

# AUGSBURG NOW



INSIDE



Beyond the scoreboard  
National champion to local hero  
Leadership and conflict

CARVING THE WAY  
FORWARD

SUMMER 2016 | VOL. 78, NO. 3





## NOTES FROM PRESIDENT PRIBBENOW

### *On thoughtful stewardship*

Augsburg's mission statement says that we educate students to be "thoughtful stewards" as well as "informed citizens, critical thinkers, and responsible leaders."

I imagine some may read "thoughtful stewards" and think about church fundraising campaigns or care for the environment, the typical places we consider stewardship—and both important causes!

At Augsburg, though, thoughtful stewardship is a much more compelling claim. It goes beyond simple acts of giving or environmental care. It is a way of living, an ethic that teaches us how to live in the world. And it is at the heart of an Augsburg education—from how we engage students with the community to help them discern their gifts and gain a holistic understanding of the needs of our world (see page 16) to the deep listening and conversation we embed in our classes, such as in the Master of Arts in Leadership course that was integrated with this year's Nobel Peace Prize Forum (see page 20).

Also in this issue of Augsburg Now, you will read about the genuine privilege I had to deliver a major address on stewardship to Cargill employees worldwide.

In that address, I said: "... stewardship involves a practice of standing up, speaking up in a manner that reflects—and makes clear—our values. The challenge for the good steward—as a parent or manager or citizen—is to pursue practices that help connect us with

the deeply held values and commitments that characterize our personal and corporate lives.

"The truth is that many people do not think about the reasons for their actions. They act, and they expect others to accept their action at face value. But good stewardship demands reflection, then the courage to act based on our convictions, and to do so overtly so that we are publicly accountable for how our actions reflect our values. Only in that link is there integrity in human life."

At Augsburg—as reflected in the stories that follow in these pages—we educate students to embrace their many gifts, to understand the obligations they have to steward those gifts, and to appreciate the important work of taking a stand for the values and commitments that honor the gifts and contributions of each of us.

Thoughtful stewardship—a way of life for all of us. I give thanks for a teaching and learning community that is blessed with and inspired by our remarkable legacy and mission. I give thanks for the privilege of being a faithful steward of all the gifts that make Augsburg such a rare place.

Faithfully yours,

PAUL C. PRIBBENOW, PRESIDENT

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## AUGSBURG NOW

### Summer 2016



Nobel Peace Prize Laureate **Kailash Satyarthi** brought energy and passion to the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize Forum sponsored by Augsburg College. Following three days of dialogue on peacebuilding, he and his wife, **Sumedha Kailash**, joined Forum attendees in a Bollywood-style dance party for the conference's finale.

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**On the cover:** Construction crews work on the footings for the main lobby of the Norman and Evangeline Hagfors Center for Science, Business, and Religion, an interdisciplinary building that will open in 2018, anchoring the west side of the Augsburg College campus. See page 2.

*All photos by Stephen Geffre unless otherwise indicated.*





**THIS BUG'S-EYE VIEW** captures the April 2016 groundbreaking ceremony for Augsburg's Norman and Evangeline Hagfors Center for Science, Business, and Religion. The celebration included hundreds of Augsburg College alumni, students, donors, neighbors, and faculty and staff members, as well as city and county officials. The new academic building is slated to open in January 2018.

Pictured [L to R]: Outgoing Augsburg College Board of Regents Chair **Dr. Paul Mueller '84**, Hennepin County Commissioner **Peter McLaughlin**, Naming Gift Donors **Evangeline Hagfors** and **Norman Hagfors**, Augsburg College President **Paul C. Pribbenow**, National Fundraising Campaign Chair **Michael Good '71**, Augsburg College Provost **Karen Kaivola**, and 2015-16 Day Student Body President **Duina Hernandez '16**.





AROUND THE QUAD

## NEW RESIDENTS SET MEMORIAL HALL ABUZZ

### Hives installed to bolster honey bee population

It has been decades since the last students moved out of Memorial Hall; the dormitory was converted to office space in the late 1960s. However, a new group of inhabitants moved in this spring when The Beez Kneez organization installed beehives on the building's rooftop as part of an urban apiary partnership program. Augsburg joined the program to further the College's commitment to environmental stewardship and to creating green spaces within the city.

Recently, honey bee populations have been decreasing due to parasites and the misuse of pesticides. The on-campus hives will help rebuild the local population and pollinate Augsburg's plant life. Those worried about getting stung can rest easy—honey bees are not aggressive and will not sting unless threatened.



### HONORING Retiring Faculty

#### KATHY ACCURSO

Instructor, Department of Education—  
with the College since 2012

#### KATHERINE BAUMGARTNER

Assistant Professor, Department of  
Nursing—with the College since 2005

#### RONALD FEDIE

Professor Emeritus, Department of  
Chemistry—with the College since 1996

#### FEKRI MEZIOU

Professor Emeritus, Department of  
Business Administration—with the  
College since 1987

#### VICKI OLSON

Professor Emerita, Department of  
Education—with the College since 1987

CELEBRATING  
STUDENT SUCCESS

Read about the wide range of prestigious academic  
achievements and awards earned by Auggies during  
the 2015-16 year at [augsborg.edu/now](http://augsborg.edu/now).

## \$50,000 grant funds RECYCLING PROGRAM EXPANSION

### Student-faculty-staff collaboration improves campus sustainability

Augsburg College can boost its efforts to divert organic and compostable items from trash and other recycling thanks to a \$50,000 recycling grant from the Hennepin County Environment and Energy Department. The funding will be used to purchase indoor and outdoor bins, rolling carts, and signage to foster increased composting of organic material and the proper disposal of mixed recyclables.

Augsburg's Environmental Stewardship Committee, Facilities and Custodial staff, and the Augsburg Day Student Government's Environmental Action Committee collaborated to submit the grant proposal.

"Thousands of people touch the campus in some way during the course of one year," said **Amber Lewis '17 MAE**, an Environmental Stewardship Fellow who supports on-campus sustainability initiatives. "In addition to students, faculty, and staff, guests join our community for graduation ceremonies, sporting events, performances, convocations, summer camps, conferences, and workshops. This presents us with an opportunity to share a clear message about the importance of recycling in our community."



Go to [augsborg.edu/green](http://augsborg.edu/green) to learn about Augsburg's commitment to offering facilities that are welcoming, sustainable, and designed for educational excellence.



### AUGSBURG EXHIBITION SHINES in Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover

World-renowned feminist art activists the Guerrilla Girls recently "took over" Minneapolis and St. Paul to celebrate their 30th anniversary. Augsburg

College was among more than two dozen arts and cultural institutions that hosted exhibits and events highlighting gender and race inequalities and promoting artistic expression.

The Guerrilla Girls, who wear gorilla masks and use the names of famous female artists as pseudonyms, were on campus for the opening reception of "Reconfiguring Casta," a site-specific installation for the Christensen Center Art Gallery. Combining prints and paintings, artist **Maria Cristina Tavera** addressed the social concept of race and the issue of socio-racial classifications. Tavera, known on campus as "Tina," also serves as the director of Augsburg's McNair Scholars program, which seeks to increase graduate degree awards for students from underrepresented segments of society.

## AROUND THE QUAD



Augsburg College President **Paul C. Pribbenow** delivered the keynote address for Cargill's annual ethics week this spring. Pribbenow is recognized as one of the nation's most engaging commentators and teachers on ethics, philanthropy, and American public life. His talk, "Promises to Keep: An Ethic of Stewardship," reached Cargill employees located in Minneapolis and around the world.





# COMMENCEMENT 2016

## Students of color, award winners, and former KARE 11 anchor stand out at graduation

Augsburg College celebrated students completing degrees in the traditional undergraduate, adult undergraduate, and graduate programs through commencement ceremonies held April 30. The 2016 traditional undergraduate class is the most diverse in the College’s history and comprised of more than 42 percent students of color.

Commencement keynote speaker Michael Botticelli, director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, addressed ceremony attendees and was awarded an honorary doctorate. **Michael Good ’71** also was awarded an honorary degree in recognition of his service to the College. **Eleanor Barr ’16** earned the Marina Christensen Justice Award, and **Kim Chisholm ’16** received this year’s Richard Thoni Award, recognizing exceptional contributions to their communities.



Former KARE 11 News anchor **Diana Pierce ’16 MAL** earned her Masters of Arts in Leadership and participated in commencement this spring. “The program at Augsburg gave me exactly what I wanted to add to my skillset for a new adventure,” Pierce said on KARE 11 in April.



