm. “I have incorporated my ‘call to serve’ into my work—not only by adhering to the highest ethical standard in the way in which I practice law—but also through a commitment to providing pro bono legal services to those who would otherwise have only limited access to legal representation, and by serving my community on the city council.”

These pro bono projects include representing women and children in domestic abuse cases, volunteering at a legal clinic where she advises people who are starting new businesses, and assisting with the formation of new non-profit organizations as they work to obtain tax exempt status from the IRS.

“In both my legal work and my public service I feel I am using my gifts to serve a need in the world.”

Diehm was named a “Rising Star” by *Minnesota Law and Politics* in 2007 and one of 15 “Up and Coming Attorneys” in 2006 by *Minnesota Lawyer*.

## Susan (Horning) Arntz '94

### Managing suburban growth

Susan (Horning) Arntz decided in ninth grade civics that she would run for president in 2020, with her slogan being “A Clearer Vision.” Her love of government grew, and she came to Augsburg to major in political science. She learned of the metro-urban studies program in her second year and focused her electives around metro-urban studies courses.

At a rally on campus her sophomore year, Arntz introduced herself to Hennepin County commissioner Peter McLaughlin, hoping to secure a summer job. His aide, fellow Auggie Mike Matson '79, insisted she begin earlier, and she spent one-and-a-half years working for him.

After graduation, she interned for the City of Shoreview and then began her professional career in assistant city administrator positions in Chaska and New Brighton, before becoming the youngest person ever hired as city administrator in the City of Waconia, where she has worked since 2001.

“It's a growing community, so much of what we do requires look-



The desire to give back that Tami Diehm '93 learned at Augsburg has influenced her decisions to serve in public office.



Susan Arntz '94 leads the City of Waconia through its growth spurt.



ing to the future on a daily basis," says Arntz. "The people having these conversations may never be here to see these things happen, just as those before us made decisions that affect us today."

Arntz says the biggest challenge she deals with is how to manage the growth of the city, which has increased 25% in six years and shows no sign of slowing. This requires communication and cooperation with developers, the school board, property owners, and elected officials.

"I think one of the best things that Augsburg taught me, both from a faith perspective and also from an educational perspective, was how to be receptive to all of those ideas and to have a guide for what I believe to be right."

As far as running for president, Arntz says, "The longer I serve in the capacity I am in, the less I'm intrigued by elected office. I can make an immediate impact on 10,000 people. We can make huge, positive improvements or small incremental improvements that will have a greater outcome down the road."

Arntz earned a master's degree in public administration from Hamline University in 1999. In 2004, Augsburg awarded her the First Decade Award, and she has served on the Alumni Board.

## Rebecca Brown '00 Promoting community development

While her mother, Barbara (Anderson) '66, is an alumna, it was the call of the city that lured Rebecca Brown of Appleton, Minn., to Augsburg.

While at Augsburg, Brown completed five different internships and off-campus work-study opportunities, from working with a summer youth peace garden for the Seward Neighborhood Group, to teaching English for the South American arm of the YMCA in Quito, Ecuador.

After her sophomore year, Brown took a year off to serve with AmeriCorps in order to truly live in the city. She took the bus every day from South Minneapolis to her work at an alternative high school in North Minneapolis.

Brown also participated in HECUA her senior year, teaching



Travel abroad and internships prepared Rebecca Brown '00 for city planning.

## Tomorrow's Leaders

**Sarah Pesola '07** of Wadena, Minn., chose metro-urban studies because, "It meant that I could study history, sociology, economics, political science, and other disciplines as well."

Pesola participated in SUST and recalls, "My semester in Norway was amazing. It had a huge impact on me, ultimately changing the way I view the world." Pesola will begin to volunteer at a youth homeless shelter in Berkeley, Calif., through Lutheran Volunteer Corps.

Since a mission trip to Detroit in junior high, **Greg Hildebrandt '08** has felt the pull to work with people living in the inner city. He went on the D.C. trip with Hesser last year and will participate in the MUST semester in the fall.

"Students who are in [metro-urban studies] are very passionate about what they are doing," Hildebrandt says. "They'll carry this passion with them the rest of their lives, whether professionally or through volunteering." Plans for the future include using his second major in mathematics to help with statistics and budgeting within a non-profit as well as tutoring students.

**Jeanette Clark '07** felt a calling into urban ministry even as a student at Hopkins High School. She chose Augsburg for its metro-urban studies and youth and family ministry programs.

At Augsburg, Clark served as a campus ministry commissioner and leadership team member for the Campus Kitchen. In March Clark created a spring-break opportunity, "Go Away Here," which included service projects in the local community, visits to neighborhood organizations, and social outings.

She will begin work at City South Cluster Ministries in South Minneapolis through Lutheran Volunteer Corps, then plans to begin Seminary with the hope of serving in an urban congregation.

English and learning about community organizing, agriculture, and the economy in Ecuador and South America. She spent an additional seven months in Ecuador on her own, working with rural youth in agriculture.

"Traveling abroad definitely makes me a better city planner," Brown says. "It has opened my mind to varied ways of thinking and behaving in community. As a city planner, understanding and validating different points of view, opinions, and experiences is critical."

