

AUGSBURG NOW

An aerial photograph of the Augsburg University campus in Minneapolis. In the foreground is a large, historic brick building with a dark roof. Behind it, a modern, multi-story building with a blue and white facade is shown as a semi-transparent architectural rendering, overlaid with a white grid. The background features a dense urban skyline with various skyscrapers under a clear sky.

INSIDE

Faculty-student research duo
Auggie brews up a business
The changing face of Auggies
Commencement memories

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

SUMMER 2015 | VOL. 77, NO. 3



NOTES FROM PRESIDENT PRIBBENOW

A college that is student ready

The 2014-15 academic year—the 146th in Augsburg's history—was a very good year for the College. National honors for students. Awards for faculty teaching, research, and advising. The successful completion of the \$50 million campaign for the Center for Science, Business, and Religion, and the early preparation work on the construction site. Important conversations on and off campus about interfaith living, race relations, demographic trends, and diversity. Remarkable outreach programs like the Minnesota Urban Debate League and Campus Kitchen receiving major support for their important work. A national wrestling championship! And so much, much more.

Reflecting on these accomplishments, I am so grateful for all our faculty and staff do for this special college and its students.

But I also realize that these achievements are made possible by an increasingly clear vision of our future that says we will be “a new kind of student-centered urban university, small to our students and big for the world.” And the fruit of our labors is made possible by our common efforts to live into this vision and our shared commitment to an Augsburg education that equips our students for lives of meaning, purpose, and significance in and for the world. That is what truly excites me about Augsburg's future—a persuasive vision that proclaims our desire to be a college that is student-ready!

What do I mean by student-ready? I mean that we are turning 21st century higher education on its head by not focusing on whether students are “college-ready.” You've probably read and heard that phrase many times. Demanding that students are college-ready allows lots of smart people to claim that the responsibility belongs elsewhere when it comes to ensuring that students show up on our campuses prepared by someone else for what we think a higher education should look like.

If students aren't able to read or speak English as well as we would like, if their math skills are lacking, if they don't participate in class like we once did, if they demand more of us because of difficult personal circumstances or diverse learning and leading styles, then they are not ready for college. In other words, if they don't learn and behave like us, they are not college-ready.

So here comes Augsburg offering a different—even countercultural—vision of what higher education is all about today. And it is a vision grounded in our faith and academic heritage. It is a vision that claims we are called to be ready for students with the diverse gifts and experiences they bring to our campus, gifts and experiences that demand changes in how we engage them, teach them, and learn from them. It doesn't mean that we lower our standards—that is the too-easy retort to our vision. It means that we define and claim even higher standards of academic excellence and achievement, of teaching and learning, of civic engagement and community life—standards shaped not by measures imposed from without, but by a collaborative and democratic measure borne of our shared experience and engagement.

And, come to find out, when you take the path of being student-ready, when you quit measuring by someone else's standards, you begin to witness to a way of being in the world as educated people that others want to embrace. And students and faculty win major recognition, your campaigns are successful, and you are positioned to lead in the 21st century.

Wow, that is exciting and inspiring. I give thanks every day for a community that embraces this vision of a college that is student-ready and student-centered. A college that is faithful and relevant. Our college—Augsburg College!

PAUL C. PRIBBENOW, PRESIDENT

Vice President of Marketing and Communication
Rebecca John '13 MBA
rjohn@augsb.org.edu

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

Director of Marketing Communication
Stephen Jendraszak
jendra@augsb.org.edu

Communication Copywriter and Editorial Coordinator
Laura Swanson '15 MBA
swansonl@augsb.org.edu

Creative Associate
Denielle Johnson '11
johnsod@augsb.org.edu

Marketing Copywriter
Christina Haller
haller@augsb.org.edu

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

Photographer
Stephen Geffre
geffre@augsb.org.edu

Advancement Communication Specialist
Jen Lowman Day
dayj@augsb.org.edu

augsb.org.edu

Augsburg Now is published by
Augsburg College
2211 Riverside Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55454
now@augsb.org.edu

Opinions expressed in Augsburg Now do not necessarily reflect official College policy.

ISSN 1058-1545

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



On the cover

A photo illustration depicts what the future Center for Science, Business, and Religion will look like from Urness Tower; see pages 20-21. Photo illustration by Mark Chamberlain.

All photos by Stephen Geffre unless otherwise indicated.

AUGSBURG NOW

Features

11 Ahead of the curve
BY REBECCA JOHN '13 MBA

18 Commencement memories
BY LAURA SWANSON '15 MBA

22 Making their mark
BY STEPHANIE WEISS

Departments

inside
front
cover **Notes from President Pribbenow**

02 Around the Quad

08 Celebrating student success

14 Auggie voices

20 It takes an Auggie

26 My Auggie experience

28 Alumni news

34 Alumni class notes

38 In memoriam

Correction: In the Spring 2015 issue of Augsburg Now, the names of donors Richard Bonlender '78 and Mary Ahern were listed incorrectly in the article "Torstenson legacy lives on through gifts," which described an initiative to name a gathering space for Faculty Emeritus of Sociology Joel Torstenson in the new Center for Science, Business, and Religion.

AROUND THE QUAD



PUTTING MINNEAPOLIS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

This spring, hundreds of prospective Augsburg College students and their families visited campus as part of “Destination: Augsburg,” an event designed to offer a glimpse into on-campus life. The event also included guided excursions to well-known attractions in the heart of Minneapolis including Target Field, Nicollet Mall, and the State Theatre [above].

MINNESOTA URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE adds first-ever Somali Debate Initiative

The Minnesota Urban Debate League—a program of Augsburg College—sponsored the first debate in the state among Somali youth. The Somali Debate Initiative serves middle- and high-school students from Minneapolis and St. Paul. A community forum featuring **U.S. Rep. Keith Ellison** followed the debate. MNUDL also hosted four Spanish tournaments throughout the Twin Cities, which helps make debate more accessible to Spanish-speaking communities.

In May, MNUDL hosted its third Mayor’s Challenge fundraiser. St. Paul Mayor **Chris Coleman**; **Donald Lewis**, co-founder and shareholder of Nilan Johnson Lewis in Minneapolis; and **Barb Schmitt**, senior director at Microsoft, served as judges. The event raised \$18,500 plus \$3,000 in matching grants from the Pohlad Foundation.



Keynote speaker and debate judge Ilhan Omar encourages Somali Debate Initiative guests to pursue college degrees.

AROUND THE QUAD



Soup for You! Café Chef Judah Nataf seasons one of his signature recipes.

SOUP FOR THE HEART and soul of Augsburg's neighbors

Alumnus launches community meal program

Five days a week, Minneapolis community members convene at Bethany Lutheran Church to dine on gourmet fare prepared as part of the Soup for You! Café—a program the *Star Tribune* recognized for its ability to redefine community outreach.

Augsburg College alumnus, Chaplain to Student Athletes, and Linebacker Coach **the Rev. Mike Matson '06** is the pastor at Bethany Lutheran and the driver behind this community meal. Supported by volunteers and one talented chef, Soup for You! Café is a chance for people of all backgrounds to come together in an environment that focuses on dignity. In the *Star Tribune* article “Church program offers hot soup, warm welcome,” Matson underscored that the program is designed to bring together people from the many faiths and cultures of the Seward neighborhood.

“Our model is mutuality, and what better way is there to show mutuality than to gather at the same table together?”

—**The Rev. Mike Matson '06**
Star Tribune, April 5

Augsburg College students, faculty, and staff find varied—and valuable—ways to lend their time and talents to support the Soup for You! Café. Auggie **Jens Pinther '15** contributed an article about the program to the June edition of *The Lutheran* magazine. The story, available at thelutheran.org, included photos by Augsburg photographer **Stephen Geffre**.



Courtesy Photo

A TEACHER'S INFLUENCE NEVER ENDS

Each year, the Augsburg College faculty recognizes select colleagues with Distinguished Contributions to Teaching and Learning awards—acknowledging those who have demonstrated outstanding support for students through teaching, advising, and mentoring.

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Joan Kunz, professor of chemistry

Kunz is recognized for her commitment to Augsburg's students, embodying the College's mission to educate students to be informed citizens, thoughtful stewards, critical thinkers, and responsible leaders. Since 1987, Kunz has worked toward creating and sustaining a vibrant learning community in the sciences.

EXCELLENCE IN ADVISING AND MENTORING

Susan O'Connor and **Donna Patterson**, assistant professors of education

O'Connor and Patterson are recognized for their work to incorporate Public Achievement into the special education teacher training program in the College's Department of Education. The Public Achievement model changes lives for students in special education by giving them a voice to act as citizens in a democratic society.



The 2015 Distinguished Contributions recipients [L to R]: Donna Patterson, Susan O'Connor, and Joan Kunz.



From Augsburg's

CAMPUS KITCHEN

to the community table

Unique program expands its reach

The Campus Kitchen program at Augsburg College works to make healthy food accessible to all people living in and near the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood in Minneapolis. The program also provides opportunities for service learning, leadership development, and genuine engagement between the College and the community.

Based in the Sabo Center for Democracy and Citizenship, Campus Kitchen is a student-driven organization that addresses hunger locally and globally. Corporate partners support Campus Kitchen's efforts, providing a solid foundation for Auggies' stellar work.

2014-15 academic year highlights:

7

Augsburg **student leaders** took home a "Going Beyond The Meal" award from the 2015 Food Waste and Hunger Summit in Athens, Georgia. The honor recognized Campus Kitchen's **exceptional education and outreach efforts**.

34

student **volunteers engaged** in Campus Kitchen activities per month on average.

13,036

pounds of **unserved, edible food** were recovered from A'viands campus dining and the Mill City Farmers Market and thereby diverted from the waste stream.

11,210

total **meals prepared** using recovered, gleaned, and homemade food served to youths, adults, and seniors in need in the Cedar-Riverside, Seward, and Phillips neighborhoods.

(RE)NAME THE MAGAZINE?

What do you think?



Last summer, Augsburg College participated in a national higher education magazine survey developed by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. This survey allowed more than 600 people to share feedback on the ways Augsburg's magazine helps them stay connected with the College.

Based on the survey results, we worked to develop a clearer picture of the roles the magazine plays and found that the Augsburg College magazine serves to:

- Foster inspiration and pride.
- Provide intellectual stimulation and ongoing education.
- Bridge the Augsburg of today with people's past experiences.
- Define and illustrate what it means to be an "Auggie."
- Help the Augsburg community learn how to talk about itself and equip individuals to advocate for the College.

Given the importance of these commitments, there was a desire to have the magazine name align with and support the publication's purpose. After an exploration of dozens of name options, Augsburg Spirit and Augsburg Experience stood out. It also was evident that the name Augsburg Now remains appropriate.

To determine which of these three names is best, you're invited to share your opinion on the name of the magazine by voting online for **Augsburg Now**, **Augsburg Experience**, or **Augsburg Spirit**.



Go to augsburg.edu/now to share your input to help guide our naming decision.

KEY CORPORATE PARTNERS' YEARS OF GRANT SUPPORT

LAND O'LAKES

🍏 = 1 year

TARGET

A'VIANDS

GENERAL MILLS

AMERIPRISE FINANCIAL

Plus, a new grant from The Campus Kitchens Project and AARP has enabled Augsburg's Campus Kitchen program to provide a weekly lunch for more than a dozen additional seniors living near campus.

augsburg.edu/campuskitchen

DID YOU KNOW?

General Mills has invested more than \$125,000 in the Augsburg College Campus Kitchen program.