## ELCA college conference

Students, faculty members, and staff from two dozen colleges and universities affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America came together this summer as Augsburg hosted the annual **Vocation of a Lutheran College Conference**. The event featured a partnership with Interfaith Youth Core—an organization renowned for uniting young people of different religious and moral traditions for dialogue around shared values. IFYC Founder Eboo Patel [pictured speaking] discussed the colleges’ role in preparing students for life in a religiously diverse world.

## Teaching and learning award winners

Augsburg recognizes individuals or groups who have made exemplary contributions to creating an engaging academic learning environment. The 2016 recipients of the Distinguished Contributions to Teaching and Learning awards are:

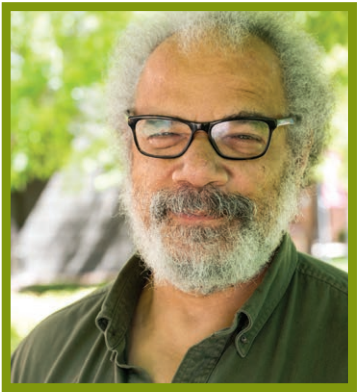
- Teaching**  
**Joe Underhill**, associate professor of political science
- Research**  
**Michael Lansing**, associate professor and History Department chair
- Service**  
**Dulce Monterrubio**, director of Latin@ Student Services



[L to R]: Michael Lansing, Dulce Monterrubio, and Joe Underhill.

# AROUND THE QUAD

## ON THE SPOT ‘Degrees of Freedom’ in Minnesota’s past and present



What does it mean to *matter*? What does it look like to *matter*? With the Black Lives Matter movement, questions of racial equity have ignited important—and difficult—conversations in communities and courtrooms, on political campaign trails, and on college campuses.

Augsburg College Professor **William “Bill” Green** studies and writes about history and law. His most recent book, “Degrees of Freedom: The Origins of Civil Rights in Minnesota, 1865–1912,” chronicles conditions for African American Minnesotans and others in the half-century following the Civil War. Today, Minnesota and the nation are very different than they were in the postbellum period that Green examined, but tightly woven threads unite contemporary events with those occurring more than a century earlier.

**Q:** What prompted your interest in studying the history of African Americans in Minnesota?

**A:** In 1860, a slave woman was freed in a Minneapolis courtroom. In the aftermath, citizens in the communities of St. Anthony and Minneapolis for days walked the streets eyeing their neighbors, waiting for the smallest provocation to spark violence. We were on the verge of seeing our own little civil war erupt in Minnesota over the issue of slavery. Ultimately, Minnesotans’ attention was averted by news of the Confederate bombardment of the federal installation of Fort Sumter. Upon hearing the news, Minnesota was the first state to send volunteers into the Union Army. Seven years later, it would be the first state to extend voting rights to black men, pre-dating the ratification of the 15th Amendment. I felt compelled to understand this dynamic.

**Q:** When Minnesota granted suffrage to people who are black, what implications did this have in citizens’ lives?

**A:** In a practical sense, the implications were non-existent. There simply weren’t enough black voters in Minnesota to influence political leaders or affect public policy. Symbolically, however, during a time of mounting economic dislocation coupled with the spread of white supremacy, it raised the bar, not just in terms of the

broader virtue of racial equality, but, more fundamentally, stressing the need for true leadership that called on ordinary people to overcome their baser instincts and choose to act with common decency.

**Q:** And yet you’ve said that race is “written between the lines” of early Minnesota history, rather than spoken about directly. What do you mean?

**A:** The fact that the black population was so small made it easy for historians and opinion makers to draw rosy pictures of racial exceptionalism without needing to be checked by a more balanced reality. Without the “significant other” whose history was hidden in footnotes, it became easy to believe what one wanted to believe. But could it really be true that Dred Scott was the only slave to live in Minnesota? Could Frederick Douglass be the only African American to be denied service in a prestigious hotel in St. Paul, even though the proprietor was a friend of his and an officer in the Union Army? Could the paucity of discrimination lawsuits in the 19th century really mean there was no discrimination in restaurants and taverns?

**Q:** Today’s Black Lives Matter movement involves participatory democracy—participation by many and with more diffuse leadership than the civil rights movements of the 1960s. When you look

at the Black Lives Matter movement, what strikes you, considering the lens through which you write your books?

**A:** In 1965 when the civil rights movement pressed for voting rights, the powerful symbolism of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X joining forces placed pressure on the President of the United States to shepherd through Congress the Voting Rights bill and sign it into law. Federal protection of the right to vote was a moral issue. But it was the union of two leaders who embodied opposing approaches to advancing civil rights that heightened a sense of urgency to enact the bill. The moral: As long as there are no “inside”-“outside” forces simultaneously working for the same clearly defined issue, advocates on either side of the spectrum can be marginalized and eventually dismissed. I don’t see a rival force to Black Lives Matter that is pushing for the same ends but through different means. This isn’t the fault of BLM, but the absence of a “significant other” should be a concern to them, nonetheless. History can only provide suggestions on how or even whether to proceed.

*The Minnesota Book Awards honored Green with the 2016 Hognander Minnesota History Award.*

 Go to [augsb.org/now](https://augsb.org/now) to learn more about Green’s research.





# FROM NATIONAL CHAMPION TO LOCAL HERO

## Three-time NBA champion rebuilds community

*Devean George '99 was the first NCAA Division III player ever selected in the first round of the NBA Draft—and he played professionally for more than a decade. Now retired from basketball, he's gone back to his roots to help revitalize the Minneapolis neighborhood where he grew up.*

BY CHRISTINA HALLER





November 3, 1999. The Los Angeles Lakers are debuting in their brand new home, the Staples Center, with an unveiling ceremony followed by a game against the Vancouver Grizzlies. A crowd of 20,000 fans is packed inside, waiting for NBA stars Kobe Bryant or Shaquille O'Neal to make opening remarks.

But instead, the Lakers players decide to encourage their newest rookie to address the crowd. The lights go down, and all becomes still. In less than 30 seconds, it's go time.

"No, guys, don't make me do this! I don't know what to do," whispers a 22-year-old **Devean George '99**. But his pleas were met with laughter.

"I just remember shaking in my boots. There are tens of thousands of people here, and I'm going to be out at center court—all eyes on me," recalls George. "So I get out there, and it just clicked. It was easy."

George credits his education in communication studies from Augsburg for helping to prepare him for that life-changing moment, as well as all of his public speaking engagements from that point forward.

"As an NBA player, you have a camera with that big, red light in front of your face every day," George said. "You have to know how to conduct yourself and communicate effectively. And all those communication classes I took at Augsburg come into play."

## From 10,000 lakes to Los Angeles Lakers

After high school, George enrolled at Augsburg assuming he would play basketball for the Auggies, earn a degree, and find a job in business. But his "hoop dreams" became a reality pretty early on in his Augsburg career.

"When I recruited Devean, he was about 6'2" and 170 pounds," said former Augsburg basketball coach **Brian Ammann '85**. "Fortunately for Devean, he grew about five inches and put on 50 pounds by his sophomore year. And his hard work paid off in big ways."

George was the first NCAA Division III player ever selected in the first round of the NBA Draft. He was the 23rd overall pick in 1999, chosen by the Los Angeles Lakers—one of the most storied franchises in NBA history.

George is now retired from the NBA after playing 11 seasons and becoming only the seventh player in history to win a league championship in each of his first three seasons. He has since found a successful career in real estate development and a passion for giving back.

## Building a firm foundation

George was raised by devoted, hardworking parents in the Willard-Hay neighborhood of north Minneapolis and still calls the Twin Cities home—a place he loves for its friendly people and four seasons. His current work focuses on helping to improve his childhood community.

“That’s when I decided helping kids and families would be the foundation of what I do”



George played for the Los Angeles Lakers from 1999 to 2006. In 2006, he signed with the Dallas Mavericks and played in Texas until 2009. He then joined the Golden State Warriors in Oakland, California, in 2009 until his retirement in 2010.



After George joined the NBA, he started volunteering his time in schools and after-school programs. He noticed many of the children he visited didn't have stable housing, which significantly affected their security and education.

"That's when I decided helping kids and families would be the foundation of what I do," said George, who has two young sons. He founded Building Blocks, a nonprofit organization committed to providing quality housing, community development, and programming for youth and families.

"If you don't have stable housing, you're not going to care about schooling, safety, or eating healthy. If we get those families into stable housing, then they can focus on those other things," George said.

## A slam dunk

George's first affordable housing project opened this spring—The Commons at Penn in north Minneapolis, an income-restricted, 47-unit workforce apartment building that also includes an on-site health and wellness facility, an after-school program, a fitness center, a toddler playground, and a grocery store.