After graduating from Augsburg, Brown served over three years as code enforcement and neighborhood coordinator for the City of Crystal. She earned a master's degree in city and regional planning with a specialization in economic development from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in May 2006.

She now serves as project coordinator for the City of Minneapolis' Department of Community Planning and Economic Development. She works in neighborhoods to coordinate commercial redevelopment projects that incorporate public assistance.

As for her future, Brown says, "I see myself in a life of public service, involved in state-level economic and tax policy in 15-20 years and perhaps an elected office." ■

For more information about programs mentioned, go to: [www.augsburg.edu/sociology](http://www.augsburg.edu/sociology) and [www.hecua.org](http://www.hecua.org)

# A place of their own

by Betsey Norgard



East African women spend time at the East African Women's Center, established two years ago in Cedar-Riverside, for sewing classes, the family childcare center, and other activities.

The East African Women's Center in Riverside Plaza near Augsburg's campus is a busy place on a weekday morning. In this two-year-old program of the Confederation of Somali Community in Minnesota (CSCM), several East African women sit at sewing machines, practicing sewing seams in bright fabrics. Others are pressing their fabrics or talking with a center volunteer. In the next room, behind a glass window, six or seven small children play actively under the watchful eyes of mothers and the center's caregiver in the family childcare room.

In the middle of the activity is center coordinator Doroth Mayer, often juggling a baby on her hip as she goes about her work. Rarely are there quiet moments for her in this center she co-created with CSCM's executive director, Saeed Fahia.

Since 1994 CSCM has served more than 18,000 Somali immigrants who have settled in Minnesota—the largest concentration in the country. CSCM provides resources and services to assist Somalis in navigating American systems and making the transition to living life in a new culture, while still preserving their traditions. CSCM is funded by county, state, and federal agencies, as well as a number of Minnesota foundations. The Women's Center's funding has come from the Office of Refugee Resettlement and local foundations including the Bush Foundation, the Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation, Sheltering Arms Foundation, and Wells Fargo.

Within the East African refugee community, young mothers with children and elderly women who have arrived in the last few years remain especially isolated, some rarely leaving their apartments to take English classes, to meet American women, or to learn how to cook and prepare American food. When CSCM was offered a 2,000-square-foot location right in the middle of the Riverside Plaza housing complex, it secured grant money and opened the Women's Center in February 2005. From the beginning, a family childcare center was an integral part of CSCM's plan so mothers would have a safe place to leave their children and take English language classes, learn to sew, or simply to do their laundry and daily tasks.

The Women's Center currently serves 85-100 women and children every week. Different levels of sewing classes meet three days, morning and afternoon, with two teachers and six or seven women in each class. Fabric is provided, and the women learn the basics of how to sew and how to use sewing machines to make simple items, like aprons and bags. Some women's skills are now advanced enough to make clothing for themselves and their children.

## A partnership grows

Augsburg's partnership with the East African Women's Center is relatively new. During President Pribbenow's inauguration week last fall, a service group from Augsburg spent a morning painting at the center. One person in the group that day was Augsburg junior Kristen Hoyles, a youth and family ministry major. After hearing Mayer talk about renovation of the center and how much painting was still needed, Hoyles made a commitment not only to paint, but to teach two or three of the



Kristen Hoyles, an Augsburg junior majoring in youth and family ministry, volunteers at the Women's Center, teaching adolescent Somali girls to paint with her.

adolescent girls in Girls' Group how to paint, so together they could get the job done. She's there on Friday afternoons and feels she is living out her theology by using her painting experience to help where it's needed.

"I'm in awe of how grateful the center has been for something I feel is no big deal," Hoyles says.

Mayer adds, "Kristen has no clue how much she means to us. She has finished the painting, and we've negotiated a new job for her—she is becoming our 'handy person.' She is starting by taking on the task of repairing the center's tricycles so the little kids have trikes to use."

The group that visited the center also took great interest in the textile weavings hanging on the walls, made by Somali women from yarn donated to the center.

The weavings represent the thousand-year-old tradition of East African "twine weaving," originally using grasses and vines to make wall coverings, horse blankets, and bags used in their nomadic cultures. When President Pribbenow furnished his new office at Augsburg, he sought out Somali art, and now has samples of these weavings hanging both in his office and in his home.

The Somali weavings will

also be featured on campus as the inaugural exhibit in the new Gage Family Gallery, scheduled to open in August in the Oren Gateway Center.

## A kitchen shower

Mayer, who has worked for many years in community-based activities, would love to see more opportunities for the East African women to spend time with American women—she knows how much the women want to develop friendships with American women, learn from

them how to live within American culture, and share East African culture with their new friends.

Mayer sometimes takes women from the center with her when she buys groceries for center activities. The women ask about things they don't know or understand and foods they've never seen before.

"Last week at the supermarket, we saw some asparagus," Mayer says. "We brought back several bunches and steamed it. It was a big hit. Even some of the little kids in the family child-

care center tried it—cautiously, but they tried it!"

When the Women's Center space was renovated (with the support of the Bush and Phillips Foundations and the apartment complex managers, Sherman and Associates) a full kitchen was added at Mayer's suggestion—and it has proven to be popular and very well used. She learned that giving the women recipes to try at home was not useful, since many of them don't read or know how to follow recipes. But learning by observing and then trying it themselves was the way to go.

