The Augustana Advantage: the best of both worlds!

2015 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
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the best of both worlds!

We celebrate our unique position in Canadian post-secondary education. Not only do our students earn a world-class degree from one of the top 5 universities in Canada - top 100 in the world - but they study among a welcoming, close-knit campus community. At the University of Alberta’s Augustana Campus in Camrose, students can have the best of both worlds!

Statement of Acknowledgement of the Traditional Territory

We wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 territory and a traditional meeting ground for many Indigenous peoples. The territory on which the Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta is located provided a travelling route and home to the Cree, Blackfoot, and Métis, as it did for the Nakoda, Tsuu T’ina, Chipewyan, and other Indigenous peoples. Their spiritual and practical relationships to the land create a rich heritage for our learning and our life as a community.
I’m pleased to share this 2015 Report to the Community.

Collectively you, our friends and alumni, play many roles. Individually you often take on multiple responsibilities—e.g., supporting student awards; donating to important initiatives and projects; helping to educate students through community service learning; cheering the Vikings athletics teams; attending arts events, conferences and speakers programs; volunteering at the Jeanne and Peter Lougheed Performing Arts Centre; advocating for Augustana and the U of A in your home communities and with your legislators, etc.

I am privileged to be able to serve and help guide this campus, and I am grateful for the support and guidance that many of you provide.

Looking back at the 2014-15 academic year, I am struck at the number of longstanding dreams that have become a reality. For example, we opened the Jeanne and Peter Lougheed Performing Arts Centre, as much a national exemplar in town-gown collaboration as it is in sustainable, green building design. With partners such as Camrose County, Beaver County, and Alberta Parks, we have launched the Miquelon Lake Research Station. We are securing the future of Founders’ Hall for the next one hundred years, and in the process providing facilities that will enable enhanced faculty-student research partnerships and redesigned, vastly improved academic advising services.

In addition, we are institutionalizing a focus on student learning outcomes with an emphasis on assessment and accountability. We are also making good on our promise to help prepare the next generation of Aboriginal leaders by expanding our student services through the creation of the Wahkohtowin Lodge; investing in new Native Studies curricular collaborations; hiring an Aboriginal historian; and enrolling, retaining, and graduating record numbers of Aboriginal students.

These are just a few highlights from the past year. Importantly, we have not stopped dreaming. Yes, we are realists about the financial challenges facing post secondary education in Alberta, but we do not believe the proper response is to hunker down and patiently wait out the storm.
Assessing the Augustana Core

When the Augustana Core was revised and updated, Dr. Paula Marentette knew the process was only beginning. The faculty had affirmed Augustana’s commitment to a liberal education realized through a tripartite focus on engagement, knowledge, and academic skills. When faculty were subsequently asked which skills areas are most important for every graduate, their responses clustered in three general areas: thinking, research, and communication.

Under Dr. Marentette’s leadership, the new Committee on Academic Skills Assessment led a faculty-wide initiative to clarify learning outcomes—i.e., program-level goals in each of these skills areas and to map where and how these skills are developed across the course requirements in every academic major. The next step has been to ask: How successful are we in instilling these skills?

According to Marentette, “the assessment stage is where we figure out where our strengths are—and where the gaps are—in each discipline.” Paula continues: “We have asked each program to focus on one skills area each year, and to utilize samples of student work to ascertain if we are delivering on our skills development promises.”

The goal is for programs to engage in a process of continuous quality improvement. Marentette adds: “The last step of closing the loop is most important. It is where faculty act on the results of their assessments, and it begins a new cycle of self-study.”

Assessment requires an ongoing commitment to research, discussion, and application. Noting the effort involved, Marentette states: “We do it to ensure that we continue to deliver quality education to our students—now and into the future.”

Planning conversations during the past year have focused on questions such as the following: a) How might we reorganize the rhythms of the academic year in order to strengthen experiential learning opportunities for students? b) How might Augustana become more entrepreneurial in order to generate resources to invest in our core undergraduate mission? c) How can we more effectively help students manage the transition from high school to university and cultivate their appreciation for the liberal arts and sciences? d) How do we successfully position Augustana as a unique and essential partner within the broader post secondary network of Campus Alberta? e) How might Augustana take advantage of exciting new programs such as the Peter Lougheed Leadership College, while also developing approaches that fit our unique mission and geographical setting?