AROUND THE QUAD



Renovations are underway on a number of spaces on the Augsburg campus in Minneapolis, including the Sateren Auditorium in the Anderson Music Hall. The space will return to service this fall.

Photo by Mark Chamberlain

ACCLAIMED ARTIST CREATES painting for Hoversten Chapel

This spring, Augsburg's Campus Ministry welcomed **the Rev. Paul Oman**—a professional watercolorist whose artistic work draws inspiration from his experiences, travels, and Lutheran faith—to take part in a three-day worship event on campus. Oman created a large-scale painting of Jesus during Daily Chapel services as on-campus worshipers took part in music, prayer, spoken word, and Scripture.

Oman's visual ministry, known as "Drawn to the Word," offered the Augsburg community the opportunity to engage in conversation and reflection on race, radical hospitality, reformation, faith, and the Lutheran tradition that continues to shape the College's identity. The painting is on display in the Hoversten Chapel in Foss Center.



The Rev. Paul Oman paints "Jesus Withdraws to Pray" during Daily Chapel time.

AROUND THE QUAD



While traveling to or from campus, some Auggies have near-perfect views of the construction underway on the new Minnesota Vikings football stadium. This vantage point is near the intersection of Cedar and Riverside avenues in Minneapolis.

ON THE SPOT

Kristin Anderson

In the discipline of art history it's common to discuss the visual representation of saints and sinners, kings and queens, and maybe even a Viking or two. At Augsburg College, **Kristin Anderson** teaches courses on the history of art and architecture, and she's prepared to talk about works ranging from the Mona Lisa to the Metrodome—may it rest in peace.

Anderson's current writing and research are focused on sports architecture, and she is co-authoring a book on the history of athletic facilities in the Twin Cities. As the St. Paul Saints baseball club settles into its new CHS Field in Lowertown and the Minnesota Vikings football team awaits the completion of a new stadium in Augsburg's own backyard, here is Anderson's take on the region's shifting sports scene.

Q: During the past decade new sports venues including TCF Bank Stadium, Target Field, and CHS Field have opened their doors in Minneapolis and St. Paul. What factors have spurred so much change in such a brief period of time?

A: Quite simply, we have moved out of an era of multipurpose stadiums. They were popular in the 1960s and 1970s, and we got one of the last ones—the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome—in 1982. Sport-specific facilities like baseball parks and football stadiums have become the standard, and that drives all kinds of new construction. And, of course, when one team gets a new space, everyone else gets in line. ...

MAKING SPACE FOR A NEW ACADEMIC BUILDING

On May 1, the campaign for the Center for Science, Business, and Religion surpassed its \$50 million fundraising goal. To make room for the construction of this new academic building, the College razed two existing houses on campus. One of the structures was occupied by the Admissions Office from 1970-2003 before that department moved to a more student-accessible location in Christensen Center. The house also was home for a time to the Center for Counseling and Health Promotion (now called the Center for Wellness and Counseling), which has relocated to the first floor of Anderson Residence Hall. A second house, formerly called Delta House, was first used for student housing. It was later home to various Admissions staff, then the Sabo Center for Democracy and Citizenship, which has moved to the Oren Gateway Center. Before these two buildings were removed, an event was held to honor the work and experiences of staff and residents who once occupied the spaces. There were 30 people in attendance, some even traveling from as far as North Dakota and New York.

Learn more about the next steps for the CSBR on page 20.



A house on 21st Avenue South is razed.



Former and current staff members reminisce over a collage of names written within one of Augsburg's former houses.

Q: Today's sports venues offer amenities that extend far beyond a wooden bleacher seat and a bag of popcorn sold at the concession stand. What does this mean for stadium architecture and game attendees?

A: Every new sports facility offers more than its predecessor, and fans seem to expect this improvement. The rising expectations are not new: fan amenities have been part of the discussion since the 1860s. Like us, people from that time period talked about food selection, legroom, and comfort at the games. Attending to the fan experience can add cost to a project, but it is an investment worth making. Just think about the many amazing differences between the Metrodome experience and the Target Field experience.

Q: What effect does an indoor stadium (like the new Vikings stadium) versus an outdoor stadium (like TCF) have on attendance, especially in Minnesota's climate?

A: We have an amazing range of weather, from glorious to horrible—and we don't always agree on which is which. This raises the stakes on decisions about stadium design. Rather than choosing "indoor" or "outdoor," many contemporary facilities combine aspects of each. The new Vikings stadium will have a glass roof and enormous windows, bridging the indoors and outdoors in space, light, air, and views. Target Field is an outdoor ballpark, but it is designed with sheltered areas, heat lamps, and other climate-mitigating features.

Q: Baseball is said to be America's pastime. How does new stadium architecture show that the sport can remain relevant—and sustainable—into the future?

A: While most contemporary ballparks pay homage to the history and tradition of baseball, they also employ an amazing array of cutting-edge technologies. One of the most exciting recent developments is the emphasis on environmental sustainability. Target Field has two LEED Silver certifications, and other sports facilities like the Xcel Energy Center and CHS Field have also engaged in significant sustainability efforts, including rainwater recycling systems and sophisticated trash-sorting and recycling programs.

Kristin Anderson is a professor of art history and the Augsburg College archivist.

CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS

\$7,500 GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Fikre Beyene '16 and Lyle Nyberg '16

15 off-campus
STEM researchers

80+ Auggies presented at Zyzzogeton
Research Festival on campus

Taylor Kuramoto '15

**FULBRIGHT TEACHING
ASSISTANT** in South Korea

3 ROSSING PHYSICS
SCHOLARS

Fikre Beyene '16, Andris Bibelnieks '16*,
and Cain Valtierrez '16

**Also Goldwater Honorable Mention*

One of 104 to present at

**2015 WINCHELL
UNDERGRADUATE
RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM**

Aisha Mohamed '16

**NATIONAL SCIENCE
FOUNDATION GRADUATE
RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP**

Honorable Mention, Alex Sorum '13

Awale Osman '15

**2015 NEWMAN
CIVIC FELLOW**

2 KEMPER SCHOLARS

Mitchell Ross '18 and Rebecca Schroeder '18

**BENJAMIN A. GILMAN
INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP**

David Gersten '16 and Amal Warsame '16

**EDDIE PHILLIPS SCHOLARSHIP
FOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN MEN**

Malick Ceesay '17



For more information about
these awards and recipients,
go to augsburg.edu/now.

12

HONORING retiring faculty

“I love the accessibility Augsburg students have to faculty and staff, especially when we meet students in passing in the quad or elsewhere when conversations become more candid, genuine, and authentic.”

— Gregory Krueger, Assistant Professor of Education

PAULINE ABRAHAM

Assistant Professor and Director of BSN Program, Nursing, Rochester
Joined the College — 2005



ELIZABETH ANKENY

Faculty Emerita
Associate Professor of Education
Joined the College — 2008

GRACE DYRUD

Faculty Emerita
Professor of Psychology
Joined the College — 1962



MARTHA JOHNSON

Faculty Emerita
Professor of Theater Arts
Joined the College — 1997

AMIN KADER

Associate Professor of Business Administration
Joined the College — 1974

GREGORY KRUEGER

Assistant Professor of Education
Joined the College — 2000

STEVEN LAFAVE

Faculty Emeritus
Professor of Business Administration
Joined the College — 1991

STEVEN NERHEIM

Medical Director Instructor of Physician Assistant Studies Program
Joined the College — 2005

KATHRYN SCHWALBE

Faculty Emerita
Professor of Business Administration
Joined the College — 1991

FRANKIE SHACKELFORD

Faculty Emerita, Professor of Languages and Cross-Cultural Studies
Joined the College — 1990

BEVERLY STRATTON

Faculty Emerita
Professor of Religion
Joined the College — 1986



DAVID VENNE

Assistant Professor of Physics
Joined the College — 1990



To read about what these faculty members love about Augsburg and teaching, go to augsburg.edu/now.

AHEAD of the curve



Augsburg leads in shaping higher education for
Minnesota's increasingly diverse population

BY REBECCA JOHN '13 MBA

For more than five years, Augsburg College has undertaken important efforts to intentionally diversify the traditional undergraduate student profile. This work is not only a prudent move in terms of growing enrollment, but it is also proving to be an important factor in sustaining the region's economic health.

This spring, more than 200 Augsburg College faculty and staff met with Minnesota State Demographer Susan Brower to discuss the "shape and scale" of the demographic trends in the state that will influence its vitality in the coming decades. Two significant trends detailed by Brower were the increasing diversity and aging of the state's population – trends that heighten the importance of education now and into the future.

Education will grow in importance because the relative size of our workforce affects economic production and the strength of our region. As older adults retire in the next 20 years and the workforce shrinks in proportion to the overall population, Minnesota will need the skills and talents of the entire working-age population.

"Employers are going to have a much greater interest in bringing populations who previously may have been marginalized into productive work," Brower said. "We don't have the capacity, going forward, to leave anyone behind."

For Augsburg, this demographic reality is significant because about 25 percent of college-bound Minnesota high school graduates express interest in Augsburg by applying, inquiring, or visiting campus. In order to successfully enroll and retain these students, Augsburg needs to be intentional about meeting the educational needs of this diversifying population.

Augsburg already has an important advantage in this area because, with nearly 33 percent students of color in the traditional undergraduate program,

the College is one of the most diverse higher education institutions in the state. This is attractive to students of both minority and majority populations because it offers them the opportunity to learn and work with many different types of people, which is increasingly important given that the pace of demographic change will accelerate dramatically in the next 15 years.

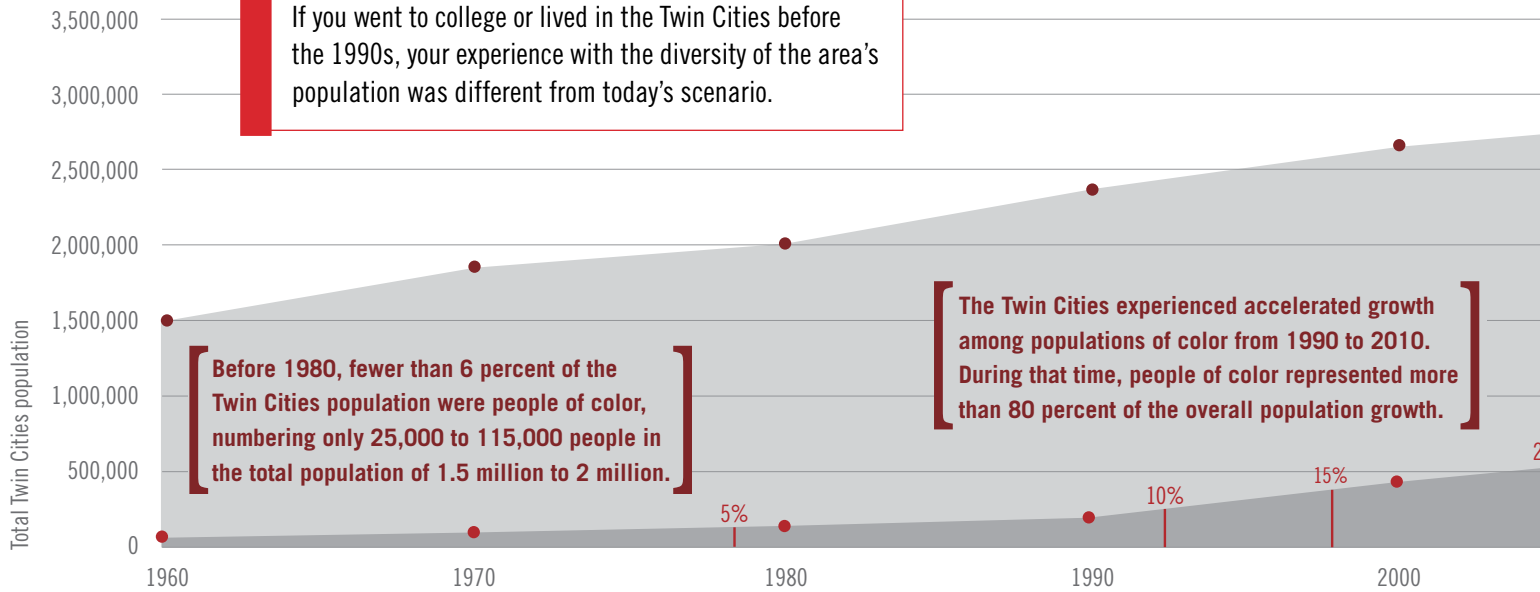
"We don't have the
capacity, going forward,
to leave anyone behind."