"Once in a while we make quick bread to give the kids for snacks," Mayer says. "We learned that women wanted to watch us make it. Then, after we make it together they tell us they feel comfortable trying it themselves at home."

The popularity of cooking led to another project initiated by Augsburg community services director Mary Laurel True. For Professor Bev Stratton's religion class, in which students carry out projects that benefit the community, True suggested the idea of a kitchen shower for the Women's Center.

With a wish list provided by the Women's Center to adequately equip their kitchen, the class sought donations from faculty,





The Somali yarn weaving hanging in President Pribbenow's office symbolizes the partnership between Augsburg and the East African Women's Center.

Doroth Mayer



East African women enjoyed opening gifts for their kitchen from Augsburg faculty, students, and staff at a "kitchen shower" initiated by Professor Bev Stratton's religion class.

staff, students, and friends. Fifteen women from Augsburg met nearly 20 East African women at the center, shared desserts and Somali tea, and gave them "presents" to open. In addition, cash gifts and Target and IKEA gift cards were given, to involve the East African women in shopping for their kitchen.

Mayer was delighted and called it a great event. "Mary Laurel came up with the most creative way to bring women together that I've seen yet. She is giving women an opportunity to share their cultures in a respectful and joyous way."

## Learning to lead

Mayer recognizes that new leadership must grow from the women at the center. She is encouraging them to actively engage in whatever learning

opportunities are appropriate to their personal situations and to develop their leadership skills so that some day they have the capacity to run the center that they call their "home away from home." "In addition," she says, "we need partners in the community who try to understand what we're doing ... partners who really get to know the women and plan together with them."

For Augsburg's part, this kind of partnership wouldn't be possible without its Center for Service, Work, and Learning, which establishes and nurtures a myriad of connections between the College and its surrounding neighbors—for tutoring, health education and fitness, sports clinics, music lessons, science teaching in the school, meals programs, use of campus facili-

Doroth Mayer



ties, college preparation sessions, and so on.

Augsburg partners with CSCM for two tutoring programs, one of which brings Somali high school students directly to campus twice a week for homework help from students in Augsburg's Honors Program. The other program targets elementary and middle school students for tutoring and receives snacks from the Campus

Kitchen at Augsburg College Monday through Thursday.

Already True has ideas for new projects, especially between the Women's Center and Augsburg's Women's Resource Center.

"We are so fortunate to have this new center in our neighborhood," True says. "There is so much we can learn from each other, and so many ways we can work together to enhance the lives of women in this community."

Hoyles confirms this, saying that during her time at the center she is gaining a stronger sense of community, and "understanding that our world isn't so big.

"I think students who do not learn about our community are really missing out," she says. ■

## From the Alumni Board president ...

**Greetings fellow Auggies,**

As I'm sure you're experiencing, the circle and cycle of life continues unabated this year. It is particularly noticeable to me this year because of the differences which reinforce the sameness (apologies and thanks to Dr. Palosaari—you helped me improve my writing skills tremendously and ensured that the poet in me remains untrammelled, too!). Let me explain ...

I'm both a student of and practitioner in the field of human systems dynamics. One way we model the world is through containers, differences, and exchanges. A container, like Augsburg College, is described by its differences which make a difference in the world. Then, as critical friends, we can exchange thoughts about those differences in our mutual container.

One difference at Augsburg I want to bring to your attention relates to Commencement:

- The school year is ending with graduation again—a common experience we alumni share and a tremendously important difference, that makes a difference in the lives of our alumni-to-be. Please join me in welcoming them into new stages of life as Auggie alumni by taking a moment to think warm, welcoming thoughts or remember them in your prayers.
- Augsburg has two Commencement ceremonies for the first time in its history—one on May 5 aligns the cycle of life of traditional day students and physician assistant students on semesters, and one on June 24 aligns with WEC and graduate program students on trimesters. Please join me in saluting Augsburg's leadership for recognizing the differences in the cycle of life for different parts of the student body and responding to provide a better graduation experience.

Another difference I want to encourage you to check out is our Online Community. Go to [www.augsburg.edu](http://www.augsburg.edu) and click on the Alumni and Friends link:

- To see up-to-date information on Alumni Relations
- To check out the benefits available to you as alumni (did you know that as alumni you can use Lindell Library? Check out the Alumni Benefits link!). Read about it on the next page.
- Log in to the Augsburg Online Community where you can search for fellow Auggies, keep the College up to date on contacting you, make a donation to support Augsburg, or read about fellow alumni. You can even read the minutes of the Alumni Association and its committees (log in to the Online Community, then select the Alumni Leadership>Alumni Board path).

And finally, as you make a difference in the world, remember to stay in touch. We want to hear from you and we want to be able to contact you.

- Let us know how you are and what you are doing through the Alumni Relations Office ([alumni@augsborg.edu](mailto:alumni@augsborg.edu) or 612-330-1181).
- Register and visit our Online Community ([www.augsburg.edu](http://www.augsburg.edu), click on Alumni and Friends, then Augsburg Online Community). Then update your profile and search for your fellow classmates.

Go Auggies!