Longer term, I am focused on three main challenges:

1) Augustana needs to strike a partnership with U of A administration and the provincial government to right-size our student body through gradual, funded enrolment growth. Modest growth to the approved interim target of 1200 is a quality imperative, as it will allow investments in critically needed student services and our faculty complement.

2) Augustana needs to work with the same partners to secure funding to transform our outdated science laboratories and general purpose classrooms into the kinds of spaces that are needed to support twenty-first century pedagogy along with student and faculty research.

3) Those of us who love and appreciate Augustana must find ways to more effectively communicate the extraordinary—and indeed practical—value of a liberal arts and science education. Our province needs well-prepared professionals. Augustana helps fulfill that need. But Alberta also needs engaged citizens and passionate, effective leaders, young people who will be predisposed and have the practical and intellectual skills to question the status quo, to imagine alternative, high-quality sustainable futures, and to organize diverse teams to creatively tackle thorny issues. Each of us can be a champion for this cause.

I extend my personal thanks to all of you for your interest in Augustana and your support. I hope you enjoy reading this 2015 Report to the Community.

Allen Berger, Dean
An International Hub of Research

An Augustana faculty team has been selected as lead editors of an international academic journal which publishes research on teaching and learning.

The Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education selected our team—plus three other Canadian academics—to manage Collected Essays on Learning and Teaching (CELT). “The journal is about the scholarship of teaching and learning,” explains Dr. Neil Haave. “Having that editorship here will help raise the profile of how seriously we take teaching and learning at Augustana.”

The journal asks: What enables students to learn best and retain what they learn? How do students become active and engaged in their own learning? What teaching practices help enable that engagement? CELT is a platform for asking and answering these types of questions.

Augustana’s international role and reputation in research publications is not limited to CELT. Dr. Roxanne Harde recently finished a three-year term as editor of Bookbird, an International Journal of Children’s Literature, and currently edits BOSS, an online journal of Bruce Springsteen research. Dr. Sandra Rein was selected to edit the Journal of Socialist Studies, with articles that describe and analyse social, economic and political injustice and liberation.

Furthermore, Harde and Rein have hired students to work with them. These respected academic journals are only a couple of the numerous opportunities for undergraduate research and partnerships with graduate students and faculty at Augustana.

“We talk about journals being housed where the editor is,” says Harde. “In terms of research, we have become the little campus that could.”

Native Studies Shared Between Schools

by Brittany Johnson

This winter, Augustana welcomed an exciting new opportunity for students to take Native Studies courses with students from other North American universities via distance education. The three new courses—with a fourth in the spring—are open to all students, indigenous or otherwise.

The courses are available to Augustana as the only Canadian member of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC), an international association of post-secondary institutions located across North America. In these distance education courses, students participate with other undergraduates and professors from various COPLAC institutions via online discussions and forums.

Students discuss weekly readings online and submit assignments electronically. They meet every week with an on-site faculty mentor, who assists with technical issues and reading comprehension. The mentor also collects feedback from the students regarding the effectiveness of the courses and the distance learning system.

Future courses include a course in Native children’s literature and another studying the politics of residential school systems. Each semester, Augustana will offer two or three classes via the course-sharing initiative.

Read the full story at news.augustana.ualberta.ca/?p=16955.
Miquelon Lake Research Station

Augustana’s new Miquelon Lake Research Station is located about 30 km north of Camrose. The station will promote research, enhance teaching opportunities, and facilitate partnerships for sustainability in a unique ecosystem that links the prairies and parkland to the south and the boreal forests to the north.

The station comprises a 1500-square-foot modular building with a large detached workshop. It has wet and dry laboratories, computing and social data collection resources, multi-purpose office space, storage, and overnight accommodation for up to 8 people.

“We envision the research station serving the needs of many agencies and communities in the local area,” says Dr. Glen Hvenegaard, “and supporting students and researchers from many disciplines, from across the country. The first scheduled course will involve up to 22 students undertaking research on ecology, conservation, and management topics.”

The research station is a collaborative project involving gifts to the Augustana Innovation Fund and funding from partners such as the University of Alberta ($75,000), Alberta Tourism Parks and Recreation ($75,000), Camrose County ($45,000), Beaver County ($5,000), and private donations ($85,000).

