

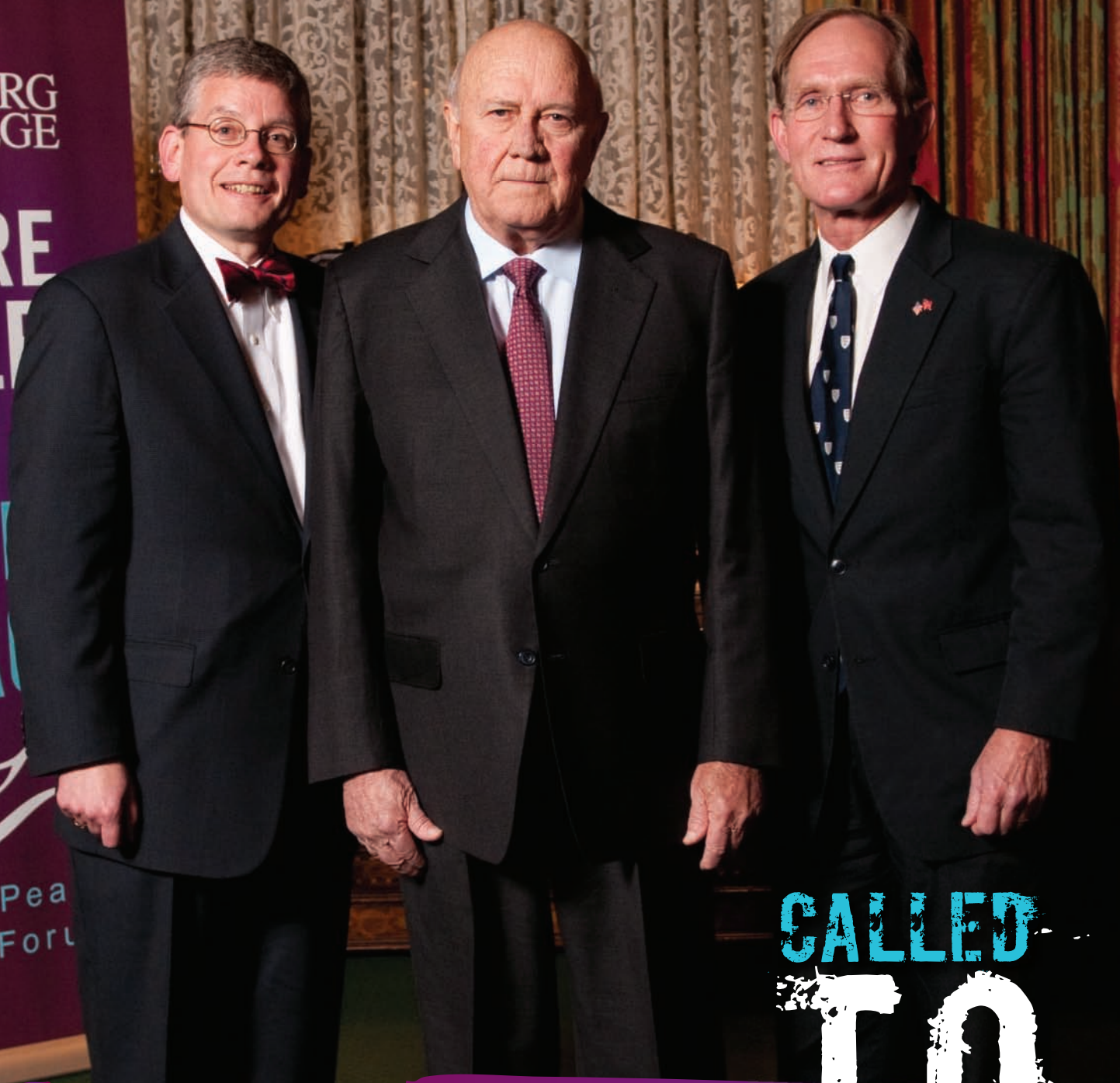
# AUGSBURG NOW

SPRING 2012  
VOL. 74, NO. 2

AUGSBURG  
COLLEGE

WE ARE  
CALLED  
TO  
INSPIRE  
PEACE

Nobel Peace  
Prize Forum



CALLED  
TO  
inspire  
peace

inside



The Magazine of Augsburg College

Auggie Pastors Nobel Peace Prize Forum  
International photo contest Writers' challenge  
Personality of place Roger Griffith '84



# NOTES

from President Pribbenow

## Innovation and excellence

As I write this, there is much conversation around the country about President Obama's challenge to colleges and universities to stem tuition increases and make higher education more accessible. It is an important challenge and one we take seriously at Augsburg.

In many ways, Augsburg's longstanding commitment to access and excellence prepares us well to address the challenge. We have developed a strategic model for using College-funded financial aid to make college accessible for a diverse student body. We are involved in ongoing efforts to link academic planning, enrollment outlooks, and a sustainable financial model. We focus our attention as a campus community on ensuring that students are at the center of our lives and that their success is our primary objective. All of these efforts are mission-based and challenge us to be open to innovative ways to ensure that Augsburg's excellence is sustained into the future.

In fact, Augsburg 2019, our strategic map, names innovation and excellence as one of our three key pathways to our future. (The others are student success and telling Augsburg's story in word and deed.) You will read in this issue of *Augsburg Now* about several innovative projects, including the Nobel Peace Prize Forum (see page 9), the American Commonwealth Partnership (see page 2), and the opening of the new Gage Center for Student Success (see page 3 and back cover).

All of this said, however, we still must ask ourselves a fundamental question about higher education and about Augsburg in particular. That question is this: Is it worth it? Why would any of us—parents and students who pay tuition, alumni and friends who make gifts—invest the time and energy and money that college demands?

It is a question I think a good bit about, though I certainly will admit my bias as a lifelong educator. In engaging in the important public conversations about the role of higher education for our economy and democracy, there is great value in re-

visiting the reasons why the sort of education Augsburg offers is worth it—for our students, graduates, and the world.

I find essayist and poet (and farmer) Wendell Berry's words in his prose-poem "Damage" particularly instructive when he writes: "No expert knows everything about every place, not even everything about any place. If one's knowledge of one's whereabouts is insufficient, if one's judgment is unsound, then expert advice is of little use."

Education, in other words, is not about taking someone else's word for it. It is about finding our own way into an understanding of our world and our whereabouts so that we might use our education to make our whereabouts safer and healthier, and more fair and just. This is how we think about education here at Augsburg. Students come here not to be filled up with someone else's knowledge but to find and ask their own questions, to test their own hypotheses, to create their own art and music, and to engage our neighborhood and world as they learn and serve. They come here to learn about themselves, to learn with each other and with our remarkable faculty, and to learn about the world they inhabit with all its diversity and complexity.

And then in a few short years, we send them out from here to use their education in service and leadership in the world. We count on them to take the questions they have asked here and knowledge they have gained about their whereabouts, and then we watch with great pride and expectation how their Augsburg education makes the world a better place for all of us.

Accountability for our plans and budgets? Indeed. Innovation and excellence in support of our students? You can count on it. But in the end, we must be passionate advocates for the value—the worth—of the sort of education Augsburg offers and the difference it makes for our students and the world. I thank all of you for your support and passion. Please share our amazing story!

PAUL C. PRIBBENOW, PRESIDENT

**Assistant Vice President of Marketing and Communication**  
Rebecca John  
rjohn@augsb.org.edu

**Creative Associate-Editorial**  
Wendi Wheeler '06  
wheelerw@augsb.org.edu

**Creative Director**  
Kathy Rumpza '08 MAL  
rumpza@augsb.org.edu

**Senior Creative Associate-Design**  
Jen Nagorski '08  
nagorski@augsb.org.edu

**Photographer**  
Stephen Geffre  
geffre@augsb.org.edu

**Director of News and Media Services**  
Stephanie Weiss  
weiss@augsb.org.edu

**Production Manager/Now Online**  
Mark Chamberlain  
chamberm@augsb.org.edu

**Sports Information Director**  
Don Stoner  
stoner@augsb.org.edu

**Director of Alumni and Constituent Relations**  
Kim Stone  
stonek@augsb.org.edu

[www.augsburg.edu](http://www.augsburg.edu)

*Augsburg Now* is published by  
Augsburg College  
2211 Riverside Ave.  
Minneapolis, MN 55454

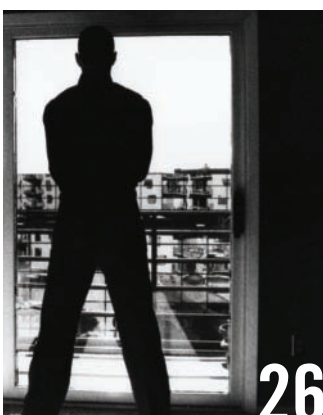
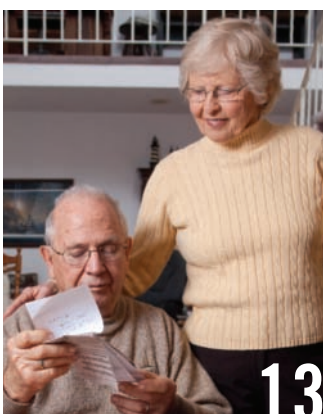
Opinions expressed in *Augsburg Now*  
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ISSN 1058-1545

Send address corrections to:  
Advancement Services  
CB 142  
Augsburg College  
2211 Riverside Ave.  
Minneapolis, MN 55454  
langemo@augsb.org.edu

E-mail: [now@augsb.org.edu](mailto:now@augsb.org.edu)





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At the 24th annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum, Augsburg's President Paul C. Pribbenow was joined by F. W. de Klerk, former South African president and 1993 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, and Peter Agre '70, 2003 recipient of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, and director of the Johns Hopkins Malaria Research Institute.

*All photos by Stephen Geffre unless otherwise indicated.*

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## American Commonwealth Partnership

Augsburg was named coordinator of the nationwide **American Commonwealth Partnership (ACP)**, launched in January by the White House Office of Public Engagement, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Association of American Colleges and Universities. The ACP is rooted in the recognition that education should be—must be—delivered for the common good rather than be allowed to become an individual benefit only for those who can afford it. As coordinator, Augsburg will work to deepen connections and relationships and create policies, initiatives, and practices in public engagement efforts across higher education. Read more on page 6 of this edition of *Augsburg Now*.

## Sports Extravaganza



Auggies majoring in physical education had the chance in November to work with more than 225 grade school kids from 27 schools during the **Sports Extravaganza**. All the youth who attended have developmental and/or physical needs and participated in nine different activities designed with their needs in mind. The program is a chance for future teachers to get hands-on practice working with students.



## Native American Youth Day

More than 250 Native American youth from grades 6 through 12 were on campus January 13 for **Native American Youth Day**. As part of their visit, the students from eight metro-area school districts had the chance to hear **Olympian Billy Mills** talk about living a drug-free, alcohol-free life. Mills, who was born and raised on the Pine Ridge (Lakota) Reservation in South Dakota, also spoke about “Unity through Diversity” in an evening presentation open to the public.

## Academic ACCREDITATION

### EDUCATION

The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Review Board granted **Augsburg's Education Department** programs continued national accreditation until 2017. Accredited programs include initial licensure programs in elementary, secondary, and special education at the undergraduate and graduate level. NCATE also granted a two-year accreditation to advanced licensure programs. In addition, the department's teaching and service to the community received the highest possible rating by the NCATE Review Board.

### NURSING

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Board of Commissioners granted accreditation to the College's post-master's **Doctor of Nursing Practice Program** for a term of five years, the maximum time frame granted for accreditation of new programs.





## Center for Global Education

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

The Center for Global Education celebrates its 30-year anniversary of offering cross-cultural learning experiences that foster critical analysis of local and global conditions. During December, CGE hosted its first trip to Cuba since 2005. The program provided participants an opportunity to learn about politics, health care, food security, workers' rights, and more. Beginning in the fall of 2012, Augsburg will conduct semester-long programs in Cuba with courses in history, political science, sociology, and Spanish language. The program will be coordinated by CGE in conjunction with the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, an organization based in Havana and dedicated to community development and national and international politics. Augsburg is one of only a handful of colleges to offer such a unique learning opportunity.

## Celebration of Philanthropy



The **Celebration of Philanthropy**, the second annual celebration of supporters and friends of the College, is **June 7**. The event is open to current annual donors who have made gifts of \$1,000 or more in fiscal 2012, Sven Oftedal Society members, donors who have made cumulative gifts of \$25,000 or more, and donors who have given to the College for 15 or more consecutive years. Invitations to the event will be mailed this spring.

## Clair and Gladys Strommen EXECUTIVE LEADER SPEAKER SERIES

The 2011-12 Clair and Gladys Strommen Executive Leader Speaker Series kicked off in November with **Steve Wehrenberg '78**, CEO of Campbell Mithun advertising agency. In February, the series welcomed **Keith Wyche**, a leading African-American executive and CEO of Cub Foods. The next event in the series, March 29, features **Jim Owens**, president and CEO of HB Fuller. All Strommen Executive Leader Speaker events are free and open to the public.