—Susan Brower
Minnesota State Demographer

1

Demographic Trend #1: Growing diversity.

If you went to college or lived in the Twin Cities before the 1990s, your experience with the diversity of the area's population was different from today's scenario.



What's driving the growth in diversity?

- **Younger populations are more diverse.**

Approximately 25 percent of Minnesota residents younger than age 35 are people of color, whereas populations older than 65 years are predominantly white. So, as the entire population ages, overall diversity grows. ****Sources: 2, 3**

- **The number of foreign-born residents in Minnesota is growing.**

Minnesota, today, is home to nearly 400,000 foreign-born residents—a level not seen since the 1930s. By contrast, from 1960 through the 1990s, just more than 100,000 foreign-born people lived in the state. ****Source: 4**

- **Minnesota's foreign-born population is increasingly diverse.**

In 1950, 80 percent of the foreign-born population in Minnesota was from Europe. Today, most foreign-born residents are from Mexico, Somalia, India, and Laos. ****Source: 4**

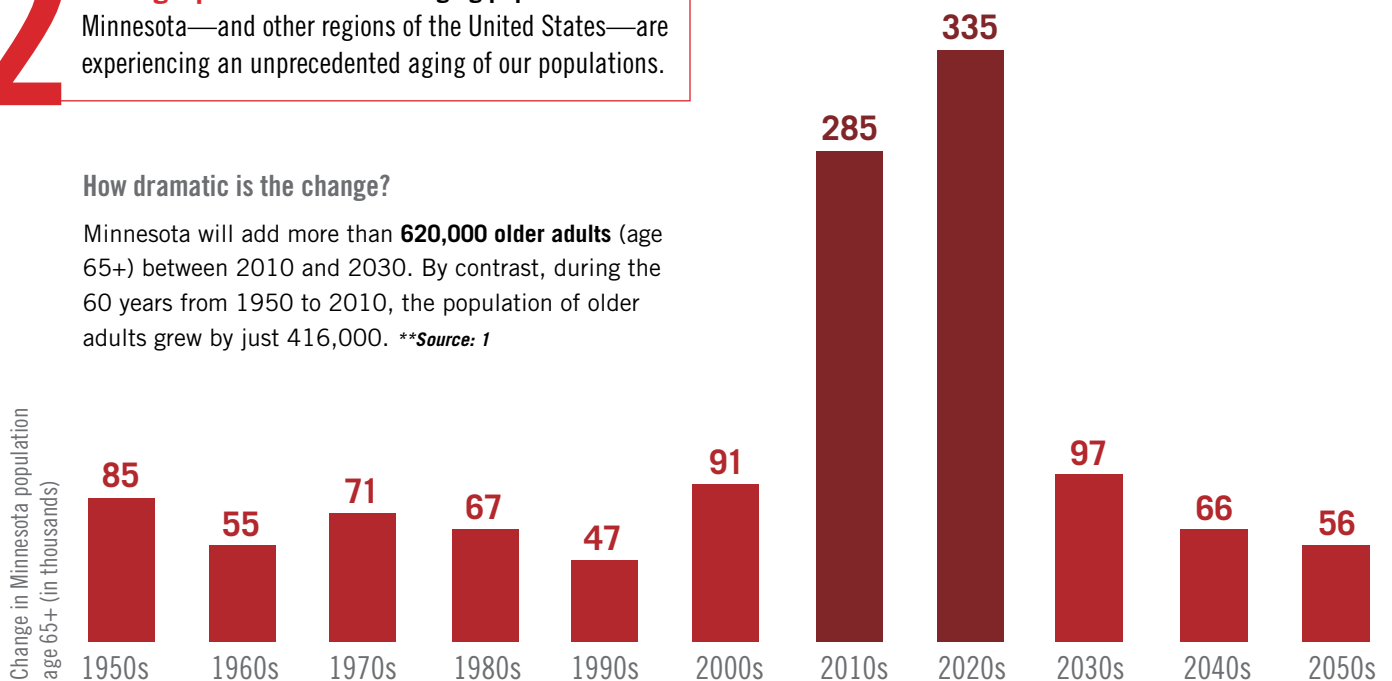
2

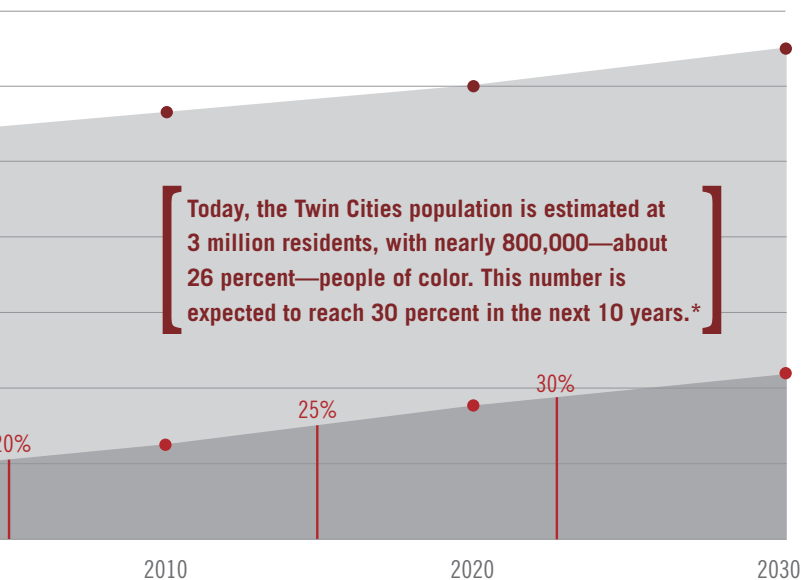
Demographic Trend #2: Our aging population.

Minnesota—and other regions of the United States—are experiencing an unprecedented aging of our populations.

How dramatic is the change?

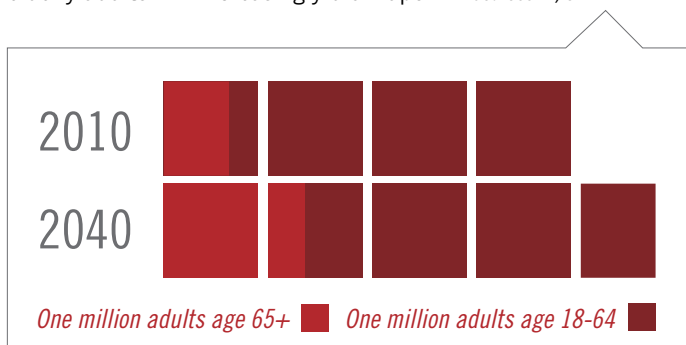
Minnesota will add more than **620,000 older adults** (age 65+) between 2010 and 2030. By contrast, during the 60 years from 1950 to 2010, the population of older adults grew by just 416,000. ****Source: 1**





*Other areas of the United States are experiencing similar diversity growth. The U.S. population in 2010 was 36 percent people of color. **Sources: 2, 3

The size of the labor force is expected to stagnate in the coming decades while the 65+ population will double. As a result, the ratio of adults ages 18 to 64 relative to adults 65 and older will go from nearly **5 to 1 in 2010** to less than **2.5 to 1 in the next 25 years**. That means there will be fewer working-age people in the population as a whole. That's an important consideration because payroll taxes are critical for funding programs like Social Security and Medicare that the growing population of retired and elderly adults will increasingly draw upon. **Sources: 2, 3



A commitment to diversity and inclusion

In 2015, Augsburg graduated its most diverse traditional undergraduate class in history, with more than 30 percent of graduates from underrepresented populations. In fact, every incoming first-year class since 2009 has included 30 to 40 percent students of color.

Augsburg also has identified faculty and staff diversity as a priority initiative in its Augsburg2019 strategic plan. As a first step, the College highlighted its commitment to intercultural competence, diversity, and inclusion in all job postings this past spring. An early result is that six of the College's 10 new tenure-track faculty are from non-majority populations.

Augsburg also has named **Joanne Reeck**, director of Campus Activities and Orientation, as chief diversity officer. Reeck launched an intercultural competence program that involved more than 100 members of the campus community this spring and will expand to include a certificate program in the fall. These programs complement the diversity and inclusion workshops offered each May by the College's Center for Teaching and Learning.

Augsburg's work in intentional diversity has garnered attention from corporations and community organizations alike. For example, Wells Fargo recently donated \$100,000 to Augsburg's Center for Science, Business, and Religion specifically because of Augsburg's proven work in educating underrepresented populations. Augsburg also recognizes that diversity extends well beyond ethnicity and provides award-winning programs for students who represent a diversity of ages, national origins, faith traditions, gender identities, and learning and physical differences.

"Of course, there is still much more we need to do," Reeck said. "But we are committed to diversity and inclusion because it creates a richer educational environment and prepares our students to lead, innovate, and serve in a diverse and globally connected world."

This work not only supports future graduates' individual success, it creates a diverse and well-educated generation that's critical to our collective future prosperity. ■



To learn more about the range of programs Augsburg offers to support diversity and inclusion, go to augsb.org/edu/now.

**Sources: 1. Minnesota State Demographic Center and U.S. Census Bureau. 2. Minnesota State Demographic Center and U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census and Population. 3. Estimates as presented by Minnesota Compass, mncompass.org. 4. IPUMS version of U.S. Census Bureau's 2010-2012 American Community Survey. Tabulated by the Minnesota State Demographic Center.

COLD BREW



Auggie Matt McGinn '13 finds innovative ways to serve an old favorite

BY CHRISTINA HALLER

Matt McGinn '13 has accomplished more in his 27 years than most. He overcame alcohol dependence to graduate from Augsburg College and its StepUP® program and then went on to become a successful entrepreneur in the coffee industry.

And when it comes to coffee, he does it all.

McGinn roasts his own beans. He uses them to cold brew coffee. He bottles it. Distributes it. And, he co-owns and runs a coffee shop where he serves his cold brewed coffee on tap—an innovation that very few shops offer, especially in the Twin Cities.

A transfer student from the University of Massachusetts, McGinn applied to Augsburg and StepUP early on in his sobriety. He went from drinking hard liquor every day for six years, to a student in

recovery working to earn his bachelor's degree in social work.

"Augsburg helped me to become a leader," McGinn said. "I showed people you can go from not being capable of holding a job and passing out in class, to working two internships, being a resident assistant, and succeeding in five classes."

Though he later decided not to pursue a career in social work, he practices skills gained while at Augsburg to help himself succeed every day—including business savvy, budgeting, dedication, confidence, detail orientation, leadership, and follow-through.