Barry Vornbrock, '96 MAL  
President, Augsburg Alumni Association



### We're off to the races!

Auggie Night at the Races  
Canterbury Park, Shakopee  
Thursday, August 2  
5:30 p.m., picnic • 7 p.m., first race  
Complimentary entrance fee; fun for all ages. Space is limited.  
RSVP to [rsvp@augsborg.edu](mailto:rsvp@augsborg.edu) by July 26.

### Alumni Board meetings

Aug. 21, 5:30 p.m.—location to be confirmed

## Take advantage of Auggie alumni benefits

### Augsburg Legacy Award

The Augsburg Legacy Award is available to **full-time day students working toward their first bachelor's degree**, who are children or spouses of Augsburg graduates; siblings of current Augsburg students; or children or spouses of current ELCA pastors. No scholarship application is required. Students who qualify for both the Legacy Award and Regents' Scholarship or Transfer Regents' Scholarship will receive only one award, whichever is higher. Renewal is based on maintaining a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0, measured at the end of spring term.

Amount: Minimum \$4,000 per year

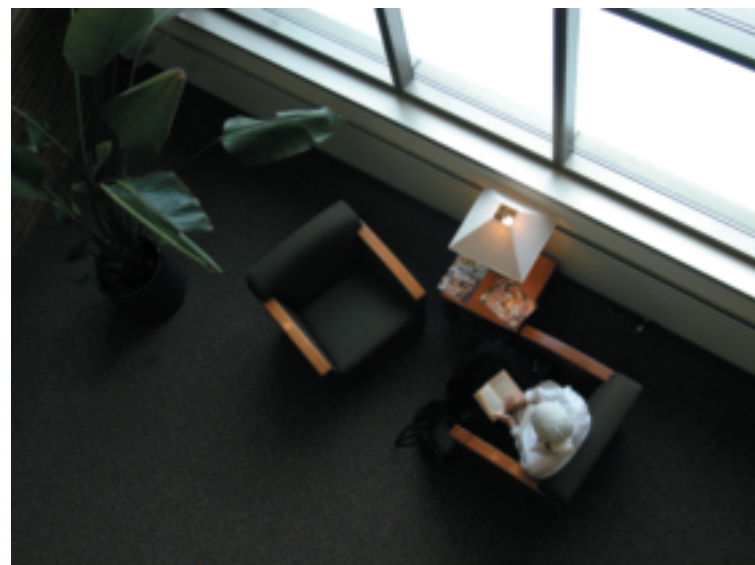
Deadline: Accepted for admission by May 1 for fall enrollment; or Dec. 1 for spring enrollment

[www.augsburg.edu/day/finaid/scholarships.html](http://www.augsburg.edu/day/finaid/scholarships.html)

### Discount on tuition for classes

Alumni are offered **up to four courses—one course per term—at 50% off the current part-time tuition rate** (day or weekend programs). This benefit does not apply to alumni whose enrollment qualifies them for full-time comprehensive tuition. Tuition discount must be applied for in the same academic year as the course is taken.

The following courses **do not** count for the benefits noted: directed study, independent study, internships, Summer School, graduate programs, study abroad, continuing education. The following **do** meet the requirements for the benefits noted: fall, winter, or spring term courses; student teaching; and partial courses (.50 and .25 education courses use one of the four benefits). **NOTE:** The tuition discount cannot be applied until after the 10th day of classes in the specified term.



### Book privileges in Lindell Library

Free Augsburg library cards with limited services are available to alumni. Check with the circulation or reference desks for further information on how to obtain a library card.

### Augsburg License Plate

Display your Augsburg connection! Available through the Minnesota Department of Transportation [www.dps.state.mn.us/dvs/PlBrochure/CollegiatePlates.htm](http://www.dps.state.mn.us/dvs/PlBrochure/CollegiatePlates.htm)



### Athletic facilities

Augsburg's athletic facilities are available to alumni when they are not in use for special events, classes, or other activities. If you plan to come, it's best to check first with the athletic facilities office at 612-330-1504, especially during the summer.

Schedules are posted outside of ice rinks A and B (neither rink is available during the summer), the gym, and the fitness centers. Note: Use of the fitness centers is available only to graduates of the College. Alumni may use the racquetball court by signing up on the posted sheets at the court. Reservations must be made in person—no phone reservations are accepted.

Alumni will be asked for identification when using the facilities. An Augsburg ID card (available in the Enrollment Center) or an A-Club pass will expedite your admission. Alumni using the facilities are allowed one guest each.

### Join the Augsburg Online Community

It's designed just for you—

- Keep in touch with classmates
- Find out what's happening on campus
- Send class notes about what you're doing
- Change/update your address and e-mail
- Update your profile so others can find you
- Make an online gift to Augsburg

It's fast and easy. Already, more than 500 alumni have registered.

Simply go to [www.augsburg.edu/alumni](http://www.augsburg.edu/alumni)—have you signed up?

If you have questions, e-mail [healyk@augsb.org](mailto:healyk@augsb.org).



## 1950

**Roger "Bud" Leak**, Excelsior, Minn., was named the 2007 recipient of the Cliff Thompson Award by the Minnesota Hockey Coaches Association, at its banquet in March. The award is given annually for "long-term outstanding contributions to the sport of hockey in Minnesota." He helped start the Minnetonka boys' hockey program in 1952.