## GAGE CENTER CELEBRATION



Representatives of the Gage and Groves Family foundations joined Augsburg College staff and faculty in February for the grand opening of the Gage Center for Student Success and the Groves Center of Technology, located at the heart of campus on the second level of the Lindell Library.

## Modeling Constructive Debate: Sabo Public Policy Symposium

Augsburg's annual **Sabo Symposium** modeled constructive debate in addressing some of the contentious issues surrounding K-12 integration funding in Minnesota. The panel included Peter Swanson and Scott Thomas, co-chairs of the Minnesota Integration Revenue Replacement Advisory Task Force, who discussed their experiences on the task force to illustrate how people with differing perspectives can lead and model civil discourse in order to work together productively.



To learn more about the Symposium, go to [www.augsburg.edu/now](http://www.augsburg.edu/now).

## New academic programs

The Augsburg College Board of Regents has approved two new graduate-level programs—the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Creative Writing and the Master of Music Therapy—which will launch in the fall of 2013.

The **Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing** offers tracks in fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, and screenwriting. Playwriting will be added in 2014. The MFA will be offered through a low-residency, hybrid model that includes online and face-to-face learning.

The **Master of Music Therapy** will address changes to the minimum professional requirements for music therapists as set by the Music Therapy National Board. The program, offered via a combination of online and face-to-face learning formats, focuses on music and medicine, which is projected to be a growth field in nursing homes and hospice care.

Also, the Augsburg College faculty approved an **ESL (English as a Second Language) teacher licensure** program, an area of demand in K-12 education today. The program is currently pending final approval from the State of Minnesota and will be offered at the undergraduate and graduate levels of the College's teacher education programs.

## Where Condor Meets Eagle NATIVE AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL

Augsburg's Native American Film Series partnered with Phillips Indian Educators and the Parkway Theater to present a three-night film festival in March celebrating indigenous film, collaborations across national boundaries, and visual storytelling. The festival featured films by Bolivian and North American artists, many of whom attended the screenings and participated in audience discussions about their films. The festival title, Where Condor Meets Eagle, reflects the prophecy that when the condor (Bolivia) meets the eagle (North America), the Indigenous continent will be healed.



## Convocation Series 2011-12

**The Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation**, held January 16, featured T. Mychael Rambo, local actor, vocalist, and educator. The convocation featured other local performers using poetry, song, dance, and imagery to explore the topic, "Now is the Time: Giving Voice to the Dream."

Frederic Luskin, director of the Stanford University Forgiveness Project, spoke February 11 at the **Center for Counseling and Health Promotion Convocation** about the process of letting go of hurt, helplessness, and anger, while increasing confidence, hope, and happiness.

At this year's **Batalden Symposium in Applied Ethics**, members of the Augsburg community explored the effects of youth on political change in Egypt through first-hand accounts from members of the EYouth (Engaging and Empowering Egyptian Youth) project, who described their experiences as part of the protests and their observations about the process of youth-led political change in Egypt.

A full schedule of the 2011-12 Augsburg College Convocation series is available at [www.augsburg.edu/convo](http://www.augsburg.edu/convo).

Kenna-Camara Cotton, director of Voice of Culture Drum and Dance, a Minneapolis-based Black dance company, performs an African dance at the January Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation.

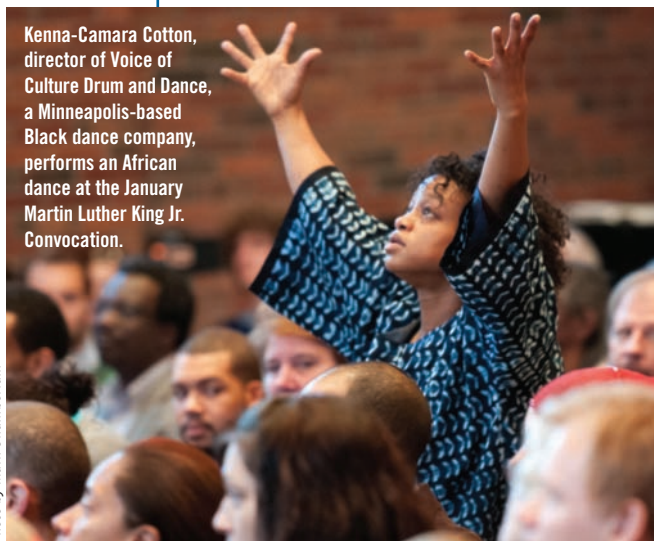


Photo by Mark Chamberlain



# my AUGGIE experience

## Beating the Odds

After completing her PhD from Yale in 2009, Chandra Erdman '02 was in high demand. She was recruited for tenure track teaching positions at several universities, and the global banking firm Goldman Sachs also came calling with an attractive offer. But Erdman's dream job was to work for the U.S. Census Bureau.

Today, she is one of the 39 percent of Washington, D.C., residents who work for the government. She is a mathematical statistician in the Center for Statistical Research and Methodology, a group that makes up less than one percent of U.S. Census Bureau employees.

She also happens to be the only African American ever to obtain a PhD in statistics from Yale University.

There was a time, however, when Erdman did not care about graduating from high school, much less obtaining a college degree. But with the encouragement and support from those who recognized her potential, she has not only succeeded as a scholar, she has also landed her dream job.

In the 10th grade, Erdman was truant 59 days; if she had missed 60 days, she would have been expelled. While speaking to mathematics students at Augsburg in January, Erdman said she had an "attitude" in high school. Despite her truancy and her bad attitude, she maintained a 4.27 grade point average (out of 4.33).

At the end of her 10th grade year, she met a man who directed a program that helped inner city youth focus on their education. "I didn't think college was an option for me," Erdman said. Neither of her parents had graduated from high school, and in the low-income housing community where she grew up, she knew no one who had gone to college.

Erdman enrolled in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options program (PSEO) at the

University of Minnesota. After two years, she transferred to Augsburg to complete her undergraduate degree in mathematics. "My only aunt who had been to college went to Augsburg," she said, "and this just felt like the right place for me."

Erdman continued to excel at Augsburg as a McNair Scholar, a federally-funded program that assists first-generation and low-income students with preparation for graduate school. She also conducted faculty-led research, served as a supplemental instructor for Calculus I and II, and tutored in mathematics. Through McNair, and with the guidance of several staff and faculty members, Erdman realized that a graduate degree could be in her future.

"They helped me along each step of the way, getting me prepared and helping me do what I needed to become a strong applicant to grad school," she said. Erdman applied to and was accepted by three graduate programs in statistics. She chose Columbia, where she received a full fellowship.

In the summer before graduate school and again following that year, Erdman participated in Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education (EDGE), a program aimed at helping women prepare for graduate study in mathematics. She completed her master's program in one year and then went on to Yale to pursue a PhD.

When she finished her PhD program, Erdman applied to the Census Bureau and heard nothing from them for three months. Then she learned that the director of the statistical research division was speaking at a conference in Washington, D.C. She bought a train ticket and went to meet him. "At the end of his presentation, I walked up to him, handed him my C.V., and said, 'I want to work for you.'" They talked, and he later invited her for an interview.

Today Erdman works in the Center for



Statistical Research and Methodology at the U.S. Census Bureau. "I wanted to work at Census because I wanted to look at good data, but I got put into the missing data methods group that only looks at bad data," she said. Still, she loves her work and speaks enthusiastically about the projects in which she has been involved.

Now that she is finished with school and settled into her career, Erdman hopes to find a way to mentor other young women through the EDGE program.

WENDI WHEELER '06

## Higher Education as a Public Good

In January, Augsburg joined the White House Office of Public Engagement, the Association of American Colleges and Universities, the U.S. Department of Education, other education organizations, philanthropies, and businesses in launching the American Commonwealth Partnership (ACP) to begin a year of activity exploring how colleges and universities can reclaim their civic identity. At the heart of this initiative is the recognition that higher education should be—and must be—delivered for the common good rather than be allowed to become an

individual benefit only for those who can afford it.

As part of the dialogue about the role of higher education in building civic identity, we asked Augsburg faculty from various academic departments to provide their perspectives on how higher education serves the public good. Their responses are published here.



For additional information on higher education as a public good, go to [www.augsburg.edu/now](http://www.augsburg.edu/now).

## AT THE CREST OF A WAVE

For many years, Augsburg, with its mission of educating students to be “informed citizens, thoughtful stewards, critical thinkers, and responsible leaders,” has resisted forces turning higher education into a private benefit rather than a public good. When the public opinion group Public Agenda recently sounded people’s

views on the role of higher education, they found little awareness that colleges and universities can contribute to the health of

neighborhoods, or that they educate students to be problem solvers with skills of working across differences.

But describing these roles in focus groups also generated animated discussion and created hope. Many remarked that few places any longer teach such skills. There was the sense that the country is dangerously polarized and losing control over our collective future.

On January 10 at the White House, many higher education groups launched a major new coalition, the American Commonwealth Partnership, to respond to the civic crisis. It has support from the Department of Education, which released a new “Road Map and Call to Action,” emphasizing citizenship education.

Augsburg is the inaugural host institution for ACP, which seeks to mobilize colleges and universities in developing “civic identity, not simply civic activities.” By engaging in this exciting project, Augsburg is at the crest of a new wave of reengagement of higher education with communities and the world.



**HARRY C. BOYTE** is the director of the Center for Democracy and Citizenship at Augsburg College and serves as national coordinator of the American Commonwealth Partnership.

## CITIZEN NURSES: A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE ON HEALTH

In our society today, people have become so medicalized that we often forget that health is not about the absence of disease but a place of belonging. At Augsburg College, the Department of Nursing has focused on returning to what nursing was originally intended to be about—relationships—by opening two drop-in community health centers.

One of these centers provides care to people living on the streets of Minneapolis. This center has been in existence for almost 20 years, and the nurses there engage with 120 people each week. We listen, provide basic necessities, and take the time to make sure people feel they are supported and are part of a community.

Our other drop-in center, the Health Commons at Dar Ul-Quba, is a new project focused on immigrant health in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood of Minneapolis. Our efforts at Dar Ul-Quba have been about trying to help people not only to understand our healthcare system but also

to realize how they can practice health and healing as they did in their country of origin. The center also helps people come together to create the change they want to see in their neighborhood.

To us, being citizen nurses means that we are working to strengthen our communities in ways that avoid the expert model. We see people as collaborators and co-creators. Through their experiences at the drop-in centers, Augsburg nursing students are changing their worldviews in ways that benefit our society. Our hope is to continue to do just that.



**KATIE CLARK** is an instructor in Augsburg’s nursing department and serves as coordinator of the Augsburg Nursing Center.

DEMOCRACY AND  
CITIZENSHIP

NURSING



“ In exchange for services rendered to the neighborhood organization, **Augsburg students are privileged to observe and learn** about citizenship, democracy, and being a ‘steward of place.’ ”

## AUGSBURG: AGENT AND ARCHITECT OF DEMOCRACY AND STEWARD OF PLACE

The work of Joel Torstenson, Bernhard Christensen, Myles Stenshoel, Vern Bloom, and Robert Clyde reveals the history of Augsburg’s role as agent and architect of democracy and steward of place and provides the context for our current activities. As I reflect and write about their work, I marvel at their insight, commitment, and capacity as agents and stewards of place, well before it was in vogue or even acceptable. I probably would not have remained in higher education were it not for Augsburg’s valuing such a commitment for faculty and welcoming me to be a part of this vision and endeavor.

For 30 years, students in my Human Community and Modern Metropolis course have engaged in a service-learning experience in collaboration with the official neighborhood organizations surrounding Augsburg: Cedar-Riverside, Seward, Phillips, and Powderhorn. In exchange for services rendered to the neighborhood organization, Augsburg students are privileged to observe and learn about citizenship, democracy, and being a “steward of place.”

In addition to seeing and feeling the value of grassroots efforts to take responsibility for a neighborhood and influence the wider political context, students have learned firsthand about community organizing, community development, and public service. Many students, as alumni, have expanded their sense of vocation, both as citizens and professionals, through these engagements with the commonwealth and as stewards of place.



GARRY HESSER is a professor of metro/urban studies and sociology at Augsburg College.



To read Hesser’s complete submission, go to [www.augsburg.edu/now](http://www.augsburg.edu/now).

## FROM COMPLEXITY TO COMPASSION

In his book *My First Summer in the Sierra*, John Muir offered a sentiment which, more than 100 years later, represents as good a justification for higher education in contemporary society as one is likely to find in any college catalogue: “When we try to pick out anything by itself,” he says, speaking of the profoundly ecological nature of the world, “we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe.”

To be sure, college campuses—meaning the empirical kind with living, breathing students, with staff, teachers, textbooks, trees, quads, and stadiums—sit squarely at the various junctures of this tangled-up creation, seeking from these vantage points to understand through intensive study the pressing issues, the timeless questions, and the persistent, ineluctable mysteries that unite our places in time and space with those of countless others.

College is literally *where* and *when* we hope to experience the joy that comes with accessing the eternal through the particular. It is where we come to study, in our specific yet overlapping disciplines, the problems of the world so as to appreciate the complexity of all things—because it is, without question, an informed appreciation for complexity that inspires reflection and breeds compassion.