Tapping an underserved market

McGinn has been working in the coffee industry since he was a barista in high school. Once he got to Augsburg, he climbed his way up to manager at a struggling coffee shop and was able to revive it by crafting new drink recipes, learning a range of brewing techniques, improving food and drink menus, training staff, and creating more efficient labor schedules.

"People were complimenting my work, and the owner gave me free reign to do what I wanted," McGinn said. "I thought—I'm really good at this. What are my ideas? What do I want to do? Well, I make really good cold brew. People love my cold brew. And I was like, 'Why am I not doing this for myself?'"

So he did.

McGinn now co-owns and runs artisan coffee shop Quixotic Coffee in St. Paul. His branded coffee, Blackeye Roasting Co., comes in three varieties on tap—a signature blend called "Blackeye Brew;" a nitro blend called "Left Hook;" and currently under production, a nitro Guinness, which is similar in texture and flavor to a creamy stout.

Currently, you can find Blackeye Brew bottled and sold at select local retailers, but soon it'll be distributed nationally. Blackeye Brew coffee is also kegged and served in many area restaurants, on college campuses, and even in Twin Cities workplaces.

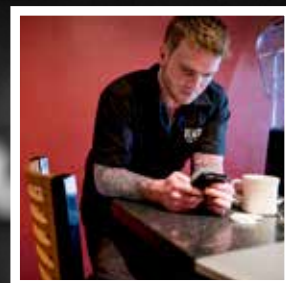
AUGGIE VOICES



AUGGIE VOICES



Watch McGinn discover
his passion for coffee at
augsborg.edu/now.



Wake up and smell the coffee. ☕

Q: You serve a nitro blend at Quixotic. What is that?

A: Nitro cold brew is coffee infused with pure nitrogen. It's stored in a keg and served on draft for a cascading, foamy, and velvety ice-cold drink.

Q: What's the difference between iced coffee and cold brewed?

A: Iced coffee is just hot coffee that's been brewed with twice as much ground coffee, then poured over ice. Cold brewed coffee is ground coffee that's been steeped in cold water overnight.

Q: So does cold brew have a different taste?

A: Yes. When you brew coffee hot you get a lot of acidity due to the chemical reaction. When you brew it cold, you don't get the acidity. In fact, there's 67-93 percent less acidity in cold brewed coffee—and two times the caffeine.

Q: So you roast your own beans. Is the origin of coffee beans important?

A: Absolutely. Most of our coffee beans are from Africa and Central America. The coffees we select from Africa are bright and floral and have more character. The coffees we get from Central America have chocolaty notes. We blend the two for a perfect balance, so they're not too tangy or fruity. ■

StepUP® at a glance

StepUP at Augsburg College is a residential collegiate recovery program focusing on helping students sustain their recovery, achieve academic success, and thrive in a community of accountability and support.

- More than 700 students served since 1997
- 93 percent average abstinence rate
- 100 students served annually
- 3.2 average GPA

Learn more at
augsb.org/stepup

Augsburg College held back-to-back Commencement ceremonies May 2-3. The College welcomed nearly 4,000 people to campus who celebrated the achievements of the Class of 2015, gathered as family and friends, and participated in Augsburg's unique approach to the centuries-old tradition of graduation.

COMMENCEMENT MEMORIES

BY LAURA SWANSON '15 MBA

As one of life's "big days" alongside events like a wedding or the birth of a child, it's common for a commencement to be a memorable experience that people can recall for years—and even decades—afterward. Yet, of the thousands of attendees at this year's ceremonies, it is unlikely that any two people will retain exactly the same event details in the same way.

Why is that? Naturally, it's due to the fact that each person's process of making and recalling memories is complex. Augsburg College professor and cognitive psychologist Bridget Robinson-Riegler helped illuminate how and why people remember the standout days in their lives in accurate—and inaccurate—ways.



Bridget Robinson-Riegler
Augsburg professor and
cognitive psychologist

WHAT MAKES A COMMENCEMENT DAY MEMORABLE?

Uniqueness.

Cognitive psychologists have found that the most distinctive life events also are the most likely to be remembered. For many people, participating in a commencement ceremony is the type of occasion that only happens a few times over the course of their lives, such as when they complete high school, college, a graduate program, or attend a graduation event for a child or loved one. The event as a whole is unique and so are particular elements of the day. For instance, contemporary Augsburg graduates process to the commencement ceremonies by walking down 7 ½ Street, which is lined with faculty members applauding the graduates' achievements. This type of event is so unique that the experience likely will form a memory that persists over time, according to Robinson-Riegler.

Emotion.

Just as distinctive events are more likely to be remembered, occasions that are laden with emotion also make their mark. The two parts of the brain that serve in memory-making include the amygdala, which is responsible for the emotion of a memory, and the hippocampus, which is responsible for creating the coherent story of a memory. People are likely to remember many of the feelings they experienced on a commencement day because it's a time of high emotion and maybe even some stress.

While graduation is not stressful in a traumatic sense, there's a lot of excitement associated with the event, which accentuates the activation of the amygdala. Then, because the amygdala is functioning at a relatively high level, a person remembers much of the emotion of a commencement.

"Ten or 20 years into the future, you remember some of the day's details—some of the big things about it—but it may be easier to remember how you felt," Robinson-Riegler said.

Timing.

When an event occurs also affects a person's ability to remember it. For many traditional undergraduates, graduation falls at a time in life known as the "reminiscence bump," the period that spans approximately from age 10 to age 30 when things are most remembered.

"As we age, things become more routine, so what stands out are things that are distinctive in your life," Robinson-Riegler said. "The things that you talked about, that you spent a lot of time rehearsing or explaining—the events like graduations and weddings—those are things that are better remembered."



What affects the accuracy of memory?

Despite the memorability of unique and emotional moments, the accuracy of our memories is not always reliable. One of the reasons memories change over time is that people come into contact with new situations that shape their recollection of the past.

"None of us really should trust our memories as much as most of us do; the gist of our memories is often accurate, but the details of exactly what happened are often inaccurate," Robinson-Riegler said.

Graduation is an interesting event to recall because there's not a lot of "cross-contamination" of memory from the event happening repeatedly, but there are disturbances in memory caused by outside influences.

For instance, people have what's

known as "schematic knowledge" about what graduations entail. Due to popular culture, a person who has never attended a graduation may be able to explain what happens at the celebration because the event typically follows a formulaic structure that includes listening to speeches, watching graduates walk across a stage, and so on. In addition, people's memories about past events can become skewed by the individuals they interact with later and the discussions that follow. Graduations might spur conversations with friends and family that help a person "fill in the gaps" where their own memories have faded, according to Robinson-Riegler.

"Think about how easy it would be for someone to infuse a memory from what someone else said about graduation, and suddenly it becomes your memory so you have no idea what the reality is," she said.

In addition to pulling outside comments into your memory pool, commencement recollections can be influenced by the photos and other artifacts from the day that a person comes across later.

"If you see pictures of the graduation ceremony, those things get into your head, so to speak, as you reconstruct your memory based on several different components," Robinson-Riegler said.

Ultimately, when Auggies of all ages think back on their commencement experiences, those memories are shaped by myriad factors, but it's the outcome of the education that persists over time and can be counted upon for the remainder of their lives.

And, while college memories may fade and change over time, they still serve several purposes—one of the best being to make us smile. ■

Onward.

Augsburg College hits \$50 million campaign goal for new, signature academic building

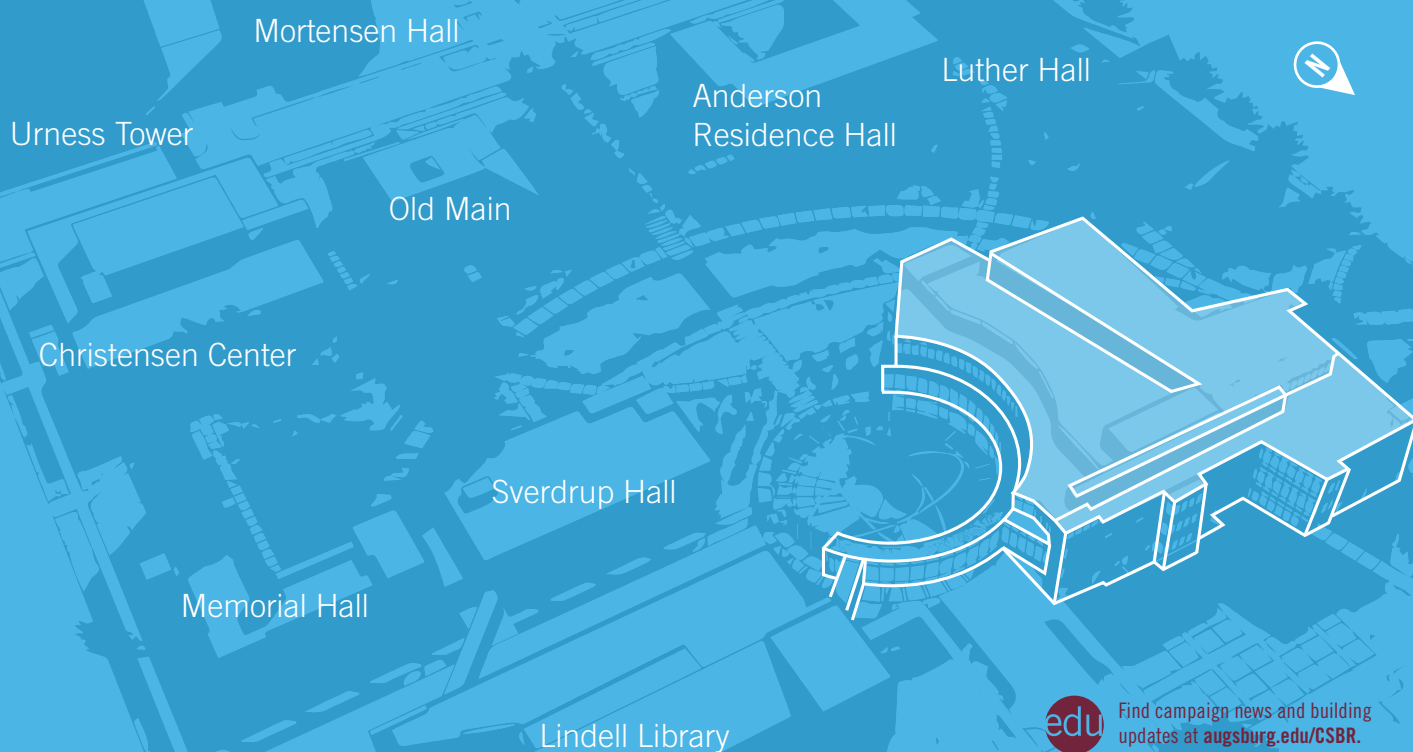
Augsburg College has successfully surpassed the \$50 million mark in its capital campaign for a unique, interdisciplinary academic building that brings together science, business, and religion. The campaign—the largest in the College's history—met its goal a year in advance of the original schedule.

With the campaign fundraising milestone achieved, the Augsburg College Board of Regents approved moving forward with the next stage of architectural and construction design for what will be the College's state-of-the-art, signature academic building. Once that design work is completed, the Board will set a timeline for groundbreaking and construction.

The College already has begun the planning and preparation necessary to make the new building a reality.

Examples of this collaborative effort include the following:

- A Board-designated project leadership team is selecting an architect who will work with the College to verify that the building meets the needs of academic programs in order to create detailed interior and exterior drawings.
- Augsburg readied the future site of the building by razing two existing houses on 21st Avenue South. (See page 7.)
- Faculty members are using grant funds to design new, interdisciplinary courses and to revise existing classes to better integrate the science, business, and religion subject areas.