## 1964

**Dennis J. Erickson**, Los Alamos, N.M., was awarded the Distinguished Service to Safety Award, the highest honor bestowed by the National Safety Council, in recognition of outstanding service in the field of safety. He has worked for 35 years at Los Alamos National Laboratory and is scientific advisor in the New Mexico governor's office.



## 1967

**Loren Dunham**, Fairmont, Minn., is retiring from public school teaching in Fairmont after 39 years in the classroom. He taught economics, psychology, American history, and International Baccalaureate courses, as well as coaching tennis and Economics Challenge and Knowledge Bowl. A former editor of *Augsburg Echo*, he says he feels he was "well-prepared academically for the many and various teaching assignments" he received. [dunfritz@charter.net](mailto:dunfritz@charter.net)

## 1968

**Lois (Hallcock) and Bruce Johnson**, Plymouth, Minn., were featured in a *Minneapolis Star Tribune* article in March about how families finance education. All three of their children—Leah, Thomas, and current senior Aaron—have attended Augsburg.

## 1969

**Matty (Janis) Mathison**, Shawano, Wis., was honored with the Women's Sports Advocates of Wisconsin Lifetime Achievement Award for 2007. In 1998 she retired from 35 years of teaching and 25 years of coaching volleyball at Shawano High School.

## 1970

**Susan Pursch**, Philadelphia, Pa., received the 2007 Tom Hunstad Award (known as the "Tommy") at the ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza. She has served as a youth minister and has coordinated and run programs for at-risk youth. Currently she is vice president for church and community partnerships at Liberty Lutheran Services in Philadelphia.

**Donald Q. Smith**, Portland, Ore., retired as the publisher and editor of the weekly *Monticello Times*. In October he was honored with the James O. Amos Award by the National Newspaper Association, one of the highest tributes in community journalism.

## 1976

**James Moen**, Carrollton, Texas, retired last year from 27 years of serving as band director in the Carrollton-Farmers Branch school district. To honor his legacy the district named the new fine arts wing at R.L. Turner High School after him.

In addition to spending retirement time with his family, he works with computers, is a substitute teacher, and accompanies students in music competitions. [JLJAMS@msn.com](mailto:JLJAMS@msn.com)

## 1977

**Rev. Dr. Mark Braaten**, Bullard, Texas, is senior pastor of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Tyler, Texas. His first book *Come, Lord Jesus: A Study of Revelation*, was published by Liturgical Press in January. His second book, on prayer, is scheduled for publication in fall 2008.

**James M. Strommen**, Minnetonka, Minn., was recently re-elected president of the Minneapolis law firm of Kennedy & Graven, a firm of 36 lawyers located in downtown Minneapolis and St. Cloud. He practices in the area of municipal franchise, construction, and utility law.

## 1978

**Rev. Guy Redfield** was installed in November as senior pastor at Chetek Lutheran Church in Chetek, Wis.

## 1980

**Carol (Kenyon) Dekker**, Sheboygan, Wis., began as an administrative and operations assistant in marketing and public relations roles at Burkart-Heisdorf Insurance in Sheboygan.

**James Rongstad**, Pine Island, Minn., was appointed in January to a three-year term on the Van Horn Library Board. This is the public library serving Pine Island. In February he was appointed treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Girl Scout Council of River Trails, serving southeast Minnesota.

**Gary Tangwall**, Lake Elmo, Minn., a senior financial consultant for the Landmark Group of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans in Lake Elmo, has been honored as the second highest performer in 2006 among the organization's 2,500 financial representatives. He is one of 25 Thrivent representatives invited to attend the Pinnacle Leadership Retreat in September in New York.



## 1985

**Jean Taylor**, Eagan, Minn., is president of Taylor Corporation in North Mankato, Minn., and has recently assumed additional responsibilities as chief executive officer.

**Denise (Rolloff) Tewes**, Lincoln, Neb., announces the release of her first original CD, *Apple of Your Eye*, contemporary Christian music drawing from the psalms and reflecting on some of life's experiences. She is choral director at Messiah Lutheran Church. [denise@denisetewes.com](mailto:denise@denisetewes.com)



## 1987

**Scott L. Anderson** married Susie Wilkey of Coon Rapids on April 8, 2006. He joined Farmers Insurance Group and Farmers Financial Solutions in March. They live in Minneapolis. ScottLAnderson38@msn.com.



## 1989

**Thomas Stutsman**, St. Louis Park, Minn., founded Stutsman Realty, Inc. in 1992 and is celebrating 15 years of business this year.

## 1991

**Mark Keating** and his wife, Amy, of Edina, Minn., announce the birth of their third son, **Aidan Howard**, on March 14, 2006. He joins brothers Owen, 5, and Carson, 3. Mark is an account executive at Symantec.



**Michelle Kay (Wincell) Nielsen** and her husband, William, welcome the arrival of a daughter, **Lena Kay**, on Dec. 10. They were married in September 2005 and live in St. Paul.