COLIN IRVINE is an associate professor of English at Augsburg College and serves as the summer 2012 research coordinator for the College’s Office of Undergraduate Research and Graduate Opportunity (URGO).

“ College is ... where we come to study, in our specific yet overlapping disciplines, the problems of the world so as to appreciate the complexity of all things. ”

## ARTS-BASED CIVIC DIALOGUE

Arts programs in higher education are all the more vibrant when a wealth of voices and bodies come together to create and discuss work. Community-engaged performance is progressive pedagogy; it's theater by, for, of, and about the people—and it can be an integral part of a civic-minded college culture.

Last winter, the student ensemble of *The Living Newspaper Project: Everyone Has Something* used collective research, writing, workshops, and performance to generate discussion about a taboo topic: the stigma attached to mental illness. They engaged with audiences through post-show talkbacks and panels, academic conferences, letters in the *Augsburg Echo*, and outreach to local community organizations.

Next fall, students will be invited to tackle a Town Hall Nation project by creating short performances around campus that gen-

erate civic dialogue on campus about students' financial needs and crises. Town Hall Nation is a national engagement initiative inviting arts organizations, colleges and universities, and other community groups to create 30-minute events that demonstrate, present, or embody an ideal town hall meeting. Students of any major may audition for or volunteer to participate in the Town Hall Nation project, as with any other Theater Department production.



SARAH MYERS is an assistant professor in Augsburg's Theater Arts Department.

“Community-engaged performance is progressive pedagogy; it's theater by, for, of, and about the people—and it can be an integral part of a civic-minded college culture.”

“In transforming individuals, **we transform our communities** and our world.”

## DEVELOPING INDIVIDUAL AGENCY TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

Higher education is often viewed as separate from the public arena, something accessible to a few and beneficial to only the individual. However, higher education greatly impacts the public good, and that impact is the true mission of higher education. In transforming individuals, we transform our communities and our world.

In this era of globalization, individualism seems to serve little purpose. Preparing children to live in a global society is essential and should begin in the K-12 years. Higher education then is a continuation of that learning and a time to step out into the world. With this in mind, while higher education does serve the individual, the larger goal is the influence each individual will have on the greater public good.

The impact of higher education is increasingly more visible and far reaching. More frequently, civic engagement has become part of higher education curriculum. The need for students to see and experience a more seamless connection to their acquisition and application of knowledge is essential. Knowledge is not only something centered in higher education institutions; it is also something constructed and exercised within the community. Knowledge then becomes transformative not only to the individual but to the broader community, society, and world. This is increasingly being seen through civic engagement projects such as Public Achievement, service learning, and travel abroad experiences where students and faculty “develop agency” through active rather than passive means that, in turn, inform theory and future practice.



SUSAN O'CONNOR is an associate professor of education at Augsburg College.





"I can really say that [the Nobel Peace Prize Forum] has changed my perspective of the world around us!"

"Couldn't have asked for a more thought-provoking and inspiring three days."

These are just two of the sentiments shared via social media by participants of the 24th annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum, held March 1 to 3.

The Nobel Peace Prize Forum exists to inspire peace-making by celebrating the work of Nobel Peace Prize laureates. Founded as a unique partnership between the Norwegian Nobel Institute and five Norwegian private colleges—Augsburg, Augustana (Sioux Falls), Concordia (Moorhead), Luther, and St. Olaf—the Forum this year moved to its new, permanent location in the Twin Cities. It is organized by Augsburg college in partnership with the Humphrey School of Public Affairs and with ongoing sponsorship from the original college partners.

With "The Price of Peace" as its theme, the 2012 Forum introduced a new format with topical tracks—Business Day, Arts and Music Day, Education Day, and Global Studies Day—to engage participants in exploring the relationship of stability and peace to business, to arts and music, to education, and to international policy.

A number of tracks and events were sold out, including Business Day, the Education Festival, and Global Studies Day. In fact, as coverage by major Twin Cities media grew on the second day of the Forum, more than 200 additional tickets were sold for the closing day of the event.

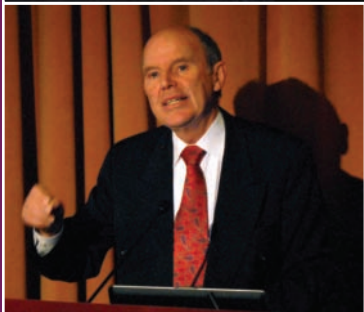
In addition to the tremendous attendance, the Forum fostered dialogue around the world through livestreaming. Students from Assumption University of Bangkok, American College of Norway, the Copenhagen Business School, Nagasaki University, and Nelson Mandela University of South Africa watched keynote addresses live, submitted questions, and engaged in dialogue about peace.



For additional photos, video links, and social media quotes about the Forum, go to [www.augsburg.edu/now](http://www.augsburg.edu/now)

# NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FORUM

WE INSPIRE PEACEMAKING







# NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FORUM 2012

**“The prizes of peace, in fact, come to us in very little stages...but in order to claim them, we must be willing to pay the price...We have to be willing to recognize and celebrate the humanity of those whom we view as enemy...We must start from the place of believing that those who are opposed to us...are human beings with a story of their own to tell. We must start from an awareness that our side is not necessarily all good.**

The price of peace is the price of our pride...the certainty that we are right...the comfort that we are on God's side...As we go out into our lives, be prepared to pay the price for peace—the price of uncertainty, the price of humility, the price of recognizing our connectedness as human beings.”

—Naomi Tutu, Nobel Peace Prize Forum “Call to Action” address, March 3, 2012

Augsburg College thanks the sponsors of the 24th annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum, whose financial support and subject matter expertise helped make the 2012 Forum a success.

We also owe thanks to the many volunteers, faculty, and staff from all of the participating colleges and universities. We are grateful for the perspectives shared by speakers, the participation of our student and community attendees, and the dedicated work of the volunteers who ensured this rich and vibrant event ran smoothly from beginning to end.

Now that the 2012 Forum has concluded, we invite you to stay connected to the work of the Nobel Peace Prize Forum by signing up for e-mail updates at [www.peaceprizeforum.org](http://www.peaceprizeforum.org), and by following us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/nobelforum](http://www.facebook.com/nobelforum)) and Twitter (@NPPF).

Finally, be sure to mark your calendars for March 7-9, 2013. We look forward to seeing you next year!

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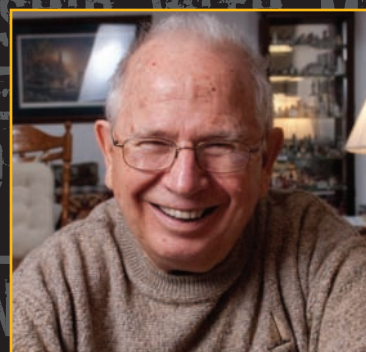
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**THE 25TH ANNUAL NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FORUM**  
**March 7-9, 2013**  
Augsburg College and the  
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I KNOW SOME INSIGHTS INTO DR. COLACCI'S EARLIEST LIFE AT AUGSBURG BECAUSE HE TOLD ME HIS STORY AS I DROVE HIM FOR MANY SUNDAY AFTERNOONS MY FRESHMAN YEAR. HE DID NOT LIKE TO DRIVE ON COUNTRY HIGHWAYS TO SPEAK AT LUTHERAN PARISHES IN MANY TOWNS WEST OF MINNEAPOLIS. HE TOLD THE STORY ABOUT HIS EARLY LIFE AS A YOUNG PROFESSOR. THIS IS WHAT WAS MOST FASCINATING TO HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE WHO HEARD HIS STORY. HE WAS PERSONALLY GIVEN THE TASK BY THE POPE IN ROME TO GLEAN [SIC] WHAT HE DISCOVERED ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER. HE SOON WANTED TO SECRETLY LEAVE ROME ON AN AMERICAN CARGO SHIP WITH MINNEAPOLIS AS HIS DESTINATION. BEFORE TRAVELING HE HAD ARRANGED FOR AN ATTRACTIVE NUN TO GO WITH HIM ON THE NEXT SHIP. PROFESSOR COLACCI HAD A BRILLIANT MIND. AS A YOUNG BOY HIS FATHER KNEW THAT AN AMERICAN WAS SPENDING MONEY FOR EVERY PAGE OF CLASSICAL LATIN THAT HE MEMORIZED.



BY WENDI WHEELER '06

# WE ARE CALLED.

# AUGGIE PASTORS.

Last year, Bob Bagley '58 submitted an idea for a story about his teacher, mentor, and friend, Mario Colacci.

His submission sparked an idea. We decided to interview different generations of Augsburg pastors who have served in a variety of settings. We wanted to know who inspired them. We wanted to share their experiences and highlight the similarities and differences in their ministries. We wanted to know what they want our readers to know about their lives as servants.

The following interviews are with pastors Bob Bagley '58, David Lillejord '86, Jeni Falkman Grangaard '02, Peter Morlock '90, and Stephanie Quick-Espinoza '01.



To read Bob Bagley's story about Mario Colacci, go to [www.augsburg.edu/now](http://www.augsburg.edu/now).





**Retired. First call in Papau New Guinea; served most recently part-time at Christ Lutheran in Lake Elmo, Minn.**

**As a pastor, what did you learn that you didn't expect to learn?**

Here's the biggie: Bishop Rogness' dad, Alvin Rogness...when I came to a rural parish after being in New Guinea, he said, "Bob, you use this small parish to better yourself for future ministry."

So here's what I did. I made advanced standing in clinical pastoral education. I was endorsed for specialized ministry, which most pastors don't make, specializing in chaplaincy work in hospitals. After my fourth parish, I went to Hazelden and did a four-year chaplaincy program. Then I was endorsed for veterans' hospital ministry. I was a chaplain for a year at the big VA Hospital in Minneapolis.

**What is an issue that you never imagined yourself dealing with as a pastor?**

The first parish after Papua New Guinea was easy because it was a bunch of loving, Norwegian farmers. It was a good place to get re-acclimated to the American way of doing things after five years overseas.

**What are some of the most interesting or prominent changes you've seen in the church in your career or since you went to seminary?**

There's a lot more support in empowering the pastors to do what they're most gifted to do. You can't do everything; you can't be good at everything. I think a middle-sized parish should have a changeover of pastors every six years because in six years you've kind of done everything and it's time to move on.

The concept of the old Lutheran Free Church and many of the old ELC churches was that they were tired of the pastor doing

everything and deciding everything, and they hardly needed a church council. The reaction to that was "We're going to tell the pastor what to do." Now it's changed so that the pastors are empowered to do whatever they're most gifted in.

**What are your own spiritual practices? Where/to whom do you turn for guidance and encouragement?**

I work with 60 global students at Luther Seminary who come from all over the world. I also did ministry with people with alcohol and drug issues. At Gethsemane Lutheran in Maplewood and where I am now, I established Stephen ministry, an outreach. I do more training to help others minister to people in great need.

**Is there a particular passage of scripture that frames your call to ministry?**

It would be where Jesus said to the whole church, "I send you."

The motto that I follow is: Go out and share the love of Jesus, and only if necessary, say something. Naomi (my wife) says too often I end up telling people I'm a pastor. She says, "You don't have to say anything. Just be you."

**What is one thing you wish non-clergy knew about your life/identity/call as a pastor?**

I've never been satisfied to stop growing in pastoral care and I'm available when people want to talk. The gift I learned from a Catholic priest in my chaplaincy training is this: He asked me what I consider to be my primary gift. I said, "I don't know." He said, "When you're talking with someone, there's just an automatic pipeline between

your eyes and their eyes, and that removes all reluctance to talk." I can get people to share stuff with me that normally would take four or five visits, but they know I care about them by just looking them in the eye.

**What is one of your most memorable services?**

At the VA Hospital, I touched the lives of people there who, if I hadn't had special training, I wouldn't have been able to help. One guy owned a million-dollar auto dealership, and he wouldn't sign his will and he was dying. It was on a Saturday that I wasn't even supposed to work. The people were waiting for me at the door saying I needed to come up and talk to their dad. I sat down with him and his son and had Holy Communion as a Lutheran priest (he was Catholic). When we were done, I said, "Your family is so upset. It's unbearable for them that the doctor says you're dying, and you haven't signed your will." He kept saying, "Nope. I got a few loose ends to tie up at the dealership." In the end, I got him to sign his will by promising I would help him tie up the loose ends. A cheer went forth to the Lord above. The next day he was playing cards with his friends in the hospital, and three days later he died.

**What do you think you would be if you were not a pastor?**

I probably would have followed in my older brother Emil's footsteps and have done some aspect of social work.

**When you meet God, what do you hope God says to you?**

Well, I would be meeting Jesus, not God, and he would say, "Well, welcome thou good and faithful servant."





# DAVID LILLEJORD '86

Senior Pastor, Mount Calvary Lutheran in Eagan, Minn., until March 2012; now Senior Pastor, St. Andrew in Eden Prairie, Minn.



### **As a pastor, what did you learn that you didn't expect to learn?**

I mostly learn about myself—what I do well, what I can improve upon. As a little kid who grew up in a parsonage, I knew people inside and out and was able to see in them the really good and the really bad or indifferent. I knew the goodness and the wonderful nature of the church and the underbelly, so what I've learned in 20 years is mostly about myself.