Find campaign news and building updates at augsborg.edu/CSBR.

IT TAKES AN **AUGGIE**



Graphics by
Mark Chamberlain



“Individuals matter in stopping the spread of disease because disease has no boundaries ... I have made it a personal goal to advocate for the development of generic medications for infectious diseases that unfairly affect the developing world.”

—Anika Clark '14



Making their MARK

Unique research experience draws
faculty-student duo to East Africa
and Capitol Hill

BY STEPHANIE WEISS



Who gets pooped on by chimpanzees, zig-zags through a mountainous forest to elude elephants, and has been recognized by members of the U.S. Congress for her impressive research?

The first undergraduate student from the United States ever invited to study the world's largest known community of chimpanzees and to gather research data to build a foundation for understanding how human diseases—including Ebola—can be transmitted to and move through the animals.

By gathering data to model how disease spreads through the nearly 200 chimps in the Ngogo community in Kibale National Park in Uganda, **Anika Clark '14** may be able to help identify and develop vaccination plans to protect this and other groups of chimpanzees from being devastated by transmissible human diseases for which the chimps have no resistance.

Clark, a biology major, spent four weeks in Africa doing field research under the direction of **Kevin Potts**, a biology instructor at Augsburg and one of the nation's leading primatology experts. His studies on chimpanzee conservation, food, habitat, and foraging behaviors are featured in some of the world's most prestigious primatology journals.

Potts earned his master's and doctoral degrees from Yale University and studied under the Yale faculty who founded the Ngogo Chimpanzee Project in Kibale National Park. It's through his decades-long study of chimpanzees, in which he's watched some members of the animal group go from juveniles to adult leaders, and his deep professional and personal relationships with the project's founders that he was able to invite Clark to conduct research on this unique group of chimpanzees.



Undergraduate research—an opportunity for hands-on practice of skills helpful to science majors and necessary to succeed in graduate school—is an important part of an Augsburg College education and is evidence of how the College lives out its vision of educating for lives of purpose. Clark was among nearly 100 Augsburg students who conducted summer research in 2014, spending many hours in the lab and in the field to solve complex problems.

GATHERING DATA IS DIRTY WORK

Fieldwork is grueling.

“You have to be physically and mentally alert at all times,” Clark said of the work she did in Uganda. “Elephants can be in the forest. You have to move away from them quickly ... once I zig-zagged down a mountain ravine to get away.”

The work also can be very, very dirty. Even gross.

“Once, a chimpanzee in the canopy pooped on me and my field notebook,” Clark said.

But she wasn’t deterred.

Potts acknowledged the physical demands of fieldwork. He said it’s not uncommon for researchers—including graduate-level researchers—to burn out after a few weeks, especially in places as rugged as Ngogo. Clark was up and in the field by 7 a.m., walking for miles and as many as 10 hours per day in the forest to find where chimps were feeding so she could gather her data.



FINDING A KEY TO CHIMP CONSERVATION

Clark’s research is unique because she is creating a baseline for understanding how infectious diseases spread in the largest group of chimpanzees on Earth. While some other researchers are trying to understand dispersal of illness among chimpanzee troupes of about 65 individual animals, nobody else is seeking to explain how disease moves through Ngogo’s population of nearly 200 individuals.

“Chimpanzees are strange among mammal species,” Potts said. “Unlike most other mammals, chimps that make up one social group rarely are together all at the same time. Instead, on a day-to-day basis, small foraging parties go out to look for food, and members of groups can change daily.”

This means that unlocking how an infectious disease spreads is complex because chimps don’t interact consistently with the same community members day after day. Unraveling this mystery may allow people to protect chimps from transmissible human diseases for which the animals have no immunity. An Ebola vaccine for chimpanzees is in development and could feasibly be used on wild chimps in the near future. But vaccinating all the chimps would be prohibitively expensive and logistically impossible.



"If we can identify a few individuals who are disproportionately gregarious and, therefore, more likely to spread a disease to others, we can target them for vaccines and stop an outbreak," Potts said.

Uganda's forests may depend upon this understanding, too, since chimps are prolific distributors of seeds from the tree fruits that they eat and thereby ensure reforestation and new growth.

RESEARCH GRABS ATTENTION OF NATION'S LAWMAKERS

Clark's grit in the field and outstanding achievements in the classroom have garnered attention in the nation's capital. Last spring, she was selected to present at Posters on the Hill in Washington, D.C.

This annual event highlights outstanding undergraduate research and was a chance for 60 selected students from more than 800 applicants to meet with policymakers and lawmakers, including U.S. Sen. Keith Ellison of Minnesota.

"Anika's work stood up exceptionally well against top-tier student researchers from across the nation, and I hope she sees how talented she is," Potts said. "This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to present scientific results directly to those who implement policy based upon science."

EXPERIENCE SHAPES AUGGIE'S FUTURE

Clark is applying her resolve to working as a medical scribe at three different hospitals. At one of the hospitals, Clark serves as lead scribe, a leadership role that includes responsibility for recruiting other top pre-health students to work as scribes. Clark's determination to excel is further readying her for the challenge of applying to medical schools, her next step toward fulfilling her goal of one day working for Doctors Without Borders.

Through Doctors Without Borders, an internationally renowned humanitarian organization that provides assistance to countries overwhelmed by armed conflict, epidemics, natural disasters, and malnutrition, Clark will have the opportunity to use her talents and gifts to alleviate some of the world's greatest global health problems. The organization also is recognized for its dedication to serving people who experience neglect and discrimination from local health systems.

"Individuals matter in stopping the spread of disease because disease has no boundaries. The world is connected through trade, aviation, and immigration," Clark said. "I have made it a personal goal to advocate for the development of generic medications for infectious diseases that unfairly affect the developing world. An infectious disease in one part of the world must be considered a global threat."

As Clark turns her sights toward medical school and a future serving as an international doctor of medicine, other Auggies will head into the lab and field with faculty to unravel problems and seek solutions to better our shared world. ■



While Auggies have worked to protect chimpanzees from infectious diseases in Uganda's Kibale National Park, these animals also face constant threats from poaching. Visit augsborg.edu/now to learn more about chimps and how you can help in their conservation.



- 1 The field journal of Anika Clark '14 carries the mark of a chimpanzee encounter.
- 2 Clark trekked many miles through sometimes muddy forests in these shoes.
- 3 A solar sun shower was the closest to a hot shower Clark got while in Uganda.
- 4 Biology instructor Kevin Potts uses his own codes and shorthand to track information on chimpanzees.

Taking research on the road

BY CHRISTINA HALLER

Augsburg student travels 900 miles in search of answers

The last thing studio arts major Indra Ramassamy '17 thought she'd get out of her course, Women and Art, was a life-changing trip and lasting friendship with an established artist. But it just so happened that Augsburg's commitment to experiential education fostered a memorable experience for Ramassamy and cultivated skills that will prove useful throughout her life.

Ramassamy, an international student from Paris, was assigned to choose an object from Augsburg's permanent collection of art and complete a research project resulting in a final paper, a speech, an installation, and a curatorial file.

"Augsburg expects us to discover things. We are encouraged to make deep connections with people, to find new ways to problem-solve, to make a difference."

—Indra Ramassamy '17

Ramassamy was drawn to a print by Nilda Getty called "Psychic," one work in a five-piece series titled, "Life Series."

"What drew me to this print was a sort of 'motion' around a white circular

shape—to me, it represented the moon," Ramassamy said. "We can see six female figures around the shape, but there is a possibility that these female figures might actually be one person at different moments."

A little persistence goes a long way

In researching the piece, Ramassamy found that biographical information about the artist was limited. She was, however, able to locate and contact an art gallery where Getty had once exhibited. The art gallery contacted Getty about Ramassamy's inquiry, and within a week, they were speaking regularly on the phone for Ramassamy's project. A few weeks later, Getty and her son, Leslie, contacted Ramassamy and invited her to Colorado, offering to fly her out so she could complete her assignment.

Ramassamy gladly accepted. "It was about a lot more than the paper," she said. "Through phone conversations and an exchange of emails, I had already made a connection with Nilda and was beyond excited to meet her."

Leaving a lasting legacy

A few weeks later, Ramassamy was on a flight from Minneapolis to Fort Collins, Colorado, for a 48-hour stay. While there, Ramassamy toured Getty's studio, met Getty's family, learned how to use metalsmithing tools, and studied Getty's artwork—from silk prints to photographs, metalwork to jewelry. She also visited Colorado State University where Getty taught metalsmithing in the Art Department.

When Ramassamy asked Getty about "Psychic," Getty said the white circle represented both the world and the universe. But the artist also explained that it doesn't matter what she thinks of the piece. What is important to Getty is the viewer's experience with the art and the relationship formed with it.

Ramassamy was inspired by Getty's work, by her outlook on art and life, and by her warmth and spirit. "One of the sweetest things was when Nilda told me her 'greatest works of art are her children'—and she also asked me a lot about my own mom," Ramassamy said. "I believe Nilda's legacy will be what her children go out into the world and achieve."

An Augsburg education is shaped by its global settings

Ramassamy is grateful to Augsburg for the whole experience. "There's a culture at Augsburg to go the full extent—do as much as you can," she said. "Augsburg expects us to discover things. We are encouraged to make deep connections with people, to find new ways to problem-solve, to make a difference."

And that's exactly what Ramassamy did.

A woman with dark hair, wearing a white turtleneck and blue jeans, is smiling and holding a large, square-framed artwork. The artwork features a dark square with a white circle in the center. She is standing in a hallway lined with various framed artworks. The lighting is warm and focused on the woman and the artwork she is holding.

MY AUGGIE EXPERIENCE

FUN FACTS ABOUT AUGSBURG'S PERMANENT COLLECTION OF ART

MOST FAMOUS?

Andy Warhol's "Liz"

LARGEST?

Henry Lande's minimalist sculpture, 24 Elements, stands outside between Urness Tower and Christensen Center at 33 feet tall.

BEST-TRAVELED?

A photograph of Gerda Mortensen vanished from Mortensen Hall (more than once) and reappeared at St. Olaf College.

MOST GENEROUS DONORS?

Don and Dagny Padilla, avid art collectors, who gave dozens of pieces to Augsburg's permanent collection of art, including Nilda Getty's "Psychic."

AVAILABLE IN TWO SIZES?

Jakob Fjelde's life-size marble bust of Augsburg's third president, Sven Oftedal, and Fjelde's small-scale plaster copy, a recent gift from Melinda and Jim Kohrt.

ALUMNI NEWS



INTRODUCING NEW ALUMNI BOARD MEMBERS

Six Auggies successful in business, mentorship, leadership, and advocacy for the College recently were elected to three-year terms on the Augsburg College Alumni Board.

New members:

Cyrus Batheja '08, '10 MBA

National corporate director,
UnitedHealth Group

Hannah Dietrich '05

Principal planning analyst, Hennepin
County Department of Community
Corrections and Rehabilitation

Jay Howard '03

Director of global sales, Innovative
Computer Software

Chau "Tina" Nguyen '08

Project analyst, U.S. Bank

Mary Prevost '12 MBA

Owner, MJP Strategic
Communications

Howie Smith '80

Manager, talent development,
Ameriprise Financial Services



Take a moment to read a
few of the reasons why these
new representatives are excited
to be part of the Alumni Board.
Go to augsb.org.edu/now for more
information.