Long-term, George would like to help create a more family-friendly community in north Minneapolis—a community that provides greater amenities for its residents. So far, The Commons at Penn has been a successful addition to the neighborhood.

"[The] Commons at Penn achieves multiple city goals: creating new, high-quality, affordable housing options [and] increased residential density along a key commercial and transit corridor, and bringing in commercial activity and services," said Andrea Brennan, director of Housing Policy and Development for the City of Minneapolis. "This project sets us on a promising course to continue development at this important north Minneapolis node."

George is planning phase two of The Commons at Penn, which will go up right across the street from the existing mixed-use building. He also is developing housing complexes in South Carolina and Louisiana, and has been contacted by fellow professional athletes who would like to see a change in the neighborhoods where they were raised.

## Investing in our future

In addition to literally helping build a solid foundation for families through stable housing, George also helps build a strong foundation for young people through mentorship programs like Read to Achieve.

"The kids think that [NBA players] are not human beings because we know how to play basketball," said George. "If I can tell a kid to go to school and not to do drugs, and just because I can play basketball he'll listen to me, I'm going to try to use that to my advantage."


George is also busy instilling the values of compassion and service in his own two sons, ages 7 and 4. For starters, they learn to share by donating their toys to kids who otherwise wouldn't have any.


"They're still young, but I started teaching my boys early on a way of giving and understanding. I explain to them that this [lifestyle] isn't normal; they're in a blessed situation," George said. "I've been able to achieve a lot of things. But I know I've had a lot of help along the way." ■



**WORKFORCE HOUSING** offers reduced rent to people who are gainfully employed (and don't qualify as low-income), yet still struggle to afford market-rate housing. It's explained by the Urban Land Institute as housing that is "affordable to families earning 60 to 100 percent of area median income." Workforce housing commonly is targeted for essential workers in a community, such as police officers, firefighters, teachers, social workers, and nurses.





**5 TEAMS IN  
CONFERENCE  
PLAYOFFS**   
during this record-breaking year


**4,320 ROLLS  
USED**   
of athletic tape  
and pre-wrap


**2,840  
LOADS OF  
LAUNDRY  
WASHED** 


**57**   
**COMMUNITY  
SERVICE EVENTS**  
at which athletes volunteered


**72,604 FANS**   
present at home, away, and  
neutral-site events\*

**1,230  
JERSEYS  
WORN** 

**102**   
**MINUTES PLAYED IN  
THREE OVERTIMES**  
during the men's hockey MIAC championship  
game win over Saint John's University

**7,395**   
**POUNDS OF WEIGHTS**  
added to strength and conditioning facilities

**300**   
**POUNDS  
OF CANDY**  
served at the Auggie Awards  
ceremony


**3.22**   
**CUMULATIVE  
G.P.A.** earned by athletes —  
and 14 student-athletes achieved  
a perfect 4.0 average\*\*




# Beyond the SCOREBOARD

Each year, Augsburg College athletes sprint, skate, dive, throw, swim, and leap countless times as they prepare for and compete in athletic contests. Because competition records and stats generally offer only a glimpse of what happens on the court, field, or mat, we compiled some lesser-known facts to boost your #AuggiePride and to showcase the teamwork, collaboration, celebration, and effort that converge in Augsburg athletics.

**75,357**   
**MILES TRAVELED**  
for games, meets, and international trips

**29**   
**AUGGIE EAGLE'S  
SNEAKER SIZE**  
as per Red Wing Shoe

**36,430**   
**HOURS SPENT  
WORKING OUT**  
which is equal to 1,518 days, or 217  
weeks, or 4 years, 1 month and 3 weeks

**3,284**  
**SOCIAL MEDIA  
FOLLOWERS**     
on @AugsburgAuggies platforms as of June 6



# THE CITY: COURSE CONTENT AND CLASSROOM

Each semester, painting and drawing classes typically occur in what originally was an Augsburg College chapel. Old Main 100 is an inspiring place with 25-foot ceilings and soaring windows. On-campus studios offer focused spaces for students to learn about visual art media, methods, and creative expression. For 25 years, Associate Professor and Art Department Co-Chair **Tara Sweeney** has taught foundational drawing principles in Old Main with what she calls “as few spectators and distractions as possible,” and in recent years she also has led short-term international travel courses in which students develop the same skills without the support of a traditional studio.

This spring, Sweeney and her Minneapolis-based students traveled close to home as they stepped beyond the boundaries of the campus studio, choosing to forgo a controlled setting to embrace learning opportunities present in public areas that are as complex and challenging as they are diverse.

“Instead of creating a still life with the same old props, I utilized the city as subject matter and classroom,” Sweeney said. “Students were as actively engaged in creative placemaking as they were in making drawings—effectively shaping the physical and social character of whatever neighborhood, museum, coffee shop, or landmark we chose as a drawing site.”

## A CORE CHALLENGE

In the article “The Power of Experiential Education,” nationally recognized education scholar and professor Janet Eyler noted that a central challenge for liberal arts educators like Sweeney—and indeed the entire Augsburg College faculty—is to “design learning environments and instruction so that students will be able to use what they learn in appropriate new contexts.” That is, to successfully “bridge classroom study and life in the world and to transform inert knowledge into knowledge-in-use.”

In a drawing course, for instance, students develop technical skills while exploring individual subject matter and creative expression. It is perhaps the latter of these elements that came into clearer focus when Sweeney took her students out in the community.

The artists “made connections with strangers and learned things about themselves in the process,” Sweeney said. They become comfortable creating art in the midst of daily life and finished the course with “real skills and the right tools to continue drawing wherever they find themselves and wherever inspiration finds them.”

## JUST A GLIMPSE

At Augsburg, students across disciplines and degree programs benefit from faculty instruction that integrates experiential learning opportunities with traditional instructional methods, thereby linking course concepts with real-world applications. The pages that follow offer a glimpse at a small sample of the faculty and students who use Minneapolis as their classroom.



**Johanna Goggins '16** works on a sketch in the solarium at the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis.



## ARTS AND THE CITIES



**HON 230:** Students in Augsburg College's Honors Program join Minnesota Orchestra performers onstage following a symphony event at Orchestra Hall. As an interdisciplinary course, "Arts and the Cities" unites film, music, theater, and visual art—offering students the chance to peruse Picassos, soak in Shakespeare, and mingle with musicians. Together, students and teachers explore the role of the arts in a culturally dynamic urban setting.

"Students enjoy the experiential nature of this course," said Associate Professor of Music **Merilee Klemp '75**. "They often comment that it presents them with opportunities that they would not have on their own and deepens their understanding of the role of the arts in their lives long after the course is over."



## ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

**ENV 120:** Students clad in safety gear and earplugs to dampen the deafening noise weave their way through a Eureka Recycling processing plant. Environmental Science focuses on understanding and resolving problems humans have created in the natural world. The course includes hands-on learning opportunities that make complex scientific concepts more approachable and applicable for students.

"The city is the perfect place for these types of experiences to happen—it's all right at our fingertips: a wastewater treatment plant, power plant, recycling center, and public transit," said Assistant Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies **Emily Schilling**. "We can observe the detrimental effects humans are having on the environment, and we also can see some of the ways we are trying to mitigate that impact."



## E-COMMERCE

**MIS 375:** Students speak with Abdirahman Mukhtar, a youth program manager at Pillsbury United Communities' Brian Coyle Center. Mukhtar oversees the Sisterhood Boutique, a secondhand clothing store that serves as a training ground for young women to learn about entrepreneurship, business, community partnerships, and sustainable fashion. Through their discussions with Mukhtar, the Auggies began to apply some of their fundamental course concepts in a real-world setting. ■



# 2016 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FORUM



2014 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Kailash Satyarthi shared his vision for global compassion during the Nobel Peace Prize Forum. More than 300 students, academics, activists, and thought leaders participated in three days of discussion and presentations to advance peacebuilding.

## LEADERSHIP & CONFLICT

BY REBECCA JOHN '13 MBA

### GRADUATE STUDENTS STUDY GLOBAL COMPASSION AT THE 2016 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FORUM

Conflict is a pervasive characteristic of human interaction.

This is the opening line of the summer syllabus for Augsburg College's Master of Arts in Leadership course, "Navigating Local & Global Conflict: Interfaith Dimensions." The statement underscores how important it is for leaders to develop the ability to navigate and inspire others in the face of conflict and sets the stage for the work of analyzing leadership in the context of real-world situations.

By design, the course is integrated with the annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum, for which Augsburg is the host sponsor.

"The Nobel Peace Prize Forum is a gem," said history and leadership studies professor **Jacqueline deVries**. It's a one-of-a-kind event that allows students to learn through direct engagement about the contexts and complexities involved in conflict. deVries, who also serves as director for Augsburg's general education program, co-taught the course with **Martha Stortz**, Bernhard M. Christensen Professor of Religion and Vocation, and **Tom Morgan**, professor of leadership studies.