### **What is an issue that you never imagined yourself dealing with as a pastor?**

I think the issue is the number of people who simply are not attending church, even people that years ago would have naturally been inclined to find a new home, start a family, baptize their kids, go to Sunday school, and become involved in the life of the church. There's a whole subset of people who simply have not engaged for myriad reasons.

### **What are some of the most interesting or prominent changes you've seen in the church in your career or since you went to seminary?**

I think an awful lot of changes have happened in seminary training. When I attended 20 years ago, it was simply, "We need to teach you how to teach people the historical context and facts about the Bible." I think now it is so much more, "What does this mean for our life?" I do think the younger people who do go to church want a direct connection between what scripture says and how it will connect with their lives. That means we have to make our message contemporary and even futuristic.

### **What are your own spiritual practices? Where/to whom do you turn for guidance and encouragement?**

I'm part of a team ministry, and I'm able to hear really good sermons delivered by my colleague. It's hard to listen when you're talking, so I'm fed in and through my colleague who preaches the gospel well. For guidance and encouragement, I'm so inspired by the members of the congregation. I'm always greatly fortified by the faith that parishioners have. I go in as a kind of spiritual lifeguard, and they end up humbling me. They encourage me because they live out their faith. It's like a good teacher who is fed by the students. My biggest supporters are my wife and children. They are my lifeline—other than Jesus, of course.

### **Is there a particular passage of scripture that frames your call to ministry?**

I would say more of a theme or concept, one I learned from one of my many mentors. It is that God is in relationship with you through Jesus. It's a declaration; it's not a theory or something that needs to be validated. It's just "God is," and you explore how that's true. You notice it, you name it, and you claim it.

### **Who at Augsburg inspired or guided you, and how?**

The religion professors at Augsburg were helpful to my life of faith because they were "good" and solid Lutherans. I have heard stories of Lutheran colleges that tell students: "What you were taught in Sunday school and Confirmation was wrong." Thankfully, the professors at Augsburg helped us look deeper into scripture through a Lutheran lens.

### **What is one thing you wish non-clergy knew about your life/identity/call as a pastor?**

The importance of balancing all those three and the holistic nature of that continuum. Being a pastor today is different, thankfully, than when my dad was younger, which was you basically served the church, often at the expense of spending time with family. I have a wife (Joy) and three children: two in hockey and one in soccer who also rides horses.

Also it's important for members to know that the vast majority of pastors are trying as hard as they can. It's just a very difficult and challenging job.

### **What is one of your most memorable services?**

We had a healing service a number of years ago for a woman who was diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer. We had never been asked to have a healing service before. So we constructed a service with the laying on of hands. Not that long after the healing service she went to the doctor and they did tests, and the cancer was gone. When we heard about the lack of cancer, even we were amazed.

### **What do you think you would be if you were not a pastor?**

After this long I can't imagine what it would be; however, psychology also makes me tick.

### **When you meet God, what do you hope God says to you?**

It would probably be, "Your mom's over here." She died much too young, and I would love to see her again.

### **As a pastor, what did you learn that you didn't expect to learn?**

It's a huge learning experience ... things from how to learn about sump pumps, budgeting, working with office managers, how to be tactful and graceful, how to balance a really chaotic life and come at it with some sensibility and some sense of peace—all of these are a big part of my learning experience.

### **What is an issue that you never imagined yourself dealing with as a pastor?**

One is dealing with a local sugar producer. A lot of our people harvest beets, and we have a lot who work in the plant. Their union has been locked out since August. There are some people who aren't union who are working 12-hour shifts now and can't see their families. I also have people who are on the board there. So I don't make any comments on the issue. It's really messy, and there's no one side to stand on.

### **What are your own spiritual practices? Where/to whom do you turn for guidance and support?**

Spiritual practice for me means finding time for silence. Colin (husband) and I went to Taizé in France and got into the rhythm of simple prayer, silence, and meditation. I turn to colleagues and good friends who are in similar positions for guidance. There are some good seasoned pastors who have made themselves available to have conversations with, and certainly our bishop's staff at the synod has a lot of experience.

### **Who at Augsburg inspired or guided you, and how?**

Augsburg was a place that really rooted my faith in the world and really shaped the person I am today. Having not grown up in church, I was so young in faith when I came

to Augsburg. The Religion Department faculty took time to respond to my questions, especially Janelle Bussert, Bev Stratton, Mark Tranvik, Lynn Lorenzen, Brad Holt, Phil Quanbeck, and Lori Brandt Hale. Pastor Dave Wold and Pastor Sonja Hagander were my first pastors, and they invited me into the language and liturgy of being Lutheran. The Center for Global Education taught me to see that faith isn't just a personal relationship with God but a deep engagement with the world, especially in places of suffering; they helped me to see that God is with those who suffer. Augsburg prepared me to be a pastor before I began discerning the call to ordained ministry.

### **Is there a particular passage of scripture that frames your call to ministry?**

There have been a lot of different verses that I've clung to at different times. Galatians 2:19-21.

*<sup>19</sup> For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; <sup>20</sup> and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. <sup>21</sup> I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.*

### **What is one thing you wish non-clergy knew about your life/identity/call as a pastor?**

I just want people to know I'm easy to talk to, and I'm not trying to get anything from them. I'm not here to tell people they are behaving badly. I'd rather just talk about the gospel. I want people to know we don't fit into a mold, and pastors aren't the guardians of the gospel. No one can claim ownership on the gospel.

### **What is one of your most memorable services?**

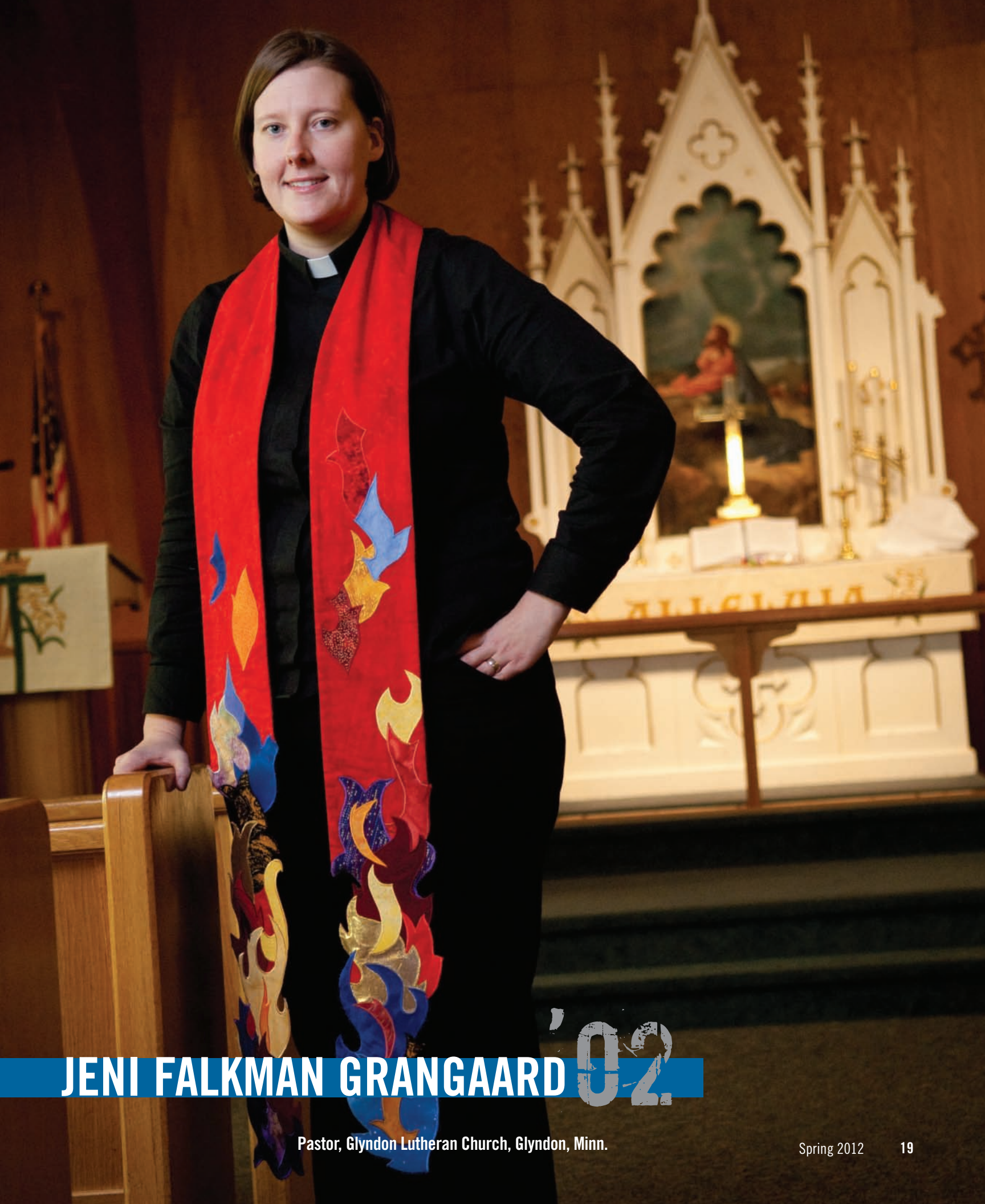
I did a prayer service and funeral for a 54-year-old man who had served on the board of a local company. There were over 1,000 people, and we had to have the funeral at a bigger church in town. There's something strangely beautiful about a funeral. There's no pretending. It's an inevitable part of life. Sometimes it's a celebration, but this one was special. Before I entered the church, I closed my eyes and was praying, and there was a beautiful light streaming in through the stained glass windows. It was a really meaningful service. I'm still reflecting on it and getting comments on it. Working with the family has been strangely affirming and grounding.

### **When you meet God, what do you hope God says to you?**

What I hope I'd hear God say is, "I kinda like that Josh Ritter song, too." The song is *Thin Blue Flame*, and it includes lyrics like: "Only a full house gonna have a prayer," and "You need faith for the same reasons that it's so hard to find," and "And all wrongs forgotten and all vengeance made right. The suffering verbs put to sleep in the night."

### **What do you think you would be if you were not a pastor?**

If I knew, I would go be that. I don't know! Sometimes I think I'd like to be a chef. I like the idea of making meals and baking bread and spending time with people. Part of me wants to design websites. The thing about being a pastor that is so appealing, other than the vocational call that brings you there, is that you have permission to be a generalist. You get to do a lot of different things.



**JENI FALKMAN GRANGAARD '02**

Pastor, Glyndon Lutheran Church, Glyndon, Minn.

Spring 2012

19



### **As a pastor, what did you learn that you didn't expect to learn?**

All kinds of stuff! One of the things that they can't really teach you in seminary is how to get into a community and to become part of that community. You can't really teach how to enter into the daily life and get a sense of the pulse of the community.

### **What is an issue that you never imagined yourself dealing with as a pastor?**

One of the things I've found myself dealing with that I hadn't thought of while I was in seminary is helping people with their day-to-day problems. There's such a variety of things that may come up. One day you're talking with someone about their medications, which I know nothing about, or you're talking with someone about daily living and how it is to do that.

### **What are some of the most interesting or prominent changes you've seen in the church in your career or since you went to seminary?**

One of the trends I've seen over the years is a wider inclusiveness, if you will, in an issue that's near and dear to my heart. I've seen a concerted effort by the church to make their buildings and their worship services and facilities more accessible and more friendly to folks with disabilities. All the things that bring people in and into contact with the gospel are good stuff.

### **What are your own spiritual practices? Where/to whom do you turn for guidance and encouragement?**

One of the challenges of being a pastor, especially in a setting like this, is where I go to feed myself, to "the well." I have a men's Bible study that I'm part of at

church, and they have become the group where I go to get fed. I also meet regularly with my chaplain colleagues in the area, and we worship and pray together.

### **Who at Augsburg inspired or guided you, and how?**

Without doubt major influences during my time at Augsburg would include the following people: Pastor Dave Wold, Don Gustafson, "Gabe" (Prof. Stephen Gabrielsen), Tom Rossin, and my fellow choir members (1986-1990).

One of the things that I truly appreciate about Augsburg, even today, is the willingness to engage the idea of vocation and make intentional questions about the connection between faith and life. Throughout my time at Augsburg and even beyond that, these people were/are instrumental in my walk of life and faith. In broad strokes they helped to provide the arena in which my self-understanding and my sense of call were shaped and honed. Daily contact with these folks helped me to see vocation in action and also gave me the space and the courage to face and voice my questions. They were, and still are, willing to engage with me and push me in conversation and prayer.

### **Is there a particular passage of scripture that frames your call to ministry?**

The walk to Emmaus story resonates really highly with me, particularly in the work I do now. A lot of what I'm called to do is walk alongside people at the end of life. I also like Psalm 121.

### **What is one thing you wish non-clergy knew about your life/identity/call as a pastor?**

I think the perception is that pastors are

people who work only on Sundays. In this setting, people aren't entirely sure what to do with you. One thing I wish folks would think of is the importance of spiritual stuff, the spiritual nature, and how that needs to be supported and fed.