ALUMNI BOARD

Back Row [L to R]: Adrienne (Kuchler)

Eldridge '02, Sarah Grans '01, Howie
Smith '80, Jay Howard '03, Rick Bonlender '78,
Greg Schnagl '91, Nick Swanson '09, Patricia
Jespersen '95

Front Row [L to R]: Marie (Eddy) Odenbrett '01,

Hannah Dietrich '05, Jill Watson '10 MBA,
Meg (Schmidt) Sawyer '00, Melissa (Daudt)
Hoepner '92, Chris Hallin '88, Adriana
Matzke '13, Rachel (Olson) Engebretson '98,
Chau "Tina" Nguyen '08, Mary Prevost '12 MBA

Not Pictured: Cyrus Batheja '08, '10 MBA;
Sharon Mercill '09; Jordan Moore '12 MBA;
Brent Peroutka '02; Nick Rathmann '03;
Tracy (Anderson) Severson '95

If you have ideas for alumni
involvement, email the Alumni Board
at alumni@augsb.org.edu.



HOMECOMING

OCTOBER 8-10 2015

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME RECEPTION AND CEREMONY

5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Honor the 2015 Athletic
Hall of Fame inductees.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

HOMECOMING CONVOCATION AND DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

10 to 11:30 a.m.

Recognize the First Decade, Spirit
of Augsburg, and Distinguished
Alumni award recipients.

HOMECOMING AND REUNION CELEBRATION LUNCHEON

12 p.m.

Celebrate this year's distinguished
award recipients and the newest
inductees into the 50-Year Club
from the class of 1965.

AUGGIE HOURS

6 to 8:15 p.m.

Join the all-class Auggie happy hour.

HOMECOMING FIREWORKS

8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

HOMECOMING AND REUNION BREAKFAST

8 to 9:20 a.m.

HOMECOMING CHAPEL

10 a.m.

TASTE OF AUGSBURG

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Family fun takes over Murphy Square
park with carnival-style booths, great
food, student groups, and games.

HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME VS. UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS

1 p.m.

AUGGIE BLOCK PARTY

3:30 to 6 p.m.

Enjoy live music, s'mores, and a
post-game social hour.

REUNION CLASSES

Silver Auggies and
60th Reunion—1955

50th Reunion—1965

40th Reunion—1975

25th Reunion—1990

10th Reunion—2005

For Homecoming this year, let's come together and revel in our
Augsburg connections with great events all weekend long. Alumni,
families, and friends are all invited to this celebration of our shared
Augsburg experience.

Registering for Homecoming is easier than ever with an all-
access pass. One \$40 pass admits you to all events. Register to
guarantee your spot. The price increases to \$50 after September 8.

Go to augsb.org/homecoming to register.

Join Homecoming co-chairs **Jacquie Berglund '87**
and **Devean George '99** for Augsburg alumni's
favorite weekend of the year.

"Connecting with folks you
haven't seen in such a
long time is just
heartwarming."

Jacquie Berglund '87,
2014 Spirit of Augsburg
award recipient



THE YOUNG ALUMNI COUNCIL

The mission of the Young Alumni Council is to provide opportunities to engage young alumni through planning and hosting networking, fundraising, and volunteering events and programs.

In May, Auggies joined **the Rev. Mike Matson '06** and his congregation during an annual rummage sale at Bethany Lutheran Church in the Seward neighborhood of Minneapolis. This summer the Young Alumni Council hosted a sold-out gathering at a St. Paul Saints game in June and an evening at Canterbury Park in July, bringing more than 600 Auggies together.

If you've graduated within the past 10 years and are interested in joining this growing group of active alumni, contact **Katie Radford '12**, volunteer and alumni engagement manager, at radford@augsborg.edu.

FINAL EVENT OF THE SEASON

Summer Series: On Tap

Monday, August 10

5:30 to 8 p.m. | Surly Brewery

Build your Auggie network and learn how fellow alumni are fulfilling their vocations today. Appetizers and two drink tickets provided.

Tickets: \$10

To register, call **612-330-1085** or visit augsborg.edu/alumnierevents.



To learn more about the Young Alumni Council members, go to augsborg.edu/now.

Courtesy Photo



Augsburg alumnae from the class of 1996 support the Center for Science, Business, and Religion.

Front Row [L to R]: Brittany (Lynch) Jakubiec, Jennifer (Cummings) Ackland, Wendy Laine, Brooke (Manisto) Reseland.

Back Row [L to R]: Connie (Arndt) Clausen, Stephanie Harms, Jodi Monson, Natasha (Solberg) Sheeley.

Buy a brick. Honor a friendship.

"We came together to buy a brick in honor of the strong friendships we formed at Augsburg and the memories we continue to make among our families." —Brittany Jakubiec '96

There is still time to participate in the campaign for the Center for Science, Business, and Religion! Buy a brick as a tribute to the bonds that helped to create your Augsburg story.

- Augsburg will inscribe a brick with your name, the name of someone you'd like to honor, or a special message.
- Each brick will be displayed in the CSBR, creating a lasting legacy for the future of the College.
- You will receive official recognition of your participation in this program.
- The first 500 to buy a brick will receive a VIP invitation to the CSBR dedication.



Foundation Brick (40 characters, 3 lines) = \$250

Legacy Brick (80 characters, 6 lines) = \$500

augsborg.edu/csbr | 612-330-1085



BEHIND THE MUSIC

Auggie backup band's role helps bridge cultures and generations

Augsburg College students, alumni, and faculty have helped bring a cutting-edge musical partnership to life by performing alongside the rising voices of the Somali music scene and even some “super stars.”

Midnimo was awarded one of six \$200,000 grants from the highly competitive Building Bridges: Campus Community Engagement program by the Association of Performing Arts Presenters funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.

Midnimo, the Somali word for “unity,” is a two-year partnership between Augsburg and the Cedar Cultural Center to bring Somali artists to Minnesota for educational residencies and concerts. This unique opportunity

is supported by a prestigious \$200,000 grant award and a number of Auggies—including Faculty Emeritus **Bob Stacke '71**—whose cross-cultural relationship building and love for performance set the stage for a truly intergenerational, intercultural musical immersion.

At concerts held through Midnimo, artists ranging from the pop collective **North American Super Stars** to Somali-British singer-songwriter **Aar Maanta** played alongside backup ensembles comprised of a mix of Auggie students, alumni, and former faculty whose own musical gifts and talents helped make Midnimo a critically acclaimed program. For many of the Auggies, participating in Midnimo has offered the opportunity to join a partnership that's the first of its kind in the nation and to do what they love best: play.

◀ A mix of current students, alumni, and former faculty serve as the backup band for one of the Midnimo artists. Somali-British musician Aar Maanta (far right) practices with musicians [L to R]: **Kyle Burbey '15**, **Steve Herzog '06**, **Andy Peterson '05**, and Ben Somers.



▲ **Bob Stacke '71**, retired associate professor of music, is known and respected for his cross-cultural percussion performances. Stacke's deep musical connections were critical in forging the partnership between the College, the Cedar Cultural Center, and visiting artists.

▼ **Steve Herzog '06** [pictured, right] was selected by **Bob Stacke '71** to write and arrange the music for Midnimo visiting artists. Herzog often has needed to transcribe and arrange music in less than a week. Through this work, Herzog has been inspired to develop a program for engaging Somali youth in the advancement of Somali music. He's also pursuing a master's degree in education at Augsburg.



edu See a clip of the band performing with Aar Maanta at augsburg.edu/now.

Minneapolis shoppers can find a little Auggie Pride in an unexpected location—a secondhand clothing store that is an active illustration of Augsburg College's mission, which includes collaborating with others to serve the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood and providing students with hands-on learning opportunities.

Sisterhood Boutique (2200 Riverside Ave., Minneapolis) has been a training ground for young, Cedar-

the idea of opening a clothing store.

Richardson, who in high school founded a secondhand clothing store through Youth Express, an after-school program in St. Paul, used her retail experience and business management training to help the women get started. First, she collaborated with a youth social entrepreneur coordinator, a store founder, and other interested young women to develop a paid internship program for the boutique. The program provides young

Augsburg liaison to the program, is a mentor for the staff and interns, and has been on the Sisterhood's Advisory Committee since the beginning.

Seizing the opportunity for real-world training, classes on campus got into the act. A group of Augsburg MBA students created a business plan for the store through a management consulting class project. **Christopher Houlberg**, assistant professor of art, led Sisterhood interns in a branding exercise and assisted with the design of a boutique logo; classes taught by **Marc Isaacson**, assistant professor of business, provided website recommendations; and, through clothing drives, Residence Life collected thousands of pounds of clothing to donate to the startup.

Today, Augsburg alumna Sajady manages the Sisterhood Boutique. Sajady, a business marketing major, was hired last November through Pillsbury United Communities to lead Brian Coyle's Youth Entrepreneur Program. Under her leadership as the operations coordinator, the Sisterhood Boutique has exceeded its social media and community engagement goals.

The program is supported by Fairview Health Services, an institution that, like Augsburg, is committed to its role as a community partner. Fairview donated a vacant retail space to the Brian Coyle Center for workforce development. Additional donors and community partners include the Foundation of Minnesota, Sundance Family Foundation, Marbrook Foundation, and Women Investing in the Next Generation (WINGS) Fund of the Greater Twin Cities United Way.



Augsburg College alumnae **Yasameen Sajady '11** and **Stella Richardson '15** serve the Sisterhood Boutique.

Riverside neighborhood women in entrepreneurship, business, community partnerships, and sustainable fashion since its opening in February 2014. Since then, 60 women ages 14 to 23 have participated as staff and interns, and two Auggies—**Stella Richardson '15** and **Yasameen Sajady '11**—have played roles on the store's leadership team.

Two years ago, East African women in the Youth Social Entrepreneur Program at the Brian Coyle Center, a neighborhood resource and community center, began envisioning a way to empower young women in the area. The women worked with Richardson, then an intern at Brian Coyle Center, to explore

East African women with professional development, peer-to-peer mentoring, and classroom training, followed by three months of employment in the store.

The founders of the boutique also collaborated with Augsburg's Director of Community Engagement **Mary Laurel True**, who has been integral to the store's success.

Community engagement for Auggies happens both on and off campus—and when True learned about the vision for a women's entrepreneurial project in the neighborhood, she ensured that Augsburg joined with other community groups to make the innovative business venture a reality. True serves as the

CULTURAL TRAVEL WITH AUGGIES



Courtesy Photos

Augsburg organizes international tours for the College's alumni, parents, families, and friends. Each customized trip is led by Augsburg faculty members whose distinction and expertise adds to a uniquely Augsburg experience.

Celebrating Lutheran heritage in Germany and the Czech Republic

Mark Tranvik and Hans Wiersma, Religion Department faculty members, host this journey through Germany and the city of Prague **October 27-November 6, 2016**, celebrating Lutheran heritage in honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Cultural immersion in Thailand and Cambodia

English Professor Kathy Swanson, who is fluent in Thai, will lead this exploration through Thailand and Cambodia **January 3-15, 2017**. This voyage takes travelers to the Grand Palace, Wat Pho (the Reclining Buddha), and floating markets. It continues to Chiang Mai for elephant rides, an authentic cooking class, and volunteer work at a local orphanage. The journey concludes in Siem Reap at Angkor Wat, the largest religious monument in the world.

If you are interested in traveling with fellow alumni, contact **Sally Daniels Herron '79** at herron@augsb.org or **612-330-1525**.



To learn about Augsburg cultural travel opportunities, go to augsb.org/alumni/travel.