Held annually in Minneapolis, the Nobel Peace Prize Forum is one of only three programs officially associated with

the Norwegian Nobel Institute. The Forum's mission is to inspire peacemaking by focusing on the work of Nobel Peace Prize laureates and by engaging students and the wider community with national and global leaders in the process of peacebuilding.

The Forum provided the students in the graduate course with direct access to leaders from businesses, nonprofits, and government organizations whose work involves navigating complex, real-world challenges that range from food security to civil unrest to poverty and climate change. The students used examples from the Forum, as well as from their own lives, to analyze conflict involving religious diversity in their communities, examine contemporary issues in a historical



Master of Arts in Leadership students discuss conflict mitigation.

perspective, and develop a view on what effective leadership looks like (or might look like) in actual situations.

Students come to the Master's of Arts in Leadership program with experience

ORGANIZING PARTNERS

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AUGSBURG COLLEGE

MPRnews

WORLDQUANT.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
Driven to Discover<sup>SM</sup>

NORWEGIAN EMBASSY



NORWEGIAN CONSULATE GENERAL

EL-HIBRI FOUNDATION

UNIVERSITY OF St. Thomas

WINDS OF PEACE FOUNDATION

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

50<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
SONS OF NORWAY FOUNDATION  
1966 • 2016

Canada

NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

american college OF NORWAY

McGough



SANFORD HEALTH

AU AUGUSTANA UNIVERSITY



# Martin Olav Sabo '59

BY STEPHANIE WEISS

## leaves mark on Augsburg College community

Former U.S. Representative **Martin Olav Sabo '59**, who passed away on March 13 at age 78, was a lifelong public servant and renowned Augsburg College alumnus who exemplified the progressive approach and personal integrity that were modeled in his Lutheran upbringing and education.

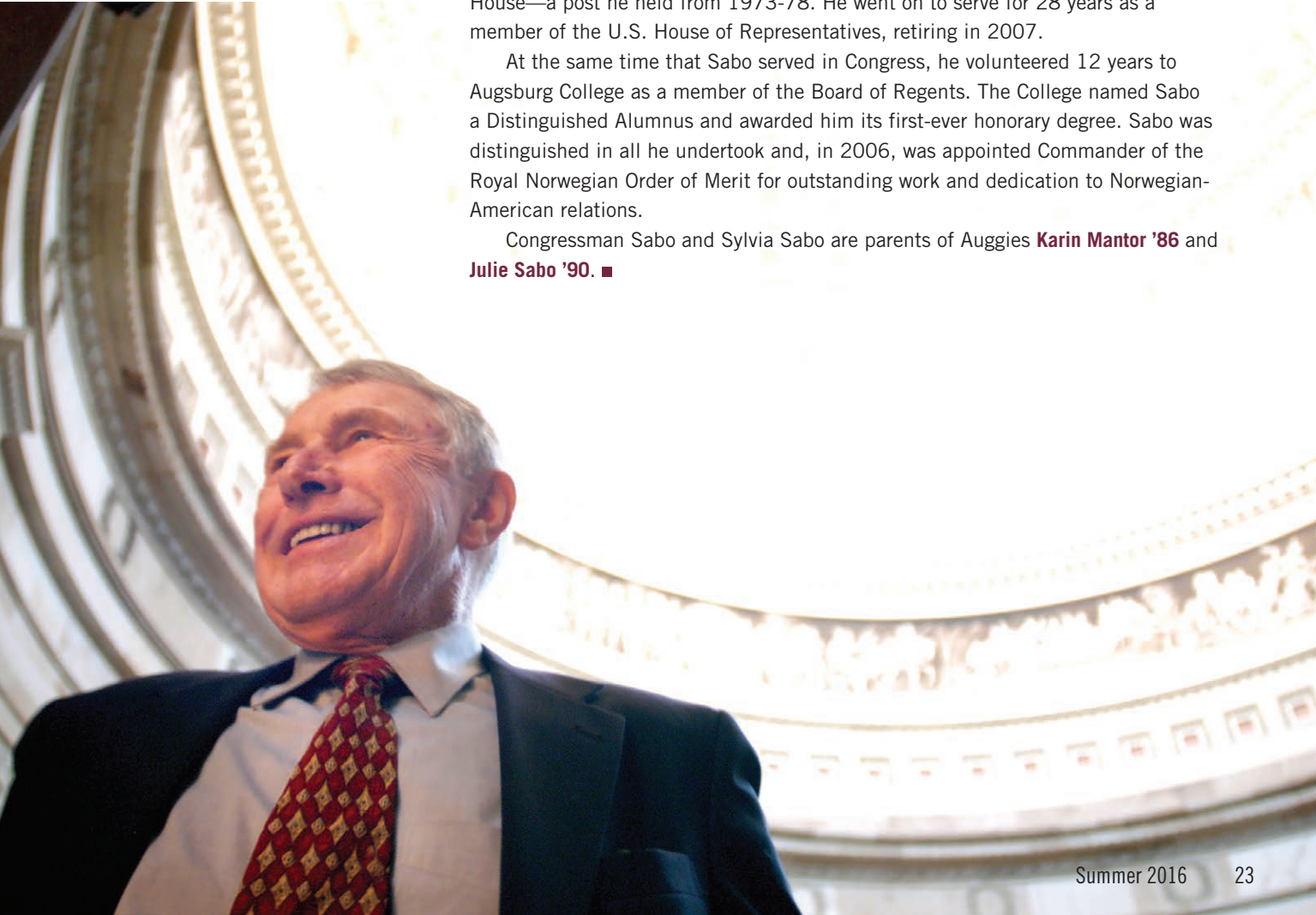
The work he and his wife, Sylvia, devoted to guiding the Martin Olav Sabo Center for Democracy and Citizenship, the Sabo Scholars program, and the annual Sabo Symposium—all of which create opportunities for civic experiences and skill-building inside and outside the classroom—will leave a lasting legacy at Augsburg.

**Augsburg College President Paul C. Pribbenow** said that Sabo's "life-long commitment to public service is an inspiration to all of us. The Sabo Center gives Augsburg the ongoing opportunity to celebrate the life and work of our dear friend."

One year after graduating from Augsburg College, Sabo—then 22—was elected to serve in the Minnesota House of Representatives. During his tenure, he became the first member of the Democrat-Farmer-Labor party to serve as Speaker of the House—a post he held from 1973-78. He went on to serve for 28 years as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, retiring in 2007.

At the same time that Sabo served in Congress, he volunteered 12 years to Augsburg College as a member of the Board of Regents. The College named Sabo a Distinguished Alumnus and awarded him its first-ever honorary degree. Sabo was distinguished in all he undertook and, in 2006, was appointed Commander of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit for outstanding work and dedication to Norwegian-American relations.

Congressman Sabo and Sylvia Sabo are parents of Auggies **Karin Mantor '86** and **Julie Sabo '90**. ■



Top [L to R]: **Dean Jarrow '16 MAL** and **Dele Odiachi '17 MAL**

Bottom: [L to R]: **Jacqueline deVries; Margaret PowellMack '17 MAL; Kevin Stirtz '17 MAL; Subashini Ambrose '18 MAL; Tom Morgan; Eric Miamen '04, '14 MBA, '16 MAL; David Nyssen '16 MBA, '17 MAL; Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi; Howie Smith '80, '19 MAL; Satyarthi's wife, Sumedha Kailash; MAL Director Alan Tuchtenhagen; and Brad Beeskov '17 MAL.**

in both for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. In gathering during a lunch break to share reflections about what they were learning at the Forum, the class observed that it is not possible to be effective as a leader without knowing what's going on in the world. The Forum, they said, was a prompt for thinking about how a leader would approach addressing challenging topics and situations in their work.

Too often, people are so wrapped up with their jobs and family and school that they don't think about the difficulties others are facing in the world. It's not that people don't care about these topics, one student said, but they often just don't pay attention to the issues on a daily basis. Being at the Forum offered a level of understanding that may not happen in a classroom, the students said.

In fact, during the Forum the students directly engaged with difficult topics, and it required a conscious choice to hear the tragic stories about topics like child slavery and human trafficking. This is where our general population may be falling short, one student observed—choosing to turn away instead of understanding the reality of these issues.

The Master of Arts in Leadership program, however, equips individuals to turn toward—rather than away from—challenging issues in order to seek solutions and inspire others toward a

common goal. The program is designed to prepare leaders who are ethically and morally responsible, who can see beyond immediate concerns, and who are sensitive to the complex problems that organizations face. By using the Nobel Peace Prize Forum as a classroom, these students worked to understand both the systems that contribute to conflict and the systems that effective leaders can use to address it.