## 1992

**Stacy (Shiltz) Abraham** and her husband, Chris, in Milwaukee, Wis., announce the birth of **Elijah James**, on Jan. 26. Stacy is a teacher in the Milwaukee Public Schools. mrs.abraham@earthlink.net



**Sharol Tyra**, of Life Illuminations Presentations & Coaching has qualified for professional membership and joined the National Speakers Association.

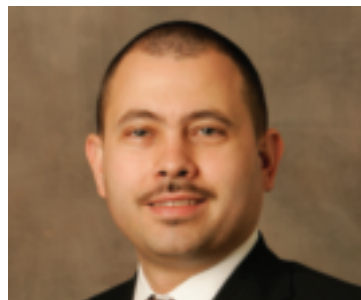
## 1993

**Kim (Swanson) Meslow** and her husband, **Jeff '92**, in White Bear Township, Minn., announce the birth of their third daughter, **Hanna Rose**, born on July 7. She joins big sisters Ally (5) and Kayla (3). kmeslow@swansonyoungdale.com

## 1994

**Will Stute** has joined the Minneapolis law firm office of Faegre & Benson as a partner in the Business Litigation Group, focusing on litigation matters, particularly commercial fraud. He also teaches Professional

Responsibility as an adjunct professor at William Mitchell College of Law.



## 1996

**Scott Magelssen**, Rock Island, Ill., saw publication of his book *Living History Museums: Undoing History through Performance*, by Scarecrow Press in February. It treats performance practices and historiography at living museums in the U.S. and Europe. He and his wife, **Theresa (Hoar) '95**, and two-year-old son, Trygg, will move to Ohio where Scott will teach theatre history at Bowling Green State University, starting in August.

**Heidi (Geyer) Ostrander** is a physical education teacher at Valley View Elementary School in Columbia Heights, Minn., where she teaches the Dance, Dance, Revolution curriculum. She was featured on the Fox *Morning Show* in February.

**Brooke (Manisto)** and her husband, **Erik Reseland '98**, in St. Anthony, Minn., welcomed a daughter, **Adeline**, born on Feb. 3. She joins big sister Elsa, 3.

## 1997

**Astrid Larssen**, of Oslo, Norway, is currently living in Sydney, Australia, where she is in the process of finishing up a PhD in computer science. She has also lived and worked in Norway and Ghana since leaving the U.S.

## 1998

**Brandon Reichel** and Shannon Geiger were married Aug. 28, 2004. They welcomed a baby girl, **Finley Vada**, on Jan. 17, who was 8 lbs., 5 oz., and 21.5 inches long.



**Wendy (Shields)** and her husband, **Bradley Reiners '99 PA**, in Prairie Farm, Wis., welcomed a son, **Jackson Patrick**, their first child, on Aug. 10. Brad works as a physician assistant at Luther Midelfort-Prairie Farm Clinic.



## 1999

**Aaron Smith** and **Jill (Pintens)** are proud to announce the birth of **Wyatt Douglas**, born May 20, 2006. They currently live in Tucson, Ariz., where Aaron is a surgery resident and Jill is a physician assistant.







With an internship at the White House, **Emily Soeder** carried out a dream and has stayed in Washington to gain the experience it has to offer for her future career choices.

## Inside the White House

Emily Soeder didn't realize how many statements she would be researching and fact checking, or how many definitions of ordinary words she would be looking up. But she did know that she had always wanted to work at the White House, and that is exactly where she landed during her last semester, before graduating summa cum laude from Augsburg in December.

She had known for some time about internships available at the White House, and during her senior year worked with Lois Olson in the Center for Service, Work, and Learning to complete and submit the online application. Several months later, she was living what was for her an "amazing experience" as one of about 70 interns selected for fall 2006, and one of three in the Office of Presidential Speechwriting.

"One of the most memorable projects I worked on was

annotating a version of the speech the president was going to deliver to the UN," Soeder says. It meant going through it line by line, ensuring the factuality of every word and statement.

When asked how the real West Wing compared to that of the TV show of the same name, Soeder notes that in reality the West Wing is very small—not the huge area it seems to be on TV. In fact, nearly all of the administration's staff offices are not located there, but next door in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building.

Beyond her specific duties, Soeder has learned a great deal from the contacts with executive branch staff, as the interns listened to speakers such as Karl Rove, assistant to the president, deputy chief of staff and senior adviser, and Harriet Miers, counsel to the president. Her

most exciting "Washington moment," she says, came in November when she met President Bush the day after election results came in.

Once her internship ended in December, Soeder was fortunate to be appointed as a confidential assistant to the assistant secretary in the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs at the U.S. Department of Education. Here, she works on projects, scheduling, and briefing materials.

Outside of work, Soeder volunteers as a tutor with Horton's Kids, a non-profit agency that provides services to children from nearby, low-income Ward 8 in D.C. The kids are bused to the Department of Education once a week for one-on-one tutoring by the employees.

While at Augsburg, Soeder was involved with College Republicans, and has now become active with Young Republicans in D.C. To be hired for political or legislative jobs,

she says, candidates generally need to show loyalty to a party or candidate. Campaigning at the grass roots is a great way to start building that experience, and she got a taste of it last fall by traveling to Ohio and Tennessee to work on local campaigns.