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

1963 After serving as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Vista, California, since 1969, **the Rev. Beryl Droegemueller** retired in April. Over the course of his 45 years of shepherding the congregation, membership grew from 125 to more than 1,000. During those four decades, the church opened preschool, elementary school, middle school, and extended daycare programs. Droegemueller trained 37 pastoral interns through the church's vicarage program and, in the early 1970s, worked with church members to develop a new mission church, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran in Oceanside, California. He led Faith Lutheran through the construction of the sanctuary, a parish hall, an early childhood center, and offices. Together with members of the congregation, Droegemueller was instrumental in building a multi-level care retirement facility, now Rancho Vista retirement community, which was dedicated in 1981. When he talks about

the projects and productivity, he points to his "very dedicated, creative, and hard-working members" and his staff. Along with his doctor of ministry degree, he earned a law degree, which he said was helpful in the many building projects. He assisted area churches with numerous legal challenges and served as circuit counselor and chairman of the Pacific Southwest District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod board of directors. The Minnesota native entered Concordia Lutheran Seminary after a year of working for a bank and following graduation from Augsburg with a double major in history and English.

Jean (Bagley) Humphrey married her husband, Roger, one week after graduation. **Nancy (Bloomfield) Bottemiller** and **Ruth (Sather) Sorenson** were her bridesmaids. The Humphreys moved to the Boston/Cambridge area where they lived in married student housing at the Massachusetts Institute of

Technology and had their two children. After five years, they moved to California where Roger's first job was with Chevron Oil. They lived in California for 38 years. Nine Bagley children attended Augsburg including **Robert Bagley '58**, who went on to Luther Seminary, and **Yvonne (Bagley) Olson '52**, who lived with **Gerda Mortensen** and married **Orville Olson '52**.

1967 **Jerilyn (Bjugstad) Wibbens** is the choral director of the NW Nordic Ladies Chorus of Everett, Washington. The group recently performed with other Nordic choruses in a Seattle-area celebration of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius. They sang "Finlandia" with the Seattle Symphony.

In May, **Robert** and **Sandra (Syverts) '68 Benson** were grand marshals for Trout Days in Preston, Minnesota. The Bensons remain active in this community where Bob served as a county judge. Bob (now retired) is a certified firearms instructor and a retired fireman. Sandra is the founder of the Preston Farmers Market.



As a public relations expert, **Kari (Eklund) Logan '82** assists clients in raising awareness about topics that range from education to urban forestry and from financial services to the arts. At CEL Public Relations, Logan leads a media relations team and couples her talents in writing and networking to serve her clients.



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

1970 **Ray Hanson** is working for Goldbelt Raven as an assistant program manager for chemical forensics at the Department of Homeland Security's Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency. His role supports the Chemical and Biological Defense Directorate in Washington, D.C., which is developing forensic methods for detecting signatures for chemical threat agents.

AUGGIE SNAPSHOTS



1982 **Diane (Peterson) Kachel** is now a clinical research manager for Metro Urology, the largest urology private practice network in Minnesota. In this newly created position within the organization's management team, she is responsible for managing all aspects of the research program in addition to developing new research opportunities and scalable research infrastructure across multiple clinical sites and patient conditions.



2008 **Jay Matchett '08, '13 MAL** was named director of Our Neighbors' Place, a social service agency, in River Falls, Wisconsin. The social service agency includes a day center, shelter for families, community closet, classes, and a successful backpack program. He cites **Tim Pippert**, associate professor of sociology, and **Andy Aoki**, professor of political science, as strong influences during his time at Augsburg. Matchett believes he truly has found his path to vocation. He would like to establish a partnership with Augsburg's social work program so that Our Neighbors' Place may serve as an internship site for current students.

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

1972 After more than 40 years of regional sales management and marketing for two Fortune 500 companies, **James Piepenburg** has retired and lives in the Phoenix metro area with his wife, Lucy. He has two great daughters, Krista and Jaime, along with son-in-law, Chris, and 12-year-old grandson, Nicolas. Currently, Piepenburg is doing part-time art consultation with Thomas Kinkade Art Gallery of Arizona.

music therapy and has done additional study at Colorado's Center for Biomedical Research in Music.

1988 **Kiel Christianson** is associate chair of the Department of Educational Psychology at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He is an associate professor of educational psychology, psychology, and linguistics, and he directs the EdPsych

1991 **Stephanie (Grochow) Trump** has been elected to serve as the choral vice president of the Minnesota Music Educators' Association.

1992 **Todd Lange** was honored with the Albert Lea (Minnesota) Area Schools' 2015 Teacher of the Year award. He teaches high school English.

Sharol (Dascher) Tyra is a professional certified coach and mentor for leadership development at Life Illumination Coaching. Tyra has been a mentor to Augsburg students since 2011. She will serve as president of the Minnesota charter chapter of the International Coach Federation, and she represented ICF Minnesota at four global leadership forums.

1998 **Raylene Dale (Navara) Streed** has been appointed executive director of the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank at the University of Minnesota. Streed has served in other leadership positions, including as interim executive director and technical director. Streed graduated from Augsburg with a bachelor's degree in biology.

1999 **Scott Hvistendahl** manages the event department at the University of Northwestern-St. Paul, where he is a member of the football coaching staff. He enjoys being involved with football and having a chance to work with fellow coaches in developing players in a Christian environment as well as helping them to grow as men on and off the field. Hvistendahl and his wife, Alisha, have two children: Macey and Jordan. The couple met through an Augsburg staff member who knew Scott from football and Alisha through athletic training.



Curt Rice '84 has been chosen to lead Norway's largest university college, taking charge of Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences as rector on August 1. Rice received his undergraduate degree in philosophy from Augsburg. His wife, **Tove Dahl '84**, is a professor at the University of Tromsø, Norway, and is the dean of Concordia Language Villages' Norwegian camp, Skogfjorden.



From the [NOW@Augsburg blog](mailto:NOW@Augsburg.edu).
Visit augsburg.edu/alumni/blog to read more.

John Sherman, sports editor of Sun Newspapers, has been inducted into the Minnesota State Football Coaches Hall of Fame. Sherman said he was truly honored to join the ranks of **Stan Nelson '43**, Dave Nelson, Sid Hartman, Bronko Nagurski, and Ray Christensen in the Hall of Fame.

Psycholinguistics Lab at the Beckman Institute of Advanced Science and Technology. In his spare time, he is a senior writer for the Golf Channel websites, where he writes about golf, golf travel, golf courses, and golf equipment. He lives in Mahomet, Illinois, with his wife, Jen, and their two children.

1978 **Steve Hoffmeyer** is interim general counsel and executive director of the new Minnesota Public Employment Relations Board. He also teaches business law classes at the University of Phoenix campus in Minnesota and arbitrates labor cases outside of the state.

1989 **Leah (Parker) Maves** graduated from Luther Seminary in May 2014 with a master's in children, youth, and family ministry. She received her first call on December 22 to the Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish in Amherst and Nelsonville, Wisconsin. She was commissioned and installed on February 11 by Bishop Gerald Mansholt.

1979 **Phil Madsen** and wife, Diane, moved into the fitness business, opening their first Anytime Fitness franchise gym in July 2014 in Port Orange, Florida. A second gym will follow in nearby New Smyrna Beach, Florida. Phil says, "This is a wonderful opportunity. The franchise business model is sound, we interact with members in truly personal and life-changing ways, and we get to improve our own health and fitness like never before."

1982 **Sandra (Walter) Holten**, a music therapist who specializes in caring for people with Parkinson's, was featured on Minnesota Public Radio in March for her work with Struthers Parkinson's Center in Golden Valley, Minnesota. She has a bachelor's in



Jenna (Bracken) Held '05 is following in the footsteps of her mother, **Jane (Catlin) Bracken '71**, by serving as a teacher and pursuing her love of working with children. Last year, after having taught fourth and fifth grade for eight years, Jenna switched to first grade at Lincoln Center in South St. Paul, Minnesota. She enjoys working in the community where she lives. She met her husband, **Andrew Held '05**, at Augsburg and started to date him after doing homework together for Calculus II. They welcomed their third child in June.



From the [NOW@Augsburg blog](mailto:NOW@Augsburg.edu).
Visit augsburg.edu/alumni/blog to read more.

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES



Josh Krob '08, '15 MBA was granted a prestigious "Twin Cities Finest" award from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in recognition of his extensive community volunteer efforts and professional growth. A believer in the value of lifelong learning, Krob earned his MBA at Augsburg seeking to expand his understanding of how to be an effective leader.



From the [NOW@Augsburg blog](#).
Visit augsburg.edu/alumni/blog to read more.

2001 Maggie Tatton was among those named "40 Under 40" honorees by The Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal. This honor includes young business and community leaders from throughout the Twin Cities. Tatton is partner at Lindquist & Vennum, P.L.L.P.

2002 Brent Peroutka was featured in the Faribault (Minnesota) Daily News as a "40 Under 40" honoree for his community achievements and career in finance. A financial advisor at Comprehensive Wealth Solutions, Peroutka holds a business administration/finance degree from Augsburg. The best part of his day is helping his clients achieve their goals, he says. "We can make a difference each and every day, whether it's at home, at work, or in the community."

2008 Justin Reese has been named head football coach for Fridley (Minnesota) High School. A native of Houston, Texas, Reese earned a bachelor's degree in physical education at Augsburg and went on to earn a master's degree in sports management from the University of Minnesota. His vision for the Fridley football program is to inspire academic and athletic excellence in students by challenging them to achieve the highest level of personal development.

2010 Michael Polis was nominated for the "32 Under 32" awards. This honor was created in partnership with the Advertising Federation to recognize the top young Minnesota marketing and advertising professionals.

2011 Samantha Drost was appointed to the State Quality Council for a two-year term. The council works in partnership

with the Minnesota Department of Human Services to help improve the lives of those with disabilities.

2012 Lauren Grafelman is the 2015 Business Administration Scholar Award recipient at Hamline University. This award is given to the university's top MBA student based on academic performance and leadership within the program. Grafelman was honored with this award at a graduation and recognition reception in May.

2013 Mike Lanski is in a long-term position with U.S. Bank. He also has started his second season with the Minnesota Twins, working as an usher, and he is in his 10th year with the Minnesota Wild in the same capacity.

Madalyn Johnson is employed as a promotions assistant at 1500 ESPN Radio at Hubbard Broadcasting.



Matt McGinn '13 talks coffee on page 14.

2014 Janelle Holte was accepted into the U.S. Peace Corps and departed for Jamaica in March to serve as an agriculture extension volunteer. During the first three months of her service, Holte lived with a host family in Jamaica to learn the local language and integrate into the local culture. Holte will work with her community to identify resources and agriculture projects that can be developed and implemented to generate income. She also will facilitate training in farm management and work with schools to enhance and expand environmental education.



Anika Clark '14 discussed the research she conducted in Africa with lawmakers on Capitol Hill. See page 22.

2015 Ben Menzies graduated in May and is about to begin a master's program at the University of Minnesota in integrated behavioral health. He and **Shira Bilinkoff** are looking forward to their wedding in fall 2016.



her successes and find her personal best records at meghanpeyton.com.



From the [NOW@Augsburg blog](#).
Visit augsburg.edu/alumni/blog to read more.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Kathy Rumpza '05 MAL has taken a position with the University of Minnesota as lead of the Creative Services team in University Relations, the central marketing office. She works closely with the university's brand.

Anna Coskran '09 MBA has been named a principal of NTH, a Twin Cities real estate and project management firm where she has worked since 1998. With more than 15 years of real estate experience, she has worked with a diverse array of clients including The Minneapolis Foundation, the Star Tribune, and Xcel Energy.