**“WE HAVE TO CHANGE THE DEMAND”**

For example, some students thought that business was potentially the most powerful force for addressing the issues discussed at the Forum; others argued that the biggest changes will come when consumers demand it, quoting comments by Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi, who, in his opening remarks, said, “We have to change the demand.”

Another student observed that every person has a powerful “what's in it for me” filter and noted that, if we don't translate the message in a way that addresses this filter, it will not be effective. And, although the class agreed, the students also recognized that people are often motivated not just by what benefits them directly, but also by generosity and helping others—by what, as one student phrased it, satisfies a need of the heart. ■





# GIVE TO THE MAX MAKES LASTING IMPACT

With its Give to the Max Day gifts, the Biology Department funded new research opportunities for two students: Oksana Burt '17 and Davy DeKrey '17 [pictured].

## Online giving day supports students, faculty, programs

Auggies last fall made Augsburg College No. 1 in the annual Give to the Max Day challenge. This year, Give to the Max Day is November 17, and the College is calling on alumni to push Augsburg into the top spot for the fourth year in a row.

In 2015, in just 24 hours, more than 1,000 Auggies—many of whom were first-time donors—generously stepped up to give more than \$240,000 to Augsburg. As a result, Augsburg ranked first among all participating Minnesota colleges and universities, and earned a \$10,000 bonus.

Alumni support on Give to the Max Day has a lasting impact and supports new opportunities for students. Funds raised last year supported the expansion of on-campus research; the purchase of a 3-D printer for the mathematics and statistics department; production costs for Howling Bird Press, the student-run book publishing project in the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program; and trips by athletic teams for competition, education, and community service.

This November, alumni also can give to scholarships that honor the legacy of music, research, and civil service at Augsburg. Gifts are being sought to honor the work of **Leland Sateren '35**, **U.S. Rep. Martin Sabo '59**, the StepUP® program, and the Office of Undergraduate Research and Graduate Opportunity, which connects students with new and existing research and scholarship on campus, across the United States, and around the world.

Anyone can donate any amount on Give to the Max Day. Schedule your gifts online at [givemn.org](http://givemn.org) beginning November 1.



[L to R]: **Lewis Istok '18** and **Abigale Enrici '18** create a two-material print using a 3-D printer purchased with Give to the Max Day funds.



**Jordan Brandt '17** throws a pitch on the baseball team's 2016 spring break trip to Arizona. The team raised more than \$17,000 on Give to the Max Day 2015.

## New to the Alumni Board

Five Auggies elected to serve three-year terms on the Augsburg College Alumni Board will network with and mentor current Auggies, build community with alumni, and provide a vital link between the College and graduates.

### Derek Francis '08

*School counselor, Minneapolis Public Schools*

"Through the awesome community and volunteer opportunities at Augsburg, I realized I was passionate about working with youth. Augsburg's value of service to the community transformed my life."

### Lori Higgins '94, '12 MAL

*President, MetroNorth Chamber of Commerce*

"I am eager to give back to the school that has given me so many opportunities, such as political internships with [former **U.S. Rep.**] **Martin Sabo '59** and MN Sen. Bill Luther, which began my career."

### Josh Krob '08, '15 MBA

*Business development, Gravie*

"A continuing passion of mine is to grow our networking efforts, both for employers and individuals as they connect with Auggie alumni."

### Janece Oatman '05

*Development director, American Diabetes Association*

"I have a passion for committee-building, and I am interested in networking opportunities, reconnecting with campus, and fellow Auggies."

### Brad Randall '13

*Mechanical maintenance planner, Xcel Energy*

"As a graduate of Augsburg's Adult Undergraduate program, I am interested in mentoring Augsburg alumni in all fields."



Back row [L to R]: **Josh Krob '08, '15 MBA**; **Brad Randall '13**; **Mary Prevost '12 MBA**; **Cyrus Batheja '08, '10 MBA**; **Jay Howard '03**; **Nick Rathmann '03**; **Hanna Dietrich '05**; **Rick Bonlender '78**; **Patricia Jespersen '95**; **Melissa (Daudt) Hoepner '92**; **Howie Smith '80, '19 MAL**; **Marie (Eddy) Odenbrett '01**; **Greg Schnagl '91**. Front row [L to R]: **Adrienne (Kuchler) Eldridge '02**; **Meg (Schmidt) Sawyer '00**; **Adriana Matzke '13**; **Janece Oatman '05**; **Chau "Tina" Nguyen '08**; **Jill Watson '10 MBA**. Not pictured: **Derek Francis '08**; **Lori Higgins '94, '12 MAL**; **Nick Swanson '09**

# AUGGIES CONNECT

## TRAVEL IN THAILAND AND CAMBODIA

JANUARY 3-15, 2017

edu To learn more, go to [augsborg.edu/alumni/travel](http://augsborg.edu/alumni/travel).



## Q&A with tour guide and Professor of English Kathy Swanson

### Q: How many times have you traveled to Thailand? What keeps bringing you back?

**A:** My husband and I lived in Thailand as Peace Corps volunteers for two years and have returned eight times since. We return because we feel Thailand is our "second home." We love Thailand's beauty—from the huge city of Bangkok to the mountains of northern Thailand in Chiang Mai to the small beach town where we lived. We also have many dear friends, some former students and colleagues, with whom we love to reconnect.

### Q: Can you share with us a memory from a trip you led with Augsburg students?

**A:** We have shared our love of Thailand with Augsburg students during five trips and have so many good memories. Former Auggies still share their memories and pictures of the trips with us. Some of these students became English language learner teachers because of their experience teaching English in our former school. I remember one student, for example, who was hesitant about going so far away from home and to such an unfamiliar place. She had been my student in several classes and seemed to trust me when I encouraged her, so she took the big step. We are still in contact after many years and she has written about her trip to Thailand as being "life-changing." She stepped out of her comfort zone and experienced things she could have never imagined, gaining confidence and self-awareness.

### Q: Who should take this trip?

**A:** Anyone who values expanding a worldview, learning about a new culture, and experiencing beauty.



GRANTING ACCESS  
empowering dreams

Travelers EDGE® grant affords  
students pathway to success

In March, Augsburg was awarded a \$115,000 grant to continue offering Travelers EDGE (Empowering Dreams for Graduation and Employment), a program that provides underrepresented students with scholarships, paid internships, and mentorship in an effort to break down barriers and provide long-term opportunity. The highly successful program, now in its sixth year at Augsburg, is poised to have 15 Travelers EDGE scholars on campus this fall—its largest cohort yet.

This prestigious program—open to only 12 colleges in the United States—has lifetime payoffs for students, including the chance to find challenging and rewarding careers in the insurance and financial services industry. To get there, each Travelers EDGE scholar works with a career coach and a professional mentor at Travelers and participates in financial literacy programming.

Marlene Ibsen, vice president of community relations at Travelers, said Augsburg was already doing great work and made for a natural Travelers EDGE partner.

“Everything and everyone we encountered at Augsburg, including President Pribbenow and throughout the organization, made us think, ‘This is a team of people who really get it and would be outstanding additions to the Travelers EDGE collaborative,’” said Ibsen. Students in the program receive financial



[L to R]: Auggies Nou Thao '18, Pang Xiong '17, and Lyton Gualipa-Naula '16 participated in the Travelers EDGE program.

scholarships and something that, in the long run, pays even greater dividends—networking contacts.

“Once they begin immersing themselves in the professional development workshops and start to build relationships with Travelers employees, students quickly learn that the networking and professional coaching they are getting will be of significant use to them in the long term,” said **Janet Morales**, Augsburg’s director for the program.

So far, Augsburg has had 23 Travelers EDGE scholars participate in the program and some have gone on to accept full-time positions with Travelers.

**Dustina Granlund '14** is one of the Travelers EDGE alumni who works at Travelers. Granlund had two internships at the company, including one in Hartford, Connecticut. As an intern, she helped develop new and more efficient reporting systems that are still in use today.

Granlund said her mentor helped her understand how school applies to the real world by encouraging her to accept and take on challenges, to network, and to push herself beyond

her comfort zone.

“My Travelers EDGE scholar work taught me business etiquette, interviewing techniques, and résumé writing,” she said. “It helped connect me with resources at Augsburg that I didn’t really know about.”

Travelers EDGE connected Granlund with staff in Augsburg’s Clair and Gladys Strommen Center for Meaningful Work who helped Granlund become more comfortable seeking regular advice on graduate school.

Morales sees that the value of the program goes far beyond job experience.