### **What is one of your most memorable services?**

We did a service on our Alzheimer's unit to break up the winter blahs. We did a renewal of vows ceremony for one of the residents and her husband.

They'd been married for 56 years. We had a big wedding party, and what was really neat is that on that unit, it's kind of a crapshoot as to whether or not the resident will remember who their family members are.

For that particular moment in that service, the wife, Alyce, walked out of the kitchen and she saw her husband, and her face lit up, and she came up to him and chuckled him in the chin and said, "Let's do this again, sweetie."

It was awesome. It turned out to be a meaningful experience for Alyce and her husband and their family because they'd never had a wedding. Their families didn't like each other, so they eloped. And they both passed away within three months of that ceremony.

### **What do you think you would be if you were not a pastor?**

A kindergarten teacher.

### **When you meet God, what do you hope God says to you?**

"Hi, welcome home." That's the short answer.





# PETER MORLOCK <sup>'90</sup> AND GUIDO

Director of Spiritual Care, Cerenity Senior Care, St. Paul.



Senior Pastor, New Hope Lutheran Church/  
Iglesia Luterana Nueva Esperanza in North Aurora, Ill.

# STEPHANIE QUICK-ESPINOZA

'01



**As a pastor, what did you learn that you didn't expect to learn?**

How to get rid of chickens roosting in the sacristy!

**What is an issue that you never imagined yourself dealing with as a pastor?**

Racism. We often feel that our U.S. society is advanced and racism no longer exists, but we are ignorant to and/or ignore how it permeates our lives, culture, and even our church. It is difficult for me to see how racism has affected the lives of the people I have been in ministry with—from Inupiaq in Alaska, to Nicaraguans living in Costa Rica, to Mexicans and other Latinos in the Chicago area.

**What are some of the most interesting or prominent changes you've seen in the church in your career or since you went to seminary?**

A decrease in the intentionality of becoming an inclusive, multi-cultural church. I would like to see more support of ethnic ministries within our church. For example, there are no longer classes held in Spanish at the seminaries for Spanish-speaking student pastors.

**What are your own spiritual practices? Where/to whom do you turn for guidance and encouragement?**

I attend the Spanish worship service on Saturdays at the congregation my husband serves, San Andres Lutheran Church. The

mostly Mexican congregation has a great love for the Virgin of Guadalupe (Mary). As a person firmly grounded in Lutheran tradition and faith, I have incorporated the Virgin into my spirituality and turn to her for guidance and encouragement. My Lutheran and Christian faith says that I only need to pray directly to God. I don't need intercessors, though I find it comforting to ask the Virgin, as mother of our Lord Jesus and mother of all of us, to pray with me.

**Who at Augsburg inspired or guided you, and how?**

The whole religion department really inspired me, both academically and in my faith. Their classes were interesting and unique. The quality of the classes helped prepare me, even more than seminary, for ordained ministry. PQ2 (or Phil Quanbeck II), Janelle Bussert, and Lynne Lorenzen especially guided me by always being willing to lend an open ear to listen to my questions about my courses, future seminary plans, and just life in general. They are pastors who were my pastors and helped me become a pastor.

**Is there a particular passage of scripture that frames your call to ministry?**

I remember [Professor] Dick HardeI retelling the call of Isaiah to my Youth and Family Ministry class at Augsburg. After Isaiah said, "Here I am, Lord, send me!" I knew I was called to ministry and I also said, "Here I am, Lord, send me!"

**What is one thing you wish non-clergy knew about your life/identity/call as a pastor?**

A pastor is on call 24/7, which is really hard on your family life. It is even harder because my husband is a pastor, too. We have people wanting to talk to us starting at 7 a.m. and sometimes we even get calls at 3 a.m.

**What is one of your most memorable services?**

When I was a missionary in Costa Rica, one of the congregations I served was only youth and children. Holy Communion was always a powerful experience, as I watched sometimes 80 children come forward to the Lord's table with their arms outstretched and their hands held out in front of them to receive the sacrament.

During a worship service, I noticed that one small boy came through the communion line twice. It was only after the service, I realized it was because he came from an impoverished family and was hungry. After that, I gave every child a whole tortilla, rather than a small piece of bread or a host, during communion.

**What do you think you would be if you were not a pastor?**

A religion professor at Augsburg or a first-grade teacher.

**When you meet God, what do you hope God says to you?**

Well done, good and faithful servant.

**Share your stories...**



We know these are just a few of the dedicated, inspiring Auggie pastors serving around the world. If you'd like to tell us who you are and what you're doing, choose your favorite question from those we asked our pastors, and send an answer and a photo to [now@augsborg.edu](mailto:now@augsborg.edu). Or, post it on your personal blog, on Facebook or Twitter, and send us a link. We'd love to hear from you!



## Photo Contest



**A** **"Tabacchi"** Amanda Rowan '13  
Siena, Italy Landscapes/cityscapes, First place



**B** **"The Elder"** Susie Mechtel '13  
Maasai Mara, Kenya Portraits, First place

**C** **"Afternoon Nap"** Jasmine Zand '12  
Dubai, United Arab Emirates Portraits, Second place

**D** **"Autumn Fjord"** Reed Johnson '12  
Flam, Norway Landscapes/cityscapes, Third place

**E** **"Que Viva Cuba!"** Danielle Goodwin '12  
Havana, Cuba Photojournalism, First place

**F** **"Iglesia El Rosario"** Jakob Anderson '12  
San Salvador, El Salvador Photojournalism, Second place

**G** **"Chichicastenango, Guatemala"** Danielle Goodwin '12  
Chichicastenango, Guatemala Portraits, Third place

**H** **"Recess Stroll"** Caleb Wagner '12  
Havana, Cuba Photojournalism, Third place

**I** **"Shepherd's Field"** Jasmine Zand '12  
Beit Sahour, Palestine Landscapes/cityscapes, Second place



**edu** To view more student photos,  
go to [www.augsburg.edu/now](http://www.augsburg.edu/now).







## AUGGIE WRITERS' CHALLENGE

**W**ith the 2013 launch of the new Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing (see *Around the Quad*, page 4, and [www.augsburg.edu/mfa](http://www.augsburg.edu/mfa)), Augsburg will welcome even more aspiring writers to the College. To celebrate Augsburg's tradition of creative writing excellence, we asked Augsburg English Department faculty to help us recruit Auggie alumni writers for a creative writing assignment.

The assignment was to write a 250-word piece—of any genre—based on the photo below. We told the writers nothing about the photo—not when or where it was taken or by whom. Following are the stories they crafted. Read their stories first, then see the photographer's story, below.



### THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S STORY

While studying in Augsburg's Weekend College program, Philip Pelto '10 made this self-portrait for a class. He wrote:

*The photo was taken at my condo in downtown Minneapolis. It's looking east out over the Depot and the Guthrie Theater, and Augsburg is not too far off in the distance to the right. It's a self-portrait, and I was experimenting with the lighting. I was trying to get a cool silhouette with the outside in focus. What I wound up getting is this really cool photo that reminds me of where I came from and where I am now. The photo conjures up feelings of success. I'm in my condo, surveying my city, taking it all in. There's a sense that I've made it.*

# Write on!

## The Cat

Kayla Skarbakka '09,  
writing consultant,  
Walden University

Alan found the cat in Mom's bed, under the sour-smelling comforter. It was a weasely thing, patchy, crusty-eyed.

"Did you know about this?" he asked the girls.

Erin was folding a sweatshirt, one of the syrupy ones, printed with wildflowers and the words *Someone special calls me Grandma*. She looked up and gasped.

"Where did it come from?" she asked.

Helen, who'd been sorting jewelry, glanced up and wrinkled her nose. "The question is, where is it going." She'd always had an armored sensibility. "You know," she added, "the boys are allergic."

Alan sat down by the cat. It flicked its tail, which was hooked and jointed like a broken finger.

"Um," said Erin, which was how she started most arguments. "I can't really bring it on the plane."

"Well," said Helen, "I certainly won't take it home."

Alan offered no excuse, and they didn't him ask for one. They rarely did.

They'd had few tussles that day. Alan gave the girls credit for that. A debate about the sofa, one watery altercation regarding Dad's old Dutch clock, but for the most part, they'd worked efficiently, tallying, dividing, and claiming.

Alan claimed little. A bar stool, because one of his had broken. A crucifix, because Helen made him. But otherwise he'd chosen odd jobs, clearing the fridge and garage shelves, and stayed out of the way.

It was a tactic he'd learned early on from Dad...



To read more of Kayla Skarbakka's story  
go to [www.augsburg.edu/now](http://www.augsburg.edu/now)

## Late Morning Window View

Jeremy Anderson '07, client relations manager, Furnituredealer.net

First thing,  
stop at Charlie's on the corner  
for a sweet chai on the go.  
Catch the rail and scroll  
the morning news. Work will start  
soon enough, bustling tables,  
shit shooting with the regs.  
Don't let Old Rick ride  
you too much  
because tonight it's microbrews  
along St. Anthony Main.  
Usual sites, different taste  
(order something the menu describes  
as dark and complex).  
Let 'em flow down and just talk and listen and talk back.  
Try and top 'em. Tell 'em, Tell 'em what you learned,  
what you read, who you ran into, that thing you Googled the other  
day and what popped up. Remember when? Remember when?  
Remember when? And all that shit. It's good  
to let it blur. The best is when it blurs into something  
unclear. My head is warm. My arms, heavy and strong.  
There's a pulse in these veins, an exciting calm to the night until  
eventually I'll gaze back out this way  
with an arm snug around my Laura (maybe, hopefully)  
and a glass of pinot  
in my other hand -  
as street lamps torch the dark  
dark sky.

## Profile Pic

Orion Wisness '03, technical consultant, Kroll Ontrack

Here is a man who wants to keep you guessing. He looks away from you but commands your attention by looming large in the patio doors. He chooses a strong stance, a confident pose, all while hiding in the light of day right in front of you. But he appears more hat rack than human. An armless X meant to distract you from the finer points, the tiny details, which expose his personality.

You suppose he is doing one of three things in decreasing order of profundity: practicing Zen Croquet, contemplating the evening's dinner (the size of the grill suggests he consumes a fair share of red meat), or standing fully clothed in the sunlight in order to tan only his face. He has cats and creases in his pants. He's tidy for sure, but he's forgotten Mr. Whiskers' ball near the door jamb. He prefers a shirt with a collar but won't spring for a rug to wipe his feet when stepping from the balcony. A grocery bag near the grill contains the shadow of a Chihuahua, which makes you wonder why a man so tall would have so tiny a dog?

You could puzzle yourself with questions all day, but what you want to do is tap him on the shoulder. The opposite shoulder from where you're standing. Make him guess where you are, who you are, and what you're doing.

## The Apocalypse, as Seen from Unit 24E

Jaye Lawrence '05 WEC,  
director of web communications,  
Carleton College

Franklin liked order. Neatness. Discipline. He'd been a drill sergeant once, and it showed. You could take the man out of the Army but never the Army out of the man.

Military experience was an asset. It kept him alive, and his ragtag band of survivors too. But that need for order? That was a problem. That just might be the thing that finally drove him mad.

Franklin no longer lived in an orderly world.

"You should be asleep," chided a voice behind him, thready with age. "Weren't you supposed to wake me for CQ duty at oh-three hundred?"

Esther. Franklin didn't turn or relax his stance, but the corners of his stern mouth twitched. He didn't smile much, never had, and he sure as hell didn't have occasion to anymore—but 83-year-old Esther Rosenberg from 23C, bona fide blue-haired lady, former bane of the condo board of directors, spouting military jargon? That tickled his funny bone.

With a slow soft tread of orthopedic shoes, Esther crossed the room to stand beside him. Franklin inspected her with a sidelong glance, granting a curt nod of approval to the pistol accessorizing her polyester pantsuit. Esther always kept his rules. Many who'd been younger, faster, and fitter had not.

"Why didn't you wake me?"

"I like seeing the sun come up again."

"Ah." A sigh, light as a whisper.

"Yes, I do too."

Esther patted his arm. She used her left hand, keeping the right free for the pistol.

Franklin smiled.

## Witness

Andrea Sanow '09,  
administrative assistant,  
Augsburg College Office of  
Undergraduate Research and  
Graduate Opportunity

They catch sight of each other's shoes underneath a bathroom stall, and when they are washing their hands, they are too embarrassed to look each other in the eye.

Then, they are strangers the next semester when they take Calculus together. They laugh about being two of the four girls in the room and they bond over the fact that they aren't going to major in mathematics. And when Emily doesn't come to class, Rachel worries.

*Em, where r u?*

*My grandma died, take notes for me.*

And Rachel goes to the funeral. And they take classes together. And they live together and share clothes and try to learn to cook while they recount the jokes of every day.