Chris Wolf '09 MAN was named chief nursing officer of a medical element of the Minnesota Air National Guard.

Jordan Moore '12 MBA and his wife, Jen, became parents on March 27 with the birth of their daughter, Carla Jo.



Jim Miles '14 MBA recently published "Hero," a middle grade novel. In addition to writing as a lifelong passion, "Hero" is the result of Miles' MBA program. He came to Augsburg to learn how to give artistic projects the business legs they needed to walk and thrive. He named one of his supporting characters after **Magda Paleczny-Zapp**, associate professor of

business. Magda Corbett originally was conceived as a minor character, but she quickly became a rather significant part of the story, which Miles considers the result of the influence of the name. For more information on "Hero," go to coltonsilver.com.

Submit a Class Note

Please tell us about the news in your life—your new job, move, marriage, and births. Visit augsb.org/alumni/connect to submit your announcements.

AUGGIE SNAPSHOTS



2001 Hilary English Crook and her husband, Jacob Seljan, welcomed Lovisa Emily Seljan on March 30. Both Lovisa and big brother, Britton, are sporting their Augsburg gear!



2007 Sarah (Gilbert) Clay and her husband, Ryan, welcomed Oscar Leo Clay on March 19.



2010 Matt and Sarah (Thiry) Solberg celebrated their marriage on August 8, 2014. Auggies in the wedding party included maid of honor **Hannah Thiry '17**, **Emily Wiles**, and **Dan Thewis**.



2012 Courtney Gamrath and **J.P. Perpich** were married on August 15, 2014.



In memoriam

Ingeborg C. Garborg '38, Grand Marais, Minnesota, age 94, on January 20.

Bernice A. (Westman) Giguere '39, Columbia Heights, Minnesota, age 97, on April 26.

Karl I. Krohn '41, Memphis, Tennessee, age 95, on February 7.

Thelma (Sydnes) Monson '41, San Diego, age 95, on April 27.

Philip "Phil" W. Rowberg, Sr. '41, Chico, California, age 95, on March 24.

Marion M. (Myrvik) Buska '46, St. Louis Park, Minnesota, age 90, on January 18.

Willard "Bud" W. Glade '49, Dows, Iowa, age 94, on March 1.

Georgette F. (Lanes) Ario '50, Minneapolis, age 86, on January 17.

Irving R. Burling '50, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, age 87, on April 16.

Bernice A. (Larson) Howell '50, Beltsville, Maryland, age 89, on January 30.

Euna G. Nelson '50, Evansville, Minnesota, age 86, on March 18.

Kerman J. Benson '51, Victoria, Minnesota, age 85, on January 13.

John "Al" A. Johnson '51, Maplewood, Minnesota, age 88, on January 7.

Raymond V. Trochmann '51, Ulen, Minnesota, age 93, on March 29.

Elmer H. Hanson '52, Elk Mound, Wisconsin, age 90, on February 24.

Karl D. Puterbaugh '52, Eagan, Minnesota, age 86, on March 22.

Berton R. Hushagen '53, Fergus Falls, Minnesota, age 87, on February 16.

Harold E. Peterson '53, Bella Vista, Arkansas, age 89, on April 1.

Gloria M. (Parizek) Thorpe '53, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, age 84, on May 5.

Lloyd A. Nelson '54, Willmar, Minnesota, age 91, on January 27.

James S. Carlson '55, Richfield, Minnesota, age 88, on October 12.

Lyle I. Hunter '55, Cathedral City, California, age 85, on September 27.

Eileen M. (Wirkkunen) Thompson '55, Astoria, Oregon, age 81, on January 23.

Laurayne R. (Helgersen) Solberg '56, Stoughton, Wisconsin, age 91, on October 20.

Dennis H. Erickson '58, Rochester, Minnesota, age 85, on March 10.

Lorents J. Flak '58, Santa Rosa, California, age 83, on March 8.

Jon W. Matala '58, Carver, Minnesota, age 78, on March 15.

Ronald "Ron" J. Stave '58, Minneapolis, age 83, on March 7.

Nancy Bauman '59, Rochester, Minnesota, age 78, on April 10.

James "Jim" A. Noble '60, Grand Blanc, Michigan, age 76, on January 25.

Darwin G. Thorbeck '60, Charleston, South Carolina, age 76, on January 26.

James F. Redeske '61, Golden Valley, Minnesota, age 75, on February 16.

Kay L. (Hananburg) Madson '62, Minneapolis, age 74, on January 21.

Paul R. Engwall '64, Lakeville, Minnesota, age 75, on May 14.

Wayne E. Myrvik '64, Fergus Falls, Minnesota, age 72, on February 7.

Gary E. Utoft '64, Owatonna, Minnesota, age 72, on February 23.

Kathryn "Kathy" A. (Lundby) Young '64, Williamsburg, Virginia, age 72, on March 9.

Lowell H. Asplund '65, Butterfield, Minnesota, age 73, on February 6.

Anita M. (Gransee) Christopherson '65, Belle Plaine, Minnesota, age 71, on April 28.

Neil C. Sideen '65, Howard Lake, Minnesota, age 71, on March 6.



Karen L. (Torkelson) Leverentz '66, Stillwater, Minnesota, age 70, on February 7.

Richard "Rick" A. Niles '67, Minnetonka, Minnesota, age 69, on March 6.

Mary M. (Dolan) Peterson '67, Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, age 69, on March 25.

Russell E. Ilstrup '68, Buffalo, Minnesota, age 70, on March 21.

Ronald A. Nilsson '68, Wheaton, Illinois, age 69, on January 9.

Nancy E. Stevens '68, Plymouth, Minnesota, age 68, on December 29.

Ronald L. Danckwart '72, Lake City, Minnesota, age 64, on February 25.

James E. Ericksen '72, Edina, Minnesota, age 68, on January 27.

Alan C. Kelsey '73, St. Paul, age 63, on January 19.

Ronald "Ron" A. Hart '75, Coon Rapids, Minnesota, age 62, on March 9.

Magdalen A. (Ardolf) Miller '75, Silver Lake, Minnesota, age 91, on January 20.

Robert "Bob" A. Roberge '77, Rochester, Minnesota, age 60, on March 7.

Eunice C. (Holmes) Johnson '80, White Bear Lake, Minnesota, age 84, on February 28.

Lori L. (Johnson) Rosenkvist '81, St. Paul, age 55, on March 25.

Timothy J. Beck '83, St. Paul, age 53, on March 30.

Jeffrey T. Miller '94, Plymouth, Minnesota, age 52, on January 29.

Alfred "Al" A. Drears '11, St. Paul, age 51, on March 24.

Max D. Bassinson '17, Minneapolis, age 23, on March 7.

Professor Emeritus Jerry Gerasimo, Menomonie, Wisconsin, age 84, on April 4.

Longtime staff member Irene Steenson, Eden Prairie, Minnesota, age 102, on April 18.

The "In memoriam" listings in this publication include notifications received before May 20.

Send us your news and photos

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

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

Send your news items, photos, or change of address by mail to: Augsburg Now Class Notes, Augsburg College, CB 146, 2211 Riverside Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55454, or email alumni@augsborg.edu. You can also submit news at augsborg.edu/alumni/connect.

Full name

Maiden name

Class year or last year attended

Street address

City, State, ZIP code

Is this a new address? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Home telephone

Email

Okay to publish your email address? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Employer

Position

Work telephone

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

If yes, class year _____

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

Your news:

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

In memoriam JAMES E. ERICKSEN '72

James E. Ericksen '72, whose life was marked by his commitment to faith and passion for the arts, passed away in January at age 68, leaving Augsburg an unexpected and extraordinary bequest of more than \$5 million.

To honor his legacy, the majority of Ericksen's gift will be designated to the Center for Science, Business, and Religion. Part of this gift will honor Ericksen's faith and be directed to Christ Auditorium, the 80-seat classroom at the heart of the new building. In tribute to his love of music, a renovation to Sateren Auditorium and its lobby also will be named for Ericksen.

His gift was one of the largest estate gifts in Augsburg's history.

"We wish so much that we could have thanked him during his lifetime," said Heather Riddle, vice president of Institutional Advancement.

Ericksen graduated from Minnehaha Academy in Minneapolis in 1964 and enrolled at Augsburg College that fall. While still a student, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany. Ericksen returned to Augsburg College after his service, finished his business administration degree with an emphasis in accounting, and graduated with the 139-member class of 1972.

A history minor, Ericksen later told Augsburg staff that Carl Chrislock, remembered as one of Minnesota's preeminent U.S. historians and a professor emeritus of history at the College, was one of Ericksen's favorites. He returned to Augsburg College several times over the years to attend concerts, particularly those for which his piano instructors served as accompanists.

A loyal public servant

After starting his career at Polaris, Ericksen worked as an auditor for the State of Minnesota Department of Revenue for 31 years before retiring in 2009. Along the way, he invested wisely and lived carefully.

"Nobody knew much about him, including his family," said his cousin, Robert Quick. But they knew he loved history, travel, and classical music—especially symphonies.

In mid-life, Ericksen began piano lessons at MacPhail Center for Music, where he studied with Victoria and Dan Sabo for many years. Friend and piano instructor Janet Holdorf described Ericksen as "so sincere and ardent in his appreciation of music making." He didn't consider himself much of a musician, but he enjoyed learning and playing. His home was equipped with a large sound system and filled with carefully cared-for albums, many of them the symphonies he loved so much.

Ericksen traveled often, venturing to France, Italy, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and elsewhere. He took long driving trips, eventually visiting nearly all 50 of the United States and taking time to explore each destination's history. When he was at home in the Twin Cities, he attended Bible study at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

In his will, Ericksen remembered many family members, friends, and organizations dear to him.



Courtesy Photo

The entrance
to the Sateren
Auditorium lobby.



Doctor of Nursing Practice
Master of Arts in Nursing
Master of Arts in Education
Master of Arts in Leadership
Master of Business Administration (MBA)
Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing
Master of Music Therapy
Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies
Master of Social Work

**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF NEW ALUMNI
AND FAMILY DISCOUNTS
FOR GRADUATE DEGREES**

IT PAYS TO BE AN AUGGIE

augsburg.edu/grad/discount

GRADUATE PROGRAM TUITION DISCOUNT FOR ALUMNI

Many of Augsburg's current graduate students are alumni who earned their first degree at Augsburg and returned to pursue further education. Become a part of this growing group and take advantage of our **Alumni Tuition Discount**—a savings of \$80 per credit! Auggie graduates who've earned a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from Augsburg qualify for this alumni discount.

Additionally, parents or spouses of alumni and current students are eligible to receive the **Family Grant** of \$80 per credit on graduate programs.

gradinfo@augsburg.edu | 612-330-1101

* This alumni discount also applies to Augsburg graduates who are currently enrolled in a graduate program at Augsburg effective Fall 2015.



Photo illustration by Stephen Geffre. Photos courtesy of D3sports.com and NCAA.

Auggies win 12th national wrestling title

The Augsburg College wrestling team claimed its record 12th NCAA Division III national championship, winning two individual national crowns and earning six All-Americans in the finals of the national tournament. Heavyweight **Donny Longendyke '17** [pictured, left] joined 125-pound back-to-back national champion **Mike Fuenffinger '15** [pictured, right] in earning top individual honors. Augsburg also swept the awards presented by the National Wrestling Coaches Association.



Visit augsburg.edu/now to learn more about the College's national tournament win.