“Travelers EDGE is confidence building,” she said. “Our scholars do not typically have any corporate experience prior to becoming a part of Travelers EDGE, nor do they have family members with that experience, so starting their professional journey within insurance and financial services can be intimidating. However, Travelers EDGE gives the scholars opportunities to learn and build their skills within a safe space. The end result is that they can imagine themselves with a career in insurance and financial services, which they couldn’t before.”

**Martin Sabo '59** leaves a lasting legacy. See page 23.

**1960** **Rev. Dennis Glad '60** and Barbara Glad of St. Francis, Minnesota, have led nearly 1,000 volunteers on mission trips to 14 Caribbean islands, Costa Rica, and Belize over the past 25 years. Working on a volunteer construction team, the Glads and their crew have built schools, clinics, churches, orphanages, and more. In April, the couple received WCCO Radio’s Good Neighbor Award, and they are now in the station’s Good Neighbor Hall of Fame. In 1999, Rev. Glad retired after serving in the United Methodist Church for more than 40 years.

**1964** **Roger Johnson '64** was presented with the Donald Clark Memorial Award at Minnesota Hockey’s annual banquet in April. The award is given to an individual who has been dedicated to the grassroots growth and development of youth hockey in Minnesota. Johnson was the head coach for boys’ hockey in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, from 1965 until 1972 and then was varsity assistant and junior varsity head coach for the next 27 years until 1999. He is a substitute teacher and a volunteer general manager for the boys’ hockey team.

**1969** **Royce Helmbrecht '69** graduated with a degree in education. Today, 47 years later, he works as a substitute teacher with students who struggle to get through school. He also teaches jail inmates for the GED program.

fundraisers. Her leisure activities include gardening, walking, biking, and reading.

**Michael Good '71** celebrates at groundbreaking ceremony. See page 2.



Three years ago at Valley of Peace Lutheran Church in Golden Valley, Minnesota, three parishioners took on a Lenten art project to create a mosaic for their church entry. Led by **Barb (Durkee) Mikelson '71**, the committee also included **Emilie Moravec '07** and **Jon Daniels '88**. The design, primarily Mikelson’s work, echoed the stained glass window design in the church’s sanctuary created by the late **August Molder**, an Augsburg professor. Mikelson served the past 12 years as director of her church’s early childhood education center, All God’s Children Learning Center, and retired in January. The school’s leadership is now in the able hands of another Auggie, **Courtney Gadbois-Brumbaugh '95**.

From the Auggie Connections blog. Read more at [augsburg.edu/alumni/blog](http://augsburg.edu/alumni/blog).

**Merilee Klemp '75** uses the city of Minneapolis as her classroom. See page 16.

He says the Lord intervened in his life and directed him to Augsburg, and he feels blessed to have followed the Lord’s direction.

**1971** **Mary (Soulen) Johnson '71** is the new branch assistant at Minnesota’s Aitkin Public Library. She especially enjoys working with children at the library and at the Aitkin Children’s Center. As a volunteer at Wild and Free in Garrison, Minnesota, she helps with feeding animals and assists with

**1982** **Maryann Sullivan '82** and Rhonda Laurie have been entertaining listening audiences and swing dancers for the past three years. In February, the two performed “Swingin’ a la Carte” as part of the Jazz@ St. Barney’s concert series at St. Barnabas Lutheran Church in Plymouth, Minnesota, reflecting the singers’ love of cooking through

**Scott Whirley '82** and **Henry Gerten '98** were inducted into the National Wrestling Coaches Association Division III Hall of Fame in a ceremony in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, prior to this year’s NCAA Division III Wrestling National Championships. Whirley and Gerten are the ninth and 10th Auggies to be inducted into the NWCA Division III Hall of Fame.

**Dr. Paul Mueller '84** breaks ground on Augsburg’s new, signature academic building. See page 2.

AUGGIE SNAPSHOTS



place in Bartimawus’ home village of Guyuk.

**1967** In March, the **Rev. Terry J. Frovik '67** and his wife, Pauline, were invited by Archbishop Nemuel Babba to participate in the installation service for the Rev. Peter Bartimawus, who was elected Bishop of the Gongola Diocese of the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria (LCCN). The service took



served for nine years as CEO of the River Falls Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau.

**1992** **Rosanne Newville Bump '92** plans events, including the St. Paul Winter Carnival as president and CEO of the Saint Paul Festival & Heritage Foundation. She received her MBA in 2010 from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. She has stayed in touch with many of her Auggie classmates over the years, and is pleased that both the St. Paul Winter Carnival and the Cinco de Mayo organizations benefit from the help of Augsburg interns as they plan events. She lives with her husband of 28 years, **Jeff Bump '85**, and their three daughters (Madelyn, Ella, and Julia) in River Falls where she



# ALUMNI CLASS NOTES



## Building hope

In March, **Bob Strommen '74** volunteered for a Habitat for Humanity project in Nicaragua. He joined cousins **Tim '70 and Dawn (Hofstad) '70 Strommen**, and **Judy (Knudson) Strommen '77**, and was overwhelmed by the magnitude of poverty in the small village where they worked. The trip was Tim's third visit to the same site.

Bob writes, "Prior to our venturing out, we had an orientation led by our Nicaraguan Habitat leader, Aleandra, who reported that there was a need for more than 600,000 homes in Nicaragua—either new builds or fixing up existing homes in desperate need of repair. And we were going to build *one home*. At the time I thought, 'What difference will this make? How do you tackle such an overwhelming need?'"

Upon meeting the eventual homeowner, her daughter, and grandchildren, Bob soon learned that their work in that one week would make a life-changing impact for the family.

He'd considered the impact they would make on the family of the house, but did not comprehend the impact that the people and volunteering would have on him, saying: "My goal is not to be better than anyone else, but to be better than I used to be."

Visit [augsborg.edu/alumni/blog](http://augsborg.edu/alumni/blog) to read more.



**Brian Ammann '85** reflects on one of the standout athletes he coached. See page 8.

**1988 Jeff Judge '88** successfully defended his doctoral dissertation at Minnesota State University. His thesis was "Spirituality in Higher Education: A Narrative Analysis of its Use by Leaders for Decision-Making." Judge graduated from Augsburg with bachelor's degrees in music education and Spanish, and received a master's in Spanish from Middlebury (Vermont) College. He lives in Minnetonka, Minnesota, with his wife, Jeannie, and their three teenagers: Nico, Danny, and Clare. He is the dean of the humanities division at Normandale Community College in Bloomington, Minnesota.

**1989 Troy Bakker '89** received a doctorate of science degree from Dakota State University in Madison, South Dakota.

**Stephen Hindle '89** has been appointed practice lead at the partner level for Aon Hewitt's assessment and leadership practice for Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. He also is the face of Aon Hewitt in these markets. His responsibilities include commercial management of all assessment and leadership business across 14 countries as well as all operations, solution development, and mergers and acquisitions activity in these markets.

He is based in Singapore with his wife of more than 21 years, Adean, and their two daughters, Claudia and Madeleine.

**1996** As twin sisters, **Kaja Foat '96** and **Zoe Foat '96** have shared a lot in life—a last name, a love of color and nature, and a vision for a more ethical world. In 2002, the sisters followed their shared vision to create FOAT. Their goal was to offer a refreshing, eco-conscious alternative in women's fashion, starting with yoga apparel. Since then, they've expanded their designs to additional lines of one-of-a-kind garments and wedding gowns, and their workspace to studios in Minneapolis and Charleston, South Carolina.



**Devean George '99** builds neighborhood pride alongside community housing in north Minneapolis. See page 8.

**2000** Augsburg theater alumni **Stephanie Lein Walseth '00**, **Quinci Bachman '15**, and **Jorge Rodriguez '15**, and Professor Emerita **Martha Johnson** participated in the Full Circle Theater Company's return engagement of "Theater: A Sacred Passage." Lein Walseth and Johnson are two writers of this original performance piece, devised by the core artists of Full Circle from their personal journeys into theater. Their stories embody the challenges and transformational experiences they have had in becoming theater artists and how their lives and work reflect the changes in the theater community during the past two decades. The piece incorporates acting, storytelling, choreography, and music. Bachman was production coordinator, stage manager, and sound designer. Rodriguez served as set and technical director and lighting designer. Johnson was dramaturge and assistant director.

**2005 Jon Dahlin '05** participated in track and field at Augsburg, and he set a national record in the hammer throw that still stands. He went on to compete nationally and internationally in Highland games. He competed in states including California, Florida, and Texas, and he also competed in Iceland. He traveled to Gyor, Hungary, as part of Team USA for the 2015 World Highland Games Championship where he squared off against 15 athletes from around the world. He was pleased to record one of his best performances ever in caber (tossing a 175-pound wooden beam), and finished in seventh place. Dahlin lives in Minnetonka, Minnesota, and works as a software developer at Barr Engineering, focusing primarily on creating web applications. He also is a sports photographer who covers NFL games.