At this point, Soeder doesn't see herself staying in Washington, D.C., for a long time. She believes her career decisions will keep coming back to a basic question students at Augsburg are asked to consider—how am I going to impact the world in what I do? She appreciates the grounding she received in her communications courses, such as Persuasion, and the analytical skills and experience from participating on the Forensics Team.

For now, she's enjoying all Washington has to offer—politics, history, culture, and the excitement of being at the center of it all.

**Wendy (Hoekstra) Vogelgesang** and her husband, David, in Litchfield, Minn., welcomed twin boys, **August and Ewan**, born three months early on Aug. 1. They spent three months growing at St. Cloud Hospital and Fairview Riverside Hospital neo-natal intensive care units. Read their journey at [www.caringbridge.com/visit/wendyandboys](http://www.caringbridge.com/visit/wendyandboys). They are doing well now, but everyone has gone through a lot. Wendy went back to work as a kindergarten teacher at Litchfield Public Schools in January, while David is a stay-at-home dad.



## 2000

**Julia Mensing** works at Event Lab, an event-planning company, which was recognized for the second year in a row by the International Special Events Society (ISES) with a 2007 Minnesota Star Award in the "Best Event Design and Décor" category.

## 2001

**Amy (Stier) Eppen** and her husband, Jeff, in Belle Plaine, Minn., are proud to announce the birth of their son, **Caleb Todd**, born on Nov. 28. He was welcomed home by big sister Courtney, 22 mos. Amy is a therapeutic recreation coordinator at The Lutheran Home: Hope Residence.



## 2002

**Brendan Anderson**, Phoenix, Ariz., was commissioned by the Concordia Wind Orchestra in Irvine, Calif., to write a large concert piece, *The Gift and the Wise Men*, around the theme of Epiphany, for their orchestra and guest organist. It premiered in Phoenix while the orchestra was on tour in January.

## 2003

**Matthew Chappuis** and **Jennifer (Lemke)**, Apple Valley, Minn., welcomed their first child, a daughter, **Hattie Romae**, on Aug. 18, weighing 8 lbs., 3 oz., and 21 inches long. He is a middle school physical education and health teacher in the Burnsville School District, and she is an eighth-grade science teacher in the Inver Grove Heights School District.



**Holly (Ebnet) Knutson** and her husband, Jeremy, in Hugo, Minn., are the proud parents of a baby girl, **Adelei Marie**, born Nov. 28, weighing 8 lbs., 0 oz.,

and 21 inches long. Holly graduates in June with an MBA from Augsburg. [hknutson04@yahoo.com](mailto:hknutson04@yahoo.com)



## 2004

**Rick Dzurik** was featured in March on KARE-11 TV news as a music therapist working with hospice patients. With his guitar, he makes house calls or visits hospice units to sing music requested by the patients and families—one of only a few certified music therapists in the Twin Cities who do this.

**Anna Warnes** and **Nathan Erickson '03** were married in August and live in Eugene, Ore. Both are students at the University of Oregon; Nathan is pursuing a doctorate in sociology, and Anna is studying for a post-baccalaureate degree in nursing.



## 2005

**Carolyn Herman** is a Rotary Ambassador Scholar and will continue study of literature at the University of Hyderabad,

India, beginning in the fall. She is currently employed at Admission Possible, through AmeriCorps, where she works with 34 low-income, first generation students, encouraging them to stay in school and helping them apply to college. Her work with Admission Possible was featured in a *Star Tribune* article.

## 2006

**Katie Koch** began a new position in April as the executive assistant to Joe Dowling, artistic director of the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis.

## Graduate Programs

**Doris Rubenstein '93 MAL** is the new director for membership and development at the Resource Center of the Americas and draws on her background in Spanish, Peace Corps experience, and living in Puerto Rico and Ecuador. Her thesis focused on nonprofit organizations serving Minnesota's Latin population.

**Jill Boike '03 MSW** joined Family Innovations in 2005. She has developed a new employee/intern training program and is also working as an outpatient therapist and clinical supervisor. [jsalome@comcast.net](mailto:jsalome@comcast.net)





**Nick Thomley '06 MBA** was featured in the business section of the Minneapolis *Star Tribune* with a profile of the company, Pinnacle Services, that he founded while a sophomore in college. His high school job of working with disabled residents in assisted living led him to start a company that provides vocational, residential, and financial management services to the elderly and people with disabilities. In seven years, the company has reached \$7.2 million in revenue.

## In Memoriam

**Ernest ("Ernie") W. Anderson '37**, Edina, Minn., age 90, on March 18, unexpectedly. See story on page 2.

**Henry Erickson Chapman '40**, Coon Rapids, Minn., age 91, in Dec. 2006. He was a retired coach and athletic director from Proctor (Minn.) Public Schools and a member of Augsburg's Athletic Hall of Fame.

**Delbert Rhodes '41**, Renville, Minn., age 89, in Nov. 2006.

**Chester L. Brooks '42**, Duluth, Minn., age 89, on March 5. He was a Distinguished Alumnus and husband of **Ebba (Johnson) Brooks '42**.