Then, Rachel travels abroad and one night, from somewhere in South Africa where she has gotten drunk for Em's 21st birthday, she writes:

*Here's what I see on my walk home: a tree that grows at a 90-degree angle out of the sidewalk, a woman sitting with a baby, a spray-painted stencil of a tiny red man, a few kids who ask me to say something with my accent, and a man, who every day sees me walk back to my apartment and the triangle from foot to crotch to foot reminds me that somewhere we remember geometry or whatever and you are passing me a note and we're meeting after class and you're pissed—I've borrowed your favorite pair of shoes.*





# personality of place

## STUDENT BREAK ROOM

BY STEPHEN GEFFRE

A TEXT MESSAGE GOES OUT AT MIDNIGHT  
ON JANUARY 1. "HAPPY NEW YEAR!

And we are working tomorrow. See you at 6:30 a.m."

The next morning, groggy students stroll into the facilities building, a small gray box behind the ice arena. They make their way through a maze of tools, vehicles, and junk into the far back corner, where they fall onto a plethora of salvaged couches and chairs. Then they fall back to sleep and wait for their boss, Bruce.





This is a typical start to the new year for a group of Augsburg students who are lucky enough to work for Bruce Rowe, the College's groundskeeper. With Bruce and assistant groundskeeper Arlen Madigan, these students make sure the grass is clipped, the flowers are pruned, the snow is shoveled, and the campus is maintained year round.

One perk of their job is access to the grounds crew student break room—a mixture of reclaimed and repurposed items. According to Kyle Koele, the current student supervisor, the room holds a kind of history and acts as an unofficial museum of Augsburg College.

- 1 KOELE**—A family tradition since 2006, the Koele brothers (Jason and Kyle) have worked on the grounds crew. The years in green are when only Jason worked, the years in white are when they worked together, and the year in blue is when Kyle was the lone Koele brother.
- 2 THE MANNEQUIN**—She was found in a residence hall trash chute. Over the years, some of the more interesting items from the trash are added to her ensemble. Her accessories have come exclusively from the residence halls.
- 3 WEST HALL SIGN**—The students gather unused and out-of-date signs to use as decoration. Almost all of these are from the sign cache in the Luther Hall underground parking lot.
- 4 THE KUBB TROPHY**—Kubb is an ancient Viking game that uses wooden sticks to knock over wooden blocks. The grounds crew and other facilities staff play Kubb in Murphy Square on their summer lunch breaks. Stats are kept throughout the seasons, and the top players are awarded the Kubb trophy (which never leaves the break room).
- 5 THE HEAD**—Found in a residence hall trash chute, the head is used to torment student “B,” Brittany Hecker. It is placed by her when she is sleeping, put in her backpack, or just thrown at her to freak her out.
- 6 I-94 FLAG**—The flags in the Urness/Mortensen hall parking lot along the I-94 corridor are replaced yearly, and the old, tattered flags are distributed among the student crew. Some have even found their way to students' rooms.
- 7 THE FURNITURE**—All of the furniture has been scavenged from residence hall move-out day in the spring semester. There are enough couches and chairs in the break room so that everyone gets their own, but the Lazyboy recliner is the softest and most coveted chair. It is, therefore, reserved for the grounds crew student supervisor's hindquarters.

#### STUDENTS IN PHOTO

- A**—Kyle Koele
- B**—Brittany Hecker
- C**—Mary Hildestad
- D**—Benjamin Grant
- E**—Jacob Haehnel
- F**—Meghan Novak





# MINNESOTA

## AUGGIES in the front office

### Supporting the home team

#### Roger Griffith '84

Last season, he didn't make any three-point shots, pull down any rebounds, or have any assists on the court. But Roger Griffith '84, executive vice president of the Minnesota Lynx, did have a great season—in part because the Lynx brought home their first championship title, and in part because of the team's dedicated fans.

Griffith came to the Timberwolves franchise in 1994 as a finance officer. When the Lynx, Minnesota's Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) team, came to the state in 1999, Griffith took on the role of executive vice president. In that role, he is responsible for making decisions about the head coach and working with the coaching staff on player and personnel relations. He also maintains the team roster and oversees scouting and drafting functions as well as the signing of free agents. Basically, he said, his work supports the coaches so that they can focus on coaching.

And that is how he contributed to the Lynx' winning 2011 season. In October, the team completed its season, beating the Atlanta Dream in a three-game sweep of the WNBA championship series. It was the team's first championship and first appearance in the playoffs since 2004.

"The championship game was very nerve-wracking," Griffith said. The team was behind at half-time, but Griffith said they weren't worried. "We had always been a good second-half team, and we knew we had the skills and talent to pull ahead." They did, but nearly lost their lead in the final minutes of the game.

"It was stressful," Griffith said, "but it was also fun and exciting to see the large number of fans who traveled to Atlanta to support the team."

Griffith said the Lynx fans are one of the best parts of his job. "Last year, through the whole season, it was great to be able to sit in the stands and look away from the game to see how much the experience meant to the people," he said. "Our fans have been extremely loyal and supportive, and they got their payoff when we took the championship title."

WENDI WHEELER '06

## FROM THE ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT



Dear Auggies,

In the time since my fall letter, I hope you enjoyed the holiday season with your family and friends, and I hope the new year has begun well for you. With help from our fellow alumni, we have been making a difference in our communities and engaging with our student body. In November, we focused on giving

back to the community at our Alumni Board meeting. Partnering with Brian Noy, coordinator of Augsburg's Campus Kitchen program, we participated in a peanut butter and jelly sandwich-making project and produced 250

sandwiches that were taken to a local homeless shelter.

It was a fantastic project and the most fun I can remember ever having at a board meeting!

In December, when thousands of Augsburg alumni and friends gathered at Advent Vespers, many brought basic hygiene supplies and warm clothing to donate to the Augsburg

Central Health Commons (ACHC), housed at Central Lutheran Church. Alumni who attended the Auggie Night at the Races last summer did the same, helping the center to provide for community members in need.

Auggies will have another opportunity to give back on June 5 by participating in a Feed My Starving Children event. Please see details on how to register in the information listed on page 33.

I am pleased to announce that alumni engagement is at an all-

time high! Alumni event attendance is up by 25 percent compared to last year. We are thrilled to see this progress. It is due in part to your feedback that we have seen such great results. Knowing what events are meaningful and fun for you drives our program development. Thank you for your consistent feedback and participation.

In February, the Alumni Board hosted the annual Student and Alumni Networking event. This event consistently attracts alumni who are passionate about being a resource to current students, while providing them the opportunity to reconnect with fellow alumni. If you or someone you know would like to help connect or get connected to alumni or students, please consider attending this event in the future.

Another tool to reconnect you with Augsburg and fellow alumni is the Maroon Pages. This online tool helps recognize and promote alumni businesses on the web. It can be used as a marketing tool for the self-employed as well as a resource for students to reach alumni for job hunting or networking.

Lastly, I want to lift up the Eye-Opener Breakfasts that are held quarterly at the Town and Country Club in St. Paul and the Strommen Executive Speaker Series, which takes place on campus on a regular basis. These events give alumni opportunities for personal and professional development by hearing from successful leaders within our community. Come to be inspired, to network with peers, and to reconnect with your alma mater.

Go to [www.augsburg.edu/alumni](http://www.augsburg.edu/alumni) to learn about all the excellent resources available to Auggie alumni.

ROBERT WAGNER II '02  
ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT



# AUGGIES GET INVOLVED

**The Augsburg Alumni Association is looking for volunteers to serve on the Alumni Board. All alumni are welcome and encouraged to apply.**

The Alumni Board is a governing body of the Alumni Association. Together with the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, it provides resources and opportunities to engage alumni with the College and each other through consistent communication, inclusive programming, and intentional relationship-building. To apply or get more information, go to [www.augsburg.edu/alumni/getinvolved](http://www.augsburg.edu/alumni/getinvolved).



## What a Legacy!

As an Augsburg graduate and as the director of parent and family relations at Augsburg, I was delighted to be a part of the first annual Legacy Family Reception, held at the Augsburg House on January 16. I attended with my two Auggie daughters (Kristin '09 and Maren '13) and their dad, Paul Daniels '79. We had such a lovely evening connecting with other legacy families!

Currently, 112 students enrolled in Augsburg's traditional undergraduate program are part of a legacy family. In other words, each is a child and/or grandchild of an Augsburg graduate.

At the reception, Wendy Delesha '10 MAL said, **"I am proud to be an Auggie and to have both of my children be Auggies, too. We will have graduates three years in a row: 2010, 2011, and 2012."**

Another Augsburg grad who attended the reception was Howie Smith '80. He said, "I loved my years at Augsburg and am so, so happy to have my son and daughter here now."

If you would like to encourage a member of your family to become an Auggie, please contact the Office of Admissions at [www.augsburg.edu/admissions](http://www.augsburg.edu/admissions) and the staff will be happy to connect with your family member.

SALLY DANIELS HERRON '79



L to R: Kristin Daniels '09, Maren Daniels '13, Paul Daniels '79, and Sally Daniels Herron '79



L to R: Erica Wilson '12, Cliff Wilson '11, and Wendy Delesha '10 MAL

SAVE THE DATE FOR  
**HOMECOMING**  
**SEPTEMBER 24-29, 2012**

New events along with traditional favorites make this one of the best times to come back to campus. Reconnect with fellow alumni and favorite faculty, and experience the Augsburg of 2012. Watch [www.augsburg.edu/homecoming](http://www.augsburg.edu/homecoming) for future information.

**If you would like to help make your reunion a success**, contact the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations at 612-330-1085 or [alumni@augsborg.edu](mailto:alumni@augsborg.edu).

**Reunion Classes**

50th Reunion—1962	25th Reunion—1987
40th Reunion—1972	10th Reunion—2002
30th Reunion—1982	

## AUGGIE IN RESIDENCE

Last fall, Augsburg implemented a new volunteer program, Auggies in Residence—yet another great opportunity for alumni to visit campus to reconnect with the College and its students. Through this speaker series, alumni are invited by faculty to speak at a fall or spring class and then engage in a question-and-answer period with students. Of the 70-plus alumni who have volunteered to serve as an Auggie in Residence, **those who have experienced this unique program have been gratified and happy with the opportunity to speak in the classroom and interact with future Auggies.**

If you think an Auggie in Residence experience is something you would enjoy and you want to share your time and talent, contact Pat Grans at [gransp@augsborg.edu](mailto:gransp@augsborg.edu) or 612-330-1329.

## Feed My Starving Children

Courtesy photo



JOIN US ON JUNE 5

Join the Alumni Board at Feed My Starving Children to help pack millions of meals for hungry children in 70 countries. Alumni and friends may volunteer on June 5, 6-7:30 p.m. or 8-9:30 p.m. Register to volunteer with the Augsburg College Alumni group at [www.fmsc.org](http://www.fmsc.org) (click “join existing group”). Registration code for 6 p.m. is 205100 and for 8 p.m. is 205101.

Last year 75 Auggies gathered together to pack 22,000 meals for hungry children around the world through the Feed My Starving Children program. We are hoping for even greater participation and impact during the upcoming June event. Pictured above [L to R] are Maria (Mitchell) Helgerson '07, Jennifer Oliver '07, Brandon Elegert, Stephanie Gnojek, Carolyn Mollner '07, and Erik Helgerson '07.

## Meet Sara Schlipp-Riedel '06



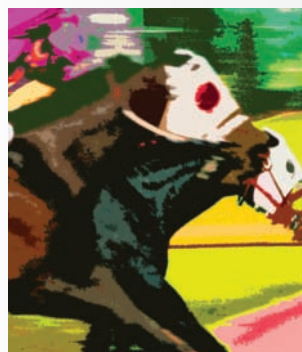
The Augsburg College Alumni Association welcomes Sara Schlipp-Riedel as the new associate director of alumni and constituent relations. She comes to the department with nearly six years of event and project management ex-

perience and is thrilled by the opportunity to engage fellow Auggies.

“My primary focus will be to connect with and engage our young alumni and recent graduates,” said Schlipp-Riedel. “We want to build awareness among current students that their connection with Augsburg doesn’t end once they have received their diploma, and our hope is that there will be a lifelong relationship. I want to develop programming across the board that will cultivate community, instill pride, and emphasize tradition.”

Schlipp-Riedel lives in South Minneapolis with her husband, Aaron Riedel '07, and their one-year-old son, Aidan. She can be reached at 612-330-1178 or [schlipp@augsborg.edu](mailto:schlipp@augsborg.edu).

## SAVE THE DATE AUGGIE NIGHT AT THE RACES



August 3, 5-7 p.m.

Canterbury Park

1100 Canterbury Road,  
Shakopee, Minn.

Free admission, picnic buffet,  
and reserved seating provided.

Go to [www.augsburg.edu/alumnievents](http://www.augsburg.edu/alumnievents) to register.



## YOUNG ALUMNI SUMMER SERIES

To register for Young Alumni events or to see the full calendar of events at Augsburg, go to [www.augsburg.edu/alumni](http://www.augsburg.edu/alumni).



### May 31, 5:30-7:30 p.m. **PSYCHO SUZI'S MOTOR LOUNGE**

1900 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis  
Live music, one complimentary beverage, and appetizers provided.

June 21, 6-9 p.m.

### **YOGA BOAT CRUISE**

Afton Hudson Cruise Lines

500 1st St., Hudson, Wisc.