**Jenni Fisher '05** and **Jade Boettcher '15 MAE** were united in marriage on January 20 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Boettcher received his Master of Arts in Education from Augsburg and is a special education teacher at John Marshall High School in Rochester, Minnesota. Fisher received her bachelor's from Augsburg and is a clinic assistant at Planned Parenthood in Rochester.

**Brandon Green '05** is a new managing partner at MG Resources. Before joining the company, Green spent nearly 18 years with Griffiths Corporation.

**2007 James Lekatz '07** wrote the music for "The Snow Queen," which was presented at Stages Theatre in Hopkins, Minnesota, in March. This summer, Lekatz worked with a group of students with autism on a production of "The BFG" as part of a program called CAST, Creative Accepting Sensory-friendly Theatre. He will be assistant director on a production called "Twinkle Twinkle," as part of Stages Theatre Company's theater for the very young, and he will compose Stages' next dance/ballet piece, "The Velveteen Rabbit," to be performed next spring.

**2008 Andrew Webb '08** volunteers his time to assist local and global communities as they recover from natural disasters and tragedies. He encourages others through a letter-writing campaign and invites groups, such as area high schools, to join him in his dedication to this mission.

**2010 Jennifer (Mathwig) Ortloff '10** became joint owner of the public accounting firm of Peterson Juergensen Hemerick & Co. in Hutchinson, Minnesota, after five years with the firm. Prior to becoming an owner and before earning an accounting degree at Augsburg, she worked on the administrative side of the company. Ortloff is a native of Brownton, Minnesota, and worked for the city of Brownton while completing her degree.



**2000 Sara (Quigley) Brown '00** received her chaplain badge for the Alaska Police and Fire Chaplains Ministry, a statewide nonprofit that serves police and fire personnel. The program follows a strict training that mirrors the training of police officers. Brown will return to the Twin Cities in August to attend a clinical pastoral education residency through which she will receive certification to become a hospital chaplain.



**2000 Ross Murray '00, '09 MBA**, has been issued a call from the Metropolitan New York Synod in New York City to be consecrated as a diaconal minister and focus on LGBT advocacy at GLAAD. He and **Richard Garnett '07, '09 MBA** were married in April.



**2001 Sarah (Grans) Peterka '01** married Erik Peterka on December 12. Several Auggies were at the celebration including: **Carrie Lind '01, Skylar Hanson '01, Laura Hahn '02, Erica '01** and **Jason '01 Bryan-Wegner, Ben Hoogland '00, Larye '98** and **Melissa (Moyle) Pohlman '00, Lenise Butler '01**, and **Birgitte Simpson '13**.



**2005** When **Claire Pettry '05** moved to Ohio in the fall of 2015, her Augsburg College connection played a key role in helping her form friendships in her new locale. She met **Chris Ascher '81** and wife, Susan, and the three became fast friends who completed a 5K run on Thanksgiving.



**2003 Megan and Jay Howard '03** welcomed their son, Elias John, on April 28.



**1992 Heather Johnston '92** (second from left) was invited to speak at the annual conference of the Municipal Finance Directors of Israel in Eilat, Israel. Johnston is president of the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. Johnston serves as the city manager for Burnsville, Minnesota.



**1999** [L to R]: **J. Roxanne Prichard**, associate professor of psychology and neuroscience, and **Jeanne "Birdie" (Ramacher) Cunningham '99**, associate director of health and wellness, have created and launched the Center for College Sleep at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul.



**Lisa Svac Hawks '85** sees Augsburg College as a "pillar of faith," one of the reasons she chose the College and why she continues to be involved. She served six years on the Alumni Board and is a founding member of Augsburg Women Engaged. Hawks is vice president, external communications, for United Healthcare Services. She is focused on helping simplify the complicated health care landscape for the consumers so that they can live healthier lives. In her spare time, Hawks enjoys gardening, cooking, and playing golf and other sports. She also enjoys coaching her 10-year-old son Andrew's baseball team, which she has done for the past three years.

From the Auggie Connections blog. Visit [augsborg.edu/alumni/blog](http://augsborg.edu/alumni/blog) to read more.



# ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

**2011 Patrick Siegel '11** is the proud owner of Robusto & Briar cigar store and lounge in Lakewood, Ohio. The establishment is made for all who appreciate a fine cigar and conversation-worthy décor. He got hooked on the cigar business when, as a student at Augsburg, he was hired by the Golden Leaf shop, where he bought his cigars. He and wife, Nicole, who grew up in Rocky River, Ohio, decided to settle in Lakewood. Robusto & Briar specializes in hand-rolled products that are kept in a 15-by-30 foot humidor. The shop offers about 400 types of cigars and about 50 kinds of tobacco.

**2012** The Minnesota Women's Press published an article on Interfaith Youth Connection, a program for high school and college-age youth that promotes interfaith understanding and service. The article includes comments from **Fardosa Hassan '12**, Muslim student program associate at Augsburg College and program coordinator of Interfaith Youth Connection. By holding regular conversations and yearly service events, the group seeks to give youth "a way to be proud of

who they are in whatever faith background they [believe], while reducing prejudice and misconception," Hassan said. "In the midst of what is going on today, this is something we need."

**Patrick Saylor '12** is the new general manager of Co-op Natural Foods in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Before returning to Sioux Falls three years ago, he spent 16 years in the Minneapolis area managing cafes and retail shops. As the general manager of Co-op Natural Foods, he will oversee an established business that employs approximately 20 people and does more than \$2 million a year. He is completing work on a degree in business management/marketing and project management at the University of Sioux Falls.

**2014 Allison Zank '14** has been named a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow for 2016-17. Zank will receive a \$34,000 annual stipend and \$12,000 cost-of-education allowance to assist her in achieving a research-based graduate degree. An NSF GRFP indicates to graduate schools that a student is a top undergraduate scientist in the nation. Zank

conducted summer research on biofilms with Augsburg Associate Professor **Jennifer Bankers-Fulbright** as well as at the University of Minnesota's Dental School. Zank also has spent time conducting research in industry. At Augsburg, she was named an URGO Scholar, McNair Scholar, AugSTEM Scholar, and Goldwater Scholar. She plans to pursue a master's degree in clinical microbiology at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse this fall.

**2015 Jordan Holm '15** competed in the 2016 Olympic trials in the 85-kilogram weight class for Greco-Roman wrestling at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City, Iowa, on April 6. Holm was one of three athletes automatically earning the No. 1 ranking. He graduated from Augsburg with a business degree in marketing.

 **Duina Hernandez '16** lets dirt fly at an Augsburg groundbreaking ceremony. See page 2.

## GRADUATE

**Evan Berg '10 MBA** was hired as assistant vice president and loan officer at the Janesville State Bank in Janesville, Minnesota. He has a bachelor's degree in economics/business administration from Winona State University and an MBA from Augsburg, as well as eight years of experience in credit analysis and lending with Farm Credit and several banks.

**Katie Clark '10 MAN, '14 DNP** presented at a breakout session for Fairview Health Services' Somali Cultural Health Day in April. Her topic was "Critical decision making and chronic illness." Clark connected her previous bedside nursing experience with her current experience working with Somali community members at the Health Commons in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood. Her focus was to teach health care providers to deliver culturally congruent care to marginalized populations. She concentrated her efforts on reducing the role of stereotypes and assumptions in the patient-provider relationship.

## AUGGIE CONNECTIONS: a new, personalized newsletter



Whether it be in the classroom, cheering on your favorite Auggie team, or supporting the on-campus groups that mean the most to you, Augsburg College emphasizes a direct, personal experience for its students and alumni. In today's world where information is coming from all angles and at all times, personalized, meaningful information is more important than ever.

The Alumni Association recognizes this and is taking a step to provide more pertinent and timely information about what's happening at Augsburg. Beginning this summer, Augsburg is offering a personalized e-newsletter that will be delivered on a schedule of your choosing, in a format you want. No more monthly Now@Augsburg emails. The Auggie Connections newsletter is now in your hands.

Choose the topics you are most interested in: Auggie athletics? Theater and music? Science? Want to hear it all? With your new, improved Auggie Connections newsletter, you won't miss a thing.

The first personalized Auggie Connections newsletter arrived in your email inbox in late June. If you haven't yet set your preferences, check your email for the message titled "Augsburg College - delivered YOUR way," to get started.