2+2 Programs

Augustana has been working on a number of partnership agreements with community colleges throughout Alberta. These “2+2 Programs” permit students to complete the first two years of a four-year university degree program at their local college and then complete their final two years at Augustana.

In general, students who enter into such a program at their local college and maintain the required grade point average are guaranteed entry into the third year of their chosen program in the receiving faculty without facing quota restrictions on transfer. Students not covered by a 2+2 agreement may find that some of their college courses will not transfer into their university degree program or their transfer average is too low for admission.

With Augustana’s 2+2 programs, students can stay in their local community to take the first half of their university degree. They are guaranteed a place to complete their degree without having to compete for limited available spaces.

To date, Augustana has completed 2+2 agreements with Grande Prairie Regional College and Red Deer College, and has begun discussions with several other colleges. At GPRC, students can transfer to Augustana and complete a Bachelor of Science degree with majors in Biology and Psychology, a Bachelor of Arts with majors in Psychology and Drama, as well as a Bachelor of Music. RDC students can finish a Bachelor of Music and will soon be able to enrol in Science and Arts Bachelor degree programs with a Physical Education major in either Kinesiology and Sports Studies or Outdoor Education.

“With both institutions, we are working to add majors in other degree programs,” says Dr. Prest, “though each such agreement takes considerable time and effort on the part of both institutions.”
“Magic Doctor” Visits Augustana

by Heather Marshall, 4th Year BA Environmental Studies

“You’ve got to be the main character in your own story.”

Augustana’s 2014 Distinguished Alumnus Dr. Lalit Chawla (BSc ’91) addressed this topic in his talk, “Better Decision-Making Through Illusions”. He explained how the use of imagination and illusion in his medical practice challenges patients to see their circumstances in a new light.

Dr. Chawla, author of Magic & Medicine, emphasized how people’s views of themselves become a key force in their own stories. As the lights dimmed over the large crowd at the new Lougheed Centre, there was a lively buzz in the air. Sharing from his own story, Dr. Chawla wove symbolic elements of magic and illusion—ropes, coloured sand and card tricks—throughout his talk.

His stories demonstrated how both scientific and creative opportunities during his years at Augustana had allowed him to re-envision himself and see his future with fresh eyes. New horizons opened for Chawla when he decided to put aside a medical career to become an illusionist; he later decided that he wanted to do both.

Dr. Chawla pointed out that “imagination is the key that sets knowledge free.” Imagination empowers us to make changes in the world and ourselves. He said: “I’m incredibly grateful for the opportunity to think and live creatively here at Augustana, amongst many who have become a part of my individual and collective story.”

Thank you, Dr. Chawla, for reminding us to look with fresh eyes at our circumstances and for reminding us to use our lives to create compelling and impactful stories. Visit his site at www.magicandmedicine.ca

Each year, members of the Augustana community explore a specific theme through lectures, workshops, course assignments, and other activities. The theme provides a common basis for engaging with current issues of relevance to Augustana. Staff and students approach the theme from various perspectives and disciplines; this results in dynamic conversations and valuable learning experiences and works toward building a social and intellectual community on our campus.

Past themes have included Progress, Resilience, Living With Our Selves, and Dissent. The theme for 2014-15 was “Illusion.” Illusions are ideas, concepts, images, objects, and more that appear to be something different from what they are—they are real, and yet not real. Illusions can be used to deceive and to manipulate, but also to create awe and wonder. They push our minds towards different viewpoints and perspectives by challenging what we believe to be true. The goal of the theme was to spend a year focusing on that which seems real, but isn’t, and to use that moment of discovery or disbelief as a starting point for new ideas and conversations about the world around us.

Theme events this year included a visit from 2014 Distinguished Alumnus Dr. Lalit Chawla (BSc ’91), a discussion about realism vs fantasy in works of world literature with Steampunk Scholar Mike Perschon, and several faculty colloquia about illusion in different fields of study.
Augustana Hires for the Future

L to R: Dr. Srilata Ravi (French), Dr. Anne McIntosh (Biology), Dr. Amy Guerber (Management), Dr. Brandon Alakas (English), Dr. Jane Yardley (Physical Education).