\$15 includes one-hour yoga session, boat cruise, appetizers, and one complimentary beverage. **SPACE IS LIMITED.**



### July 18, 5-7 p.m. **MINNESOTA TWINS GAME**

Hubert's and Target Field

\$30 includes ticket to game with seating in the Pavilion, appetizers, and two complimentary beverages at Hubert's.

5-7 p.m. Pre-game at Hubert's, 600 1st Ave. N., Minneapolis  
7:10 p.m. Twins vs. Orioles

August 3, 5-7 p.m.

### **AUGGIE NIGHT AT THE RACES**

Canterbury Park

1100 Canterbury Rd., Shakopee, Minn.

Free admission, picnic buffet, and reserved seating provided.



### September 28, 6-8 p.m. **HOMEcoming 2012: YOUNG ALUMNI RECEPTION**

Republic

221 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis

Two complimentary beverages and appetizers provided.



Join the **AUGSBURG COLLEGE  
YOUNG ALUMNI FACEBOOK  
GROUP** to get the full scoop!

## AUGSBURG YOUNG ALUMNI HOLIDAY PARTY 2011



Courtesy photo

Since it launched in 2009, the Young Alumni Summer Series has been an incredible success, engaging young alumni and recent graduates through unique programming. In 2011, the Young Alumni Council expanded the program to include a winter event by hosting the first Young Alumni Holiday Party in December at La Meridien Chambers Hotel in downtown Minneapolis. The event was a huge success and will be added to future programming.



Courtesy photo

L to R: Rebecca Lewis '07, Aili Brom-Palkowski '07, Felicia Faison '09, and Shannon Olson '07

## SAVE THE DATE

December 7, 8:30-11:30 p.m.

### **YOUNG ALUMNI HOLIDAY—UGLY SWEATER PARTY**

Location TBD

To register, go to [www.augsburg.edu/alumnievents](http://www.augsburg.edu/alumnievents).



# PAST MEETS PRESENT

## A Journey to the Holy Land: EXPLORING THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND THE PEOPLE

For 10 days in January, a group of 28 Auggies explored the Holy Land with Philip Quanbeck II, associate professor of religion, and Ruth Johnson '74, former Augsburg College Regent.

When the group arrived, Larry Turner '69 was surprised at the contrast in terrain—not only was it more rugged than expected, but parts looked like fertile farmland, especially around Galilee. In addition to the warm Palestinian welcome, he was struck by many of the historical sites, several of which Herod the Great had built—Masada, the palace in Jerusalem, and Caesarea (where Herod insisted on building a harbor, even though his architects advised against it). From a religious point of view, Turner said it was very moving to visit the Mount of Beatitudes, the Sea of Galilee, the Mount of Olives, Capernaum, Primacy of Peter, Gethsemane, and the Via Dolorosa—the very places Jesus walked some 2,000 years ago.

For Turner, images of the region's past were soon overlaid with realities of the Holy Land of today, especially on a tour bus when the guide pointed to a nearby village in Lebanon and then a fence bordering Syria. He noticed yellow signs reading "Danger, Mines" on a fence along the side of the road. Though Turner didn't feel endangered during the trip, he found the most distressing aspect to be the wall between Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

When Palestinian Lutheran pastor Rev. Mitri Raheb spoke to the group about his ministry in Bethlehem, he described three areas of focus: culture, education, and health. Culturally, the ministry helps Palestinians deal with identity issues and obtain meaningful work, and it provides a place for concerts, art, and theater. Educating the youth is another priority since 55 percent of the population is under the age of 18. Dar al-Kalima College, Bethlehem's new Lutheran college (the first in the Middle East), will certainly aid in those efforts as well, providing studies in art, music, communication, and management. The ministry also offers opportunities in women's sports, eldercare, and preventive health, helping people learn how to take better care of themselves.

When the travelers heard about the work of the Parent Circle Family Forum (comprised of bereaved Israeli and Palestinian families who have lost family members in the conflict, and who support peace, reconciliation, and tolerance), Turner was particularly impressed by the gentleman who spoke of losing his son in the last week of military service. This Israeli father was soon drawn into the

Courtesy photo



Front Row [L to R]: Sandy Prince, Sally Daniels Herron '79, Charlie Green, Barb Green, Ruth Johnson '74, Sharon Carlson '72, Terri Rummans, Mary Kinney '04, Donna McLean; Middle Row [L to R]: Yousef Eideh (our guide), Larry Turner '69, Sue Turner, Jennie Wilson, Phil Quanbeck II, Nancy Sampair, Susan Carlson, Liz Weninger '92, Judy Coppersmith '66, Lee Furman '61; Back Row [L to R]: Barbara Bruce, Sharon Mortrud '64, Scott Anderson '96, Judy Reeve '95, Jeff Gottfredson '82, Kirk Gill, Paul Kilgore '80, Becky Kilgore, Jim Weninger '92, Heidi Hunter

forum, where he met a Palestinian who had also lost someone. As a result, his thoughts about the conflict evolved from quite hawkish to more conciliatory. In pairs, members of the forum (one Israeli, one Palestinian) make regular visits to schools in an effort to help younger people think more seriously about the human aspects as they consider military expectations.

Turner and his wife, Sue, have traveled a fair amount since he retired after 38 years with Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway, but this trip was special, he said. It felt like a real pilgrimage for him.

CHERYL CROCKETT '89



# ALUMNI class notes

**34** Norm Larsen and Jerome "JD" Detviler '74 were inducted into the Saint Paul Park (Minnesota) High School Athletic Hall of Fame in November. Larsen was the head football coach at Park for 10 years and served as Park's athletic director until his retirement in 1977. Detviler was a soccer, Nordic skiing, and track and field coach at Park.

**54** Herb Chilstrom, former presiding bishop of the ELCA, released his autobiography, *A Journey of Grace: The Formation of a Leader and a Church* (Lutheran University

Press). The book is a reflective account of his family roots, childhood, education, and pastoral and teaching career. It tells of his life as bishop, his role in the formation of the ELCA, and his ministry as the first presiding bishop.

**56** In June, Richard "Dick" Thorud was inducted into the Minnesota Inventors Hall of Fame. The award was based largely on the 80 patents he was awarded as a principal research engineer with the Toro Company.

**73** Corrine (Froelich) Frank became a grandmother for the first time in December, when grandson Weston Leslie Frank was born.

**74** Steven Resnicek was appointed interim director of the Bemidji State University concert choir for the spring 2012 semester. Resnicek is an adjunct faculty member in the music department at Bemidji State.

**77** David Larson and Kate Sholonski released their book, *Wide Awake: Three Minutes a Day to an Inspired Life!* in November.

This volume is filled with personal stories of challenge, triumph, empowerment, and motivation.

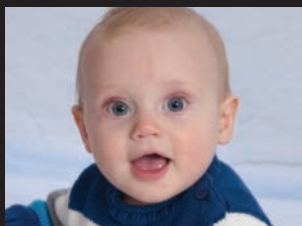
**88** Linda (Slater) Thoni was selected by the Art Educators of Minnesota (AEM) as the Elementary Art Educator of the Year for the State of Minnesota. She has been employed by the Byron School District for 12 years. AEM annually recognizes teachers who have made significant contributions to AEM, the state of Minnesota, and their school or organization. Award recipients have demonstrated dedication, achievement, and professionalism in the art education field.



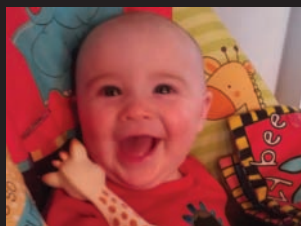
**81** Members of the class of '81 met in October in Cable, Wisc., for their annual Augsburg reunion. Pictured [L to R]: Mary Beamish, a copy editor at the *Duluth News Tribune* who is rehabbing a 1920s house in Duluth; Susan (Dahlgren) Sackrisson, a history teacher at Lakeville High School; Maureen Webster, a grandma, an Army mom, and a Title I teacher at Sunnyside Elementary in Mounds View; Laura Kasdorf, a master gardener who coordinates the Community Garden in Chippewa Falls, Wisc.; Mary Lou (Schlosser) Suss of Louisiana, who misses being able to grow rhubarb; Janna (Wallin) Haug, who just returned from four years with the ELCA Global Mission in Slovakia.



**81** Karla (Morken) Thompson graduated from the College of St. Scholastica with a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree in August. She has worked at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. for 30 years and is a staff physical therapist specializing in women's health and vestibular rehabilitation.



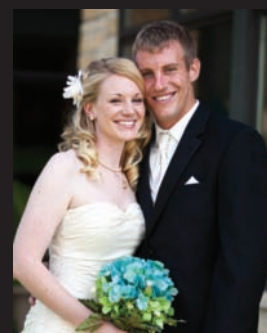
**93** Heidi Anderson gave birth to Soren Russell in May 2011. Heidi has worked for GE Lighting in Cleveland, Ohio, since 1999.



**04** Janine (Borchardt) Kellogg and her partner, Jennifer Kellogg, welcomed baby boy Sawyer Jay on August 8.



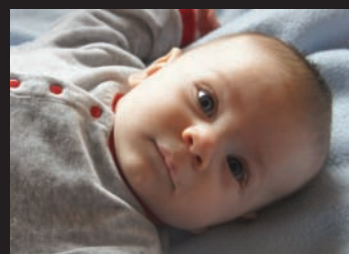
**04** Jim Lindell and Karri (Birkholz) Lindell '03 were married on July 16, at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. Auggies in the wedding party were Kim Birkholz '05, Britni (Morgan) Robertson '05, Jeremy Robertson '05, Travis Kalis, Tom Delisle '04, Jeff Willihnganz '04, Kyle Howard '04, Jillian (Janicki) Howard '04, Nick Collins '04, Stefanie (Lindell) Lender '98, Bruce Lender '98, Jason Luhrs '96, and Melissa (Luhrs) Gooder '93. Karri is a brokerage product manager at Ameriprise Financial, and Jim is a corporate account manager at Choice Communications. They live in Maple Grove, Minn.



**09** Margette (Hoffman) Hahn married Justin Hahn on August 26, in Mendota Heights, Minn. Other Auggies involved included Leah Jarvi '09 (bridesmaid), Shonna Fulford '09 (personal attendant), Amber Stransky '07 (personal attendant), and Kendra (Christiansen) Oxendale '10 (photographer).



Mateo Martin Irby was born on September 7, to Joanne K. Reeck-Irby and Cornelius M. Irby. Joanne is the director of campus activities and orientation at Augsburg.



**05** Becky (Welle) Winters and Paul Winters '07 welcomed Maximilian Robert on August 17.

**91** Tom Kerr was named Administrator of the Year by the Iowa Reading Association. Kerr has served as the principal of Boyden-Hull Elementary School in Boyden, Iowa, for six years.

**92** In a January special election, Susan Allen was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives to represent District 61B. Allen is the first Native American woman to serve in the Minnesota House.

After nearly eight years, Heather Johnston left the City of Minneapolis to become the CFO and director of administrative services for the City of Burnsville, Minn. In that capacity, she oversees finance, communications, community relations, city clerk, and information technology operations. In addition, she was recently appointed to the executive board of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada.

**95** Jesus (Alex) Hernandez Herrera was promoted to senior director, principal gifts, in the Northwestern University (Illinois) Office of Alumni Relations and Development in September.

**01** Heather Savage has been writing (under HK Savage) and editing and opened her own publishing company, Staccato Publishing. Staccato's purpose is to help authors who want to publish their work but aren't sure how to navigate the twists and turns on the road to publishing.

**02** Jennifer (Langman) and husband Kevin Reese welcomed Elsie Marie on November 8.

**05** Tony Geckler completed a Master of Social Work degree from St. Catherine University/University of St. Thomas in August. In November, he passed his licensed graduate social worker examination.

Augsburg cross country/track and field alumni Paul Sanft '05, Dan Vogel '05, Riley Conway '05, and Tori Bahr '09 released their documentary

*Marathon Road* in January. The film features Augsburg cross country/track and field head coach Dennis Barker, a trainer for Team USA distance athletes. The film was produced through Sanft's company, Ideatop Studios.

**07** Jennifer (Richter) and Dylan Soberg '06 welcomed baby boy Alexander David on October 10.

Emily Crook, a 2007 graduate and a current student in the Master of Arts in Education program, married David Hamm '08 on October 8, 2010, in Duluth, Minn. Many other Auggies were in attendance to celebrate with the couple and their families.

**08** Angela (Barron) and Charles Brewer welcomed Emma Rose on November 17.

In November, Dave Lange began a career at Ameriprise Financial in life insurance sales.

**09** George Hemmingsen and his brother Grant Hemmingsen, both 2009 graduates, are assistant basketball coaches at Kentucky Wesleyan College. George is in his second year with KWC and his first year as top assistant coach, and Grant is in his first year as assistant coach.

Katie Wornson was named to the Volunteers of America-Minnesota board of directors in December. Volunteers of America is a nonprofit human service organization headquartered in Edina, Minn.