To update your contact information, email [alumniupdate@augsb.org](mailto:alumniupdate@augsb.org).

## FRESH LOOK, INCREASED INTERACTION



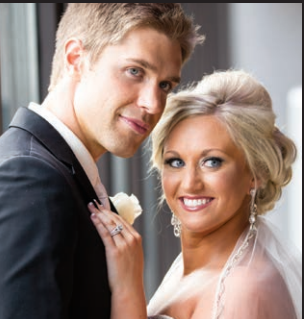
[augsb.org/now](http://augsb.org/now)

Enjoy several new features on the Augsburg Now magazine's companion website. Thanks to a site upgrade, it's possible to:

- Read articles on mobile devices with ease
- Share favorite stories and photos on social media
- View exclusive slideshows and videos
- Manage your magazine subscription and delivery method
- "Go green" by opting for digital content instead of print
- Submit class notes and share good news

## SUBMIT A CLASS NOTE

Tell us about the news in your life—your new job, move, marriage, and births. Visit [augsb.org/alumni/connect](http://augsb.org/alumni/connect) to submit your announcements.



**2009 Benjamin Austin '09** and **Michelle (Anderson) Austin '11** were married December 19 in St. Paul. They met at Augsburg during her sophomore year and his senior year.



**2010 Mike Polis '10** has started Backboard Media, based in Northeast Minneapolis. Check it out at [backboardgroup.com](http://backboardgroup.com).



**2010 Schuyler (Dunhaupt) Tilson '10** graduated from Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul in January with a focus in Indian law. She recently passed the Minnesota bar and became a staff attorney for the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court. She holds undergraduate degrees from Augsburg in history and American Indian studies.



**2012 Muneer Al-Hameed '12** won the Dancing with the Twin Cities Celebrities Charity Ball in February. Augsburg alumna **Carla Beaurline '91** was a judge this year and a 2015 Dancing with the Twin Cities celebrity dancer.



**2013 Kuoth Wiel '13** co-founded the NyaEden Foundation, a nonprofit that aims to provide basic survival necessities to disadvantaged women and children throughout Africa. She is an actress, model, and humanitarian whose debut film role was in "The Good Lie," a drama starring Reese Witherspoon that tells the story of a group of Sudanese refugees who are offered shelter in the United

States. Wiel was born to a Sudanese mother and father in an Ethiopian refugee camp following her parents' escape from war-torn Sudan. As a young adult, Wiel moved to Minneapolis to attend Augsburg and study social psychology. Visit [nyaedenfoundation.org](http://nyaedenfoundation.org) to learn more about the organization's work to foster girls' and women's safety, empowerment, independence, dignity, self-esteem, and self-respect.



## Entrepreneurial leader recognized

**Nic Thomley '06 MBA** was named to the 2016 Class of Henry Crown Fellows and the Aspen Global Leadership Network at the Aspen Institute. This growing network unites a worldwide community of entrepreneurial leaders from business, government, and the nonprofit sector who share a commitment to enlightened leadership and to using their creativity, energy, and resources to tackle the foremost societal challenges of our time. Thomley is an accomplished entrepreneur in the human services industry and the founder of companies that provide an array of services to persons with disabilities and senior citizens. Thomley is the founder and

CEO of Morning Star Financial Services and the founder and chairman of Summit Fiscal Agency and Pinnacle Services, Minneapolis. Thomley was named a 2015 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Finalist and, in 2006, was named to Inc. Magazine's "30 Under 30, America's Coolest Young Entrepreneurs" list and to the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal's "40 Under 40" list. In 2010, Thomley was presented with Augsburg's First Decade Award, which honors graduates of the past 10 years who have made significant progress in their professional achievements and contributions to the community.



## In memoriam

**Chester R. Heikkinen '40**, Robbinsdale, Minnesota, age 99, on November 24.

**Helen (Quanbeck) Nichols '44**, Monticello, Minnesota, age 94, on April 27.

**Mary (Mortensen) Nelson '45**, Minneapolis, age 92, on January 22.

**Helen E. (Berg) Peterson '46**, Minneapolis, age 92, on November 23.

**Doris M. Rear-Hustad '46**, Blanchardville, Wisconsin, age 90, on March 18.

**Loren M. Thorson '46**, Green Valley, Arizona, age 96, on March 8.

**Robert "Bob" E. Lee '47**, Hallettsville, Texas, age 92, on March 3.

**Aagoth E. (Hanson) Hansen '48**, Willmar, Minnesota, age 89, on January 4.

**Arnold H. Skaar '48**, Edina, Minnesota, age 91, on February 2.

**Vera C. (Alberg) Hafstad '50**, Owatonna, Minnesota, age 86, on March 11.

**Paul D. Hilton '51**, Cumberland, Wisconsin, age 86, on January 28.

**Eugene M. Nelson '51**, Colorado Springs, Colorado, age 86, on January 11.

**Lillian K. (Ystebroe) Ose '51**, Benson, Minnesota, age 87, on January 5.

**Leonard E. Dalberg '52**, Solvang, California, age 90, on April 21.

**Randall "Randy" Fischer '52**, Lynchburg, Virginia, age 85, on February 5.

**Robert C. Ingman '54**, Minneapolis, age 85, on September 3.

**Dale W. Quanbeck '54**, Grand Forks, North Dakota, age 84, on January 18.

**Dayne W. Sather '55**, Maple Grove, Minnesota, age 86, on January 25.

**Richard "Dick" L. Berg '57**, Minneapolis, age 85, on February 3.

**Martin O. Sabo '59**, Minneapolis, age 78, on March 13.

**Gary A. Hoonsbeen '60**, Crystal, Minnesota, age 77, on March 7.

**Robert N. Martin '61**, Dracut, Massachusetts, age 81, on March 22.

**Norbert W. W. Mokros '61**, Duluth, Minnesota, age 77, on January 25.

**Sherman P. Coltvet '62**, Rochester, Minnesota, age 75, on January 30.

**Charles "Bob" R. Hudgins '62**, Burnsville, Minnesota, age 75, on December 12.

**Charles W. King, Jr. '62**, Sun City West, Arizona, age 76, on December 17.

**Philip O. Sidney '63**, St. Paul, age 75, on April 10.

**Mary M. Lindgren '64**, Minneapolis, age 74, on March 15.

**David A. Mallak '65**, Austin, Texas, age 72, on February 10.

**Steven H. Steinke '65**, Pequot Lakes, Minnesota, age 68, on January 26.

**Robert R. Benson '67**, Preston, Minnesota, age 70, on December 23.

**Karl B. Lunder '70**, Red Wing, Minnesota, age 69, on March 12.

**Joyce I. (Engstrom) Spector '70**, Minneapolis, age 68, on April 1.

**Frederick "Fred" M. King '71**, Onalaska, Wisconsin, age 73, on February 5.

**William "Bill" J. Schutt '75**, Watertown, South Dakota, age 74, on February 2.

**Kenneth J. Dahlberg '80**, Colorado Springs, Colorado, age 62, on December 21.

**Brenda L. Fredrick '82**, Strawberry Point, Iowa, age 57, on April 23.

**Janice C. Olson '84**, Lakewood, Washington, age 79, on January 19.

**Melissa A. Lawrence '88**, Minneapolis, age 59, on March 1.

**Marilyn J. (Cederstrom) Teubert '88**, Waconia, Minnesota, age 84, on November 23.

**Carol R. (Pasquarella) Liedtke '89**, Shorewood, Illinois, age 73, on December 5.

**Diane P. Ondrey '94**, Minneapolis, age 80, on February 19.

**Jean W. (Thompson) Rondeau '94**, Minneapolis, age 77, on April 12.

**Sandra K. Berg '98**, Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, age 69, on January 26.

**Conrad D. Meyer '98**, Merida, Mexico, age 66, on April 3.

**Barbara (Steinle) Huckle '00**, Burnsville, Minnesota, age 55, on April 16.

**Jason C. Magnon '13**, Georgetown, Texas, age 25, on January 15.

## SAVE THE DATES: SEPTEMBER 22-24

*New events and schedule!*

# HOMECOMING

BE CALLED. BE PROUD. BE AUGGIES.



Go to [augsborg.edu/homecoming](https://augsborg.edu/homecoming) to register and see the new events this year.

*The "In memoriam" listings in this publication include notifications received before May 10.*



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## **The Augsburg Choir joins Barry Manilow on stage**

The exceptional talent and hard work of the Augsburg Choir was rewarded with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to sing backup during Grammy-award winner Barry Manilow's farewell tour. Members of the choir sang three of his hits in an encore at the Xcel Energy Center: "I Write the Songs," "Miracle," and "Copacabana (At the Copa)."