Augustana’s friends and supporters have been following news about cuts to post-secondary funding in Alberta with dismay. We have met these challenges through new community programming and international student recruitment, approaching the provincial government for funding levels to meet our enrolment growth, and accepting the voluntary retirement of several long-term faculty members.

We have not let the hard financial choices we’re making define us, however. Augustana continues to make investments in the future of the campus and the students who attend here.

We regained one of our voluntary retirement positions with the transfer of Dr. Srilata Ravi to our French program from Campus Saint Jean. We welcomed Dr. Jane Yardley to our Physical Education program late last year. We have also hired Dr. Anne McIntosh in Biology, Dr. Brandon Alakas in English, and Dr. Amy Guerber in Management.

Augustana continues to build for the future. With assistance from the Office of the Provost, in September the Faculty will add: 1) an Aboriginal historian to help increase course options in Native Studies, and 2) a new Chair of Science.

Reaching Out to the International Community

In his message on page two, Dean Berger mentioned new, revenue-generating initiatives based on international programming. Meet Wayne Lee-Ying.

Wayne is the new Associate Director, International Initiatives and International Student Support. Through this position, Wayne focuses on internal and external aspects of Augustana’s relationship with international students and university partners.

Externally, Wayne works to build relationships with overseas universities, for example by offering Augustana-sponsored faculty development programs. These programs have four potential areas of focus: 1) English as a second language; 2) pedagogies that promote active learning and high levels of student engagement; 3) making a case for the liberal arts and sciences; and 4) Canadian culture and society. University partners have an opportunity to work with Wayne to customize programs that draw from any combination of these areas. In addition, Augustana faculty members and administrators are available for short-term consultancies.

Internally, Wayne’s focus is international student success. Wayne coordinates a team-based approach that includes staff members from Residence Life, Student Services, the Writing Centre, Academic Advising, and the Bridging Program, along with the leaders of international student organizations.

This past year Augustana had a record international enrolment. It is Wayne’s responsibility to see that our services keep up with increasing demands. Wayne reports that he is also looking for incentives for international students to stay in Camrose over the summer months, so they can continue to make progress in their studies and improve their English language skills.
Examples of International Outreach

This year, Dr. Tim Parker, a professor of Psychology at Augustana, visited China’s United International College (UIC) in Zhuhai to teach. The department head at UIC went to great lengths to bring Tim to China, and make his semester-long stay comfortable.

Tim quickly realized that Chinese students were no different from Canadian students in terms of learning style and did not have to make many adjustments to his presentations. He noticed that Chinese students hold great respect for the professor and were very interested in the subject matter. His experience reinforced that teaching in any culture is about getting the point across to students in the most effective way.

In 1999, Dr. Roger Milbrandt began a semester-long, faculty-led study abroad program in Cuba. In 2008, Dr. Sandra Rein took over leadership of the program and concluded a formal Memorandum of Understanding with the Universidad de Oriente to expand the relationship between the University of Alberta and UO.

Since its beginning, more than 185 students have taken part in the program. In January 2015, 24 Augustana students departed for Santiago de Cuba to study Spanish as well as learn about Cuban politics, society and culture, art, agriculture, and coastal management.

“It is an interesting moment for students to study abroad in Santiago de Cuba as the Cuban state undertakes some of its most significant changes since the Revolution of 1959,” says Dr. Rein. “Only weeks before our students departed for Santiago, the United States and the Cuban government announced that they would re-establish formal diplomatic ties after more than 50 years. For many Cubans, it could mean re-establishing closer relationships with their families in the United States and the potential termination of the US embargo against Cuba. To be living in Santiago de Cuba amidst these changes is in many ways to be at the forefront of a major historical change that few Canadians would ever experience at home.”

These examples are but a small subset of Augustana’s international activities, which also include biological surveys of Costa Rican rainforests, musical tours of Austria, a summer language school in Germany, and faculty-guided trips to explore the economies and cultures of India and China.

Find out about Augustana’s international offerings through the Learning-Advising-Beyond Office. Visit www.augustana.ualberta.ca/programs/lab/.
Embracing Indigenous Cultures at Augustana

Whether from Nairobi or Camrose, Whitehorse or