**10** Julia Sewell and her colleague and partner, Don Patterson, are touring the United States spreading messages of youth voice and action, leadership, and educational reform through their 2011-2012 SWAG (Sharing Wisdom Amongst our Generation) tour concluding in April.

Sandra (Albrecht) Sutton married Michael Sutton on August 27, 2010. The couple resides in Baldwin, Wisc., where Sandra works as a sponsor services analyst with Wells Fargo.

## The Political History and Landmarks of South Africa and Namibia:

AUGUST 2013

Courtesy photo



Namib Desert

Join Augsburg alumni and friends on this **12-day tour to learn about Namibia and South Africa's shared political past** and to see the popular tourist attractions and landmarks this history has created. Learn firsthand about this region's struggle against apartheid while visiting the acclaimed Apartheid Museum, Cape Point where the Dutch conquerors landed and built a lighthouse, and Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned. Tour the former black and colored townships in Windhoek and Johannesburg and hear from a cross-section of Southern African society.

Discover how the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia, with a total membership of more than 700,000, mainly in Northern Namibia, played a significant role in opposition to apartheid and was part of the Namibian independence struggle. The Namibia portion of the trip will also include a visit to the Etosha Game Reserve and the Namib Desert, the site of the world's highest sand dunes.

**This trip is offered by the Alumni Association in partnership with the Center for Global Education (CGE) at Augsburg College.** For 30 years, CGE has provided cross-cultural educational opportunities that foster critical analysis of local and global conditions so that personal and systemic change takes place, leading to a more just and sustainable world.

To request more details about the trip, call 612-330-1085 or email [alumni@augsb.org](mailto:alumni@augsb.org).

NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA



A phone call.  
An e-mail.  
**A diploma.**

When Jennifer Ivers '13 e-mailed Larry Couture '79 as part of her work with Augsburg's IGNITE program, she couldn't have imagined the chain of events that would transpire—or that she would end up with an internship as a result.

Through IGNITE (Involving Graduates Now in Thoughtful Engagement), current Augsburg students connect with alumni to help them find ways to engage with the College. But when Ivers contacted Couture, she was surprised by his e-mail response.

"He sent a short essay explaining why he wasn't really excited about meeting with me," she said. It turns out that Couture thought he graduated from Augsburg in 1979 but found out in 2006, when he tried to apply for admission to a graduate program, that his transcript was incomplete.

Couture had been one religion course short of completing his graduation requirements in the spring of 1979 and had returned to Augsburg that summer to complete the final class.

That course was never posted, but Couture didn't suspect anything because he'd moved to a new apartment and thought perhaps his diploma had just been lost in the mail.

After receiving Couture's e-mail, Ivers told him that she would like to help him.

She said she would forward his e-mail to her boss, who could bring his issue to the attention of the Dean, and together they would try to resolve the situation.

"He said that after this long he didn't think it really mattered, but if I could help, he thought that would be great," Ivers said.

And help she did. On February 1, more than 30 years after he thought he graduated,



On February 1, more than 30 years after completing his graduation requirements, Larry Couture '79—pictured here with Jennifer Ivers '13, a summer intern at Couture's company—received his Augsburg College diploma.



1979 Augsburg College Commencement

**'79**  
**LARRY**  
**COUTURE**

Larry Couture received his Augsburg College diploma and became a member of the class of 1979.

Couture was so impressed with Ivers' tenacity, as well as her speaking and writing skills, that he asked her to work as a summer intern for his company ECOSmarte, a Richfield, Minn.-based manufacturer of non-salt, non-chemical water technology for

swimming pools and spas. The relationship has also led to an internship for a second Augsburg student.

"This has been one of the more fulfilling aspects of my position," Ivers said. "The IGNITE program aims to re-involve alumni on campus, and what's a better way to involve someone than finally getting them their diploma?"

WENDI WHEELER '06



## In Memoriam

**Edward L. Evenson '41**, age 93, on September 28

**Verlinda L. (Olson) Huus '42**, age 91, on September 19

**Carol A. (Hibbard) Kirtley '42**, age 88, on October 22

**Vivian A. (Larson) Loren '43**, age 89, on September 23

**H. Daniel Frojen '45**, age 87, on September 18

**J. Bernhard Bretheim '48** on August 2

**Ruth O. (Holm) Sawyer '48**, age 83, on January 18

**Evelyn (Green) Harris '49** on June 29

**John H. Wetzler '49**, age 88, on January 22, 2011

**Raymond J. Bodin '50**, age 93, on October 27

**Jean (Kuklish) Knudsen '50**, age 83, on July 12

**Robert G. "Bob" Smith '51**, age 89, on October 24

**Edwin O. Silrum '53**, age 90, on September 12

**Elizabeth G. (Hagen) Carlson '56**, age 76, on November 26

**Roger Lecander '56**, age 77, on July 17

**John T. Thompson '56**, age 76, on February 28, 2011

**Loren G. Berkness '60**, age 82, on February 21, 2011

**Bernard A. "Bernie" Onsager '65**, age 82, on September 28

**Beverly Jean (Mattson) Conboy '73**, age 59, on September 10

**Nancy (Kerber) Anderson '74**, age 59, on November 18

**Janice L. Phinney '74**, age 58, on July 30

**Jody (Anderson) Sundlee '79**, age 56, on December 6

**Patrick D. Hurley '84**, age 49, on March 3, 2011

**George C. Oghonna '88**, age 55, on December 26

**Henry G. Parsons '04 MSW**, age 59, on January 26, 2011

## Send us your news and photos

Please tell us about the news in your life, your new job, move, marriage, and births. Don't forget to send photos! (Digital photos must be at least 300 dpi or a 1MB file.)

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

Send your news items, photos, or change of address by mail to: **Augsburg Now Class Notes, Augsburg College, CB 146, 2211 Riverside Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55454**, or e-mail [alumni@augsborg.edu](mailto:alumni@augsborg.edu). You can also submit news 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 code

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:

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☐ I know a student who is interested in attending Augsburg.



# it takes an AUGGIE

During fall 2011, 26 student callers dialed 37,925 times, spoke with 3,178 constituents (parents, friends, and alumni), and raised almost 700 gifts totaling \$66,574.

## Meet our Augsburg Fund callers

Twice a year, in September and in February, the Augsburg Fund student callers make phone calls to alumni asking them to donate to the Augsburg Fund. Their goal is to raise \$130,000 this fiscal year—funds that meet the crucial current needs of the College, including scholarships, curriculum development, student-oriented activities, and technology.

If you haven't received a call from one of our student callers and would like to make a gift to the Augsburg Fund, go to [www.augsburg.edu/giving](http://www.augsburg.edu/giving) to make a secure online gift or call 612-330-1613.



### KALEB WILLIAMS '13

**Major:** Public relations and advertising

**Hometown:** Lakeville, Minn.

**Activities and interests:** Football

**Interesting fact about me:** I always say I'm like an old black man; I have an old soul. I think I would have fit in well in the 60s or 70s.

**Favorite things about Augsburg and the city:** It's such a diverse place, and everyone seems to get along well. Every day I feel like I meet someone new.

**Favorite Augsburg experience:** The football game last season against St. Thomas. It was a home game, and the stands were packed. At the time, we were the top two teams in the MIAC, so it was pretty exciting.

### ANYA CLEAVER '14

**Major:** Political science, minors in German and communication studies

**Hometown:** Technically, Buxton, England

**Activities and interests:** Queer and Straight in Unity (QSU), *Echo* newspaper, Augsburg Atheist and Secular Humanist group

**Interesting fact about me:** I moved to Minnesota at age 12 from a town outside of Manchester, England, because England is drab and rainy.

**Favorite things about Augsburg and the city:** I'm a film buff, and I love the independent movie theaters. I also like the riverfront and Harriet Island in St. Paul.

**My favorite Augsburg experience:** I was a summer orientation leader and got to connect with many students from different backgrounds. It helped me learn about being more inclusive, and I made a lot of friends.



### KATHERINE WALKER '12

**Major:** International relations, minor in peace and global studies and religion

**Hometown:** Brainerd, Minn.

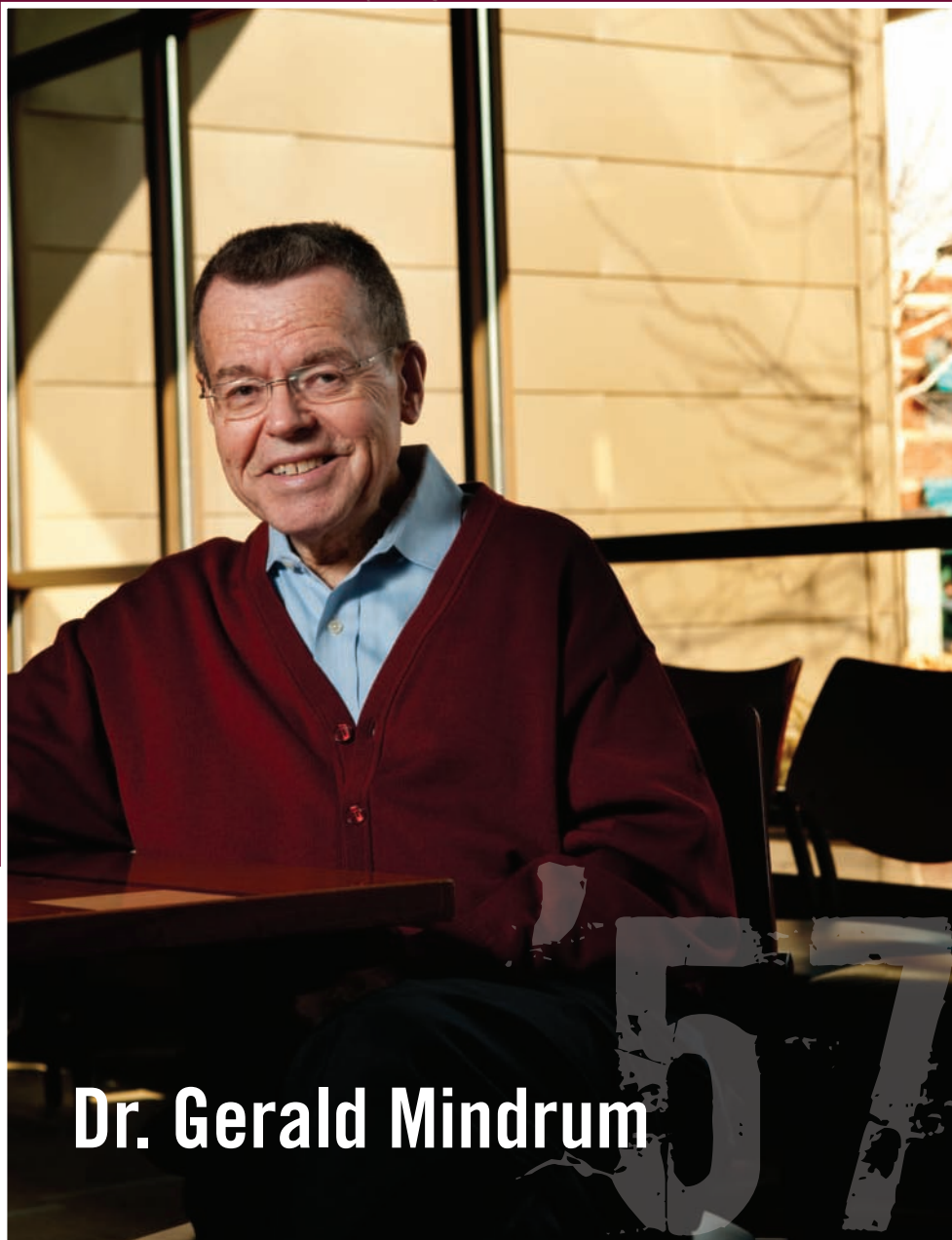
**Activities and interests:** Study Japanese, volunteer tutor, editor for the *Honors Review*

**Interesting fact about me:** I plan to go to Vietnam this summer to teach English at the British Embassy.

**Favorite things about Augsburg and the city:** I love Augsburg's emphasis on community service. I think that if I had gone to another college, it wouldn't have given me such an introduction to the community. I feel like I live in this neighborhood; I don't just go to school here.

**Favorite Augsburg experience:** I went to El Salvador to take a class over winter break two years ago with assistant religion professor Matt Maruggi. We studied liberation theology, and we got to interact with local people, community activists, and religious leaders. We stayed in a small self-sufficient community in the middle of the jungle, and there were baby pigs running around.

# AN AUGSBURG LEGACY



**Dr. Gerald Mindrum**

“I shall always remember the personal influence of many Augsburg professors on my life and career, and also appreciate the continued support of Augsburg to communities—both at the neighborhood and the global scale. I hope my charitable gift annuity will foster a similar experience for future students.”

**AUGSBURG  
COLLEGE**

1-800-273-0617 [www.augsburg.edu/giving](http://www.augsburg.edu/giving)





## **The Gage Center for Student Success and Groves Technology Center**

The Gage Center for Student Success and Groves Technology Center have quickly become a hub of student activity. This photo, created by merging 10 different photographs together, is a still life time-lapse image showing how this common space is constantly being used by all members of the community.