**The Rev. Robert Erickson Warren '46**, Edina, Minn., age 82, on Feb. 27.

**Fabian C. Carlson '49**, Detroit Lakes, Minn., age 82, on July 21, 2006.

**Arlene Larsen '49**, Tacoma, Wash., age 75, on Dec. 13. Wife of **Harold Larsen**.

**The Rev. Oliver S. Solberg '49**, Appleton, Wis., age 87, on Jan. 10. Husband of **Viola (Nelson) Solberg '50**.

**Rachel M. Stennes '49**, Minneapolis, age 86, on Feb. 10.

**Robert Hofflander '51**, Clitherall, Minn., age 79, on Jan. 29, of myelodysplastic syndrome. Husband of **Dorothy (Gramling) Hofflander '50**.

**John E. Seaver, Sr. '54**, Edgerton, Wis., age 74, on Feb. 2, after a long illness.

**The Rev. James Glasoe Sr. '57**, Statesboro, Ga., on March 17, of lung cancer. Husband of **Nicole (Jacobson) Glasoe '62**.

**Regie S. Huber '74**, Maple Grove, Minn., on Nov. 1.

**Marlin ("Mike") Kloster '53**, of Willmar, Minn., age 77, on Jan. 20.

**Timothy W. Hanson '88**, Ogilvie, Minn., age 40, on March 18, of injuries from a car accident.

## 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@augsborg.edu](mailto:alumni@augsborg.edu). You can also submit news to the Augsburg Online Community at [www.augsburg.edu/alumni](http://www.augsburg.edu/alumni).

Full name

Maiden name

Class year or last year attended

Street address

City, State, Zip

Is this a new address? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Home telephone

E-mail

Okay to publish your e-mail address? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Employer

Position

Work telephone

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

If yes, class year

Spouse's name

Maiden name

Your news:

## Celebrating 20 years of leadership

by Kathy Rumpza, '05 MAL

On the evening of Sat., January 27, approximately 110 alumni, students, and guests gathered to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Master of Arts in Leadership program at Augsburg College. The keynote address was given by Ryan LaHurd, president and executive director of the James S. Kemper Foundation, and former vice president of academic affairs at Augsburg. His presence was appropriate because of the significant role he played in the MAL Program's inception.

More than 20 years ago, LaHurd was key in launching a task force to explore graduate options at the College. After much research and discussion with business leaders it became apparent that there was a need in the market for a different type of program than was currently being offered—the kind of program that would provide students with the crucial broad-based knowledge and skills needed for success.

Enter the era of an exciting program, differentiated from others by a liberal arts focus specifically on leadership. It offers solid content with academic rigor as opposed to a workshop format. The Master of Arts in Leadership program, started in January 1987, marked an important turning point for Augsburg and its entrance into the graduate market.

During its 20-year history, the program has gone through transformation. While content, schedules, and support staff have changed, the signature “leadership model” that forms the basis for the program remains steadfast. Feedback from students and faculty has helped to hone and refine course offerings, and relevant courses such as Women and Leadership have been introduced.

Another constant is the faculty. Norma Noonan, professor and director of the MAL program since 1993, notes that although the program has grown, she and instructors Diane Pike, Tom Morgan, and Garry Hesser have been teaching in the program since its inception. She says such loyalty comes from a simple idea—“faculty just love teaching in the program.”

Noonan credits much of the recent program growth to the addition of professional graduate recruiters, and the fact that the program caters to “students who seek personal development and challenge.” The classes are “exciting and very stimulating,” she says. “We’ve had pinnacle



Norma Noonan is professor of political science and director of the MAL program.

experiences in class ... students are almost electrified by some of the discussions.”

As far as alumni and students go, many have had life-changing experiences. Students often say that the program has changed their career paths, and many experience a personal metamorphosis as well. “People use it to define a turning point in their lives,” says Noonan. Individuals have been inspired to start their own businesses, and have been promoted to vice president or CEO positions.

While it is true that completing the program has changed personal and professional lives, Noonan says that “completion is not the greatest indicator of success.” She quickly adds, “it emboldens you to take more risks, and brings a maturity in judgment.” And that seems to be the more important point.

Although some aspects of the program have changed over time, it will remain a quality program that “tries to live the leadership model,” under the passionate direction of Norma Noonan. Her only regret: “That I didn’t have the knowledge—what we read, what we study—earlier in life.”

*For information on the MAL Program, go to [www.augsburg.edu/mal](http://www.augsburg.edu/mal)*

### MAL... by the numbers

- 203** MAL degrees conferred since 1989
- 21** MAL graduating class in 2006—the largest yet!
- 22** Current MAL faculty and adjuncts
- 56** Number of new MAL students in 2006-07





## The Oren Gateway Center is coming

Construction on the Oren Gateway Center is proceeding extremely well. The building should be ready for occupancy in the beginning of August, with departments and programs starting to move in during the middle of August.

Watch for more updates—and mark your calendars for a grand celebration on October 12!



### John 14: 1-3

A group of Augsburg students traveled by train to New Orleans to spend their spring break working for Lutheran Disaster Relief. Students spent five days gutting and rebuilding houses affected by Hurricane Katrina. Here, workers find a plaque from the Gospel of John that fell from the attic of the house in which they were working. The verse offered a great source for reflection by the students.

— Photo by Rachel Olson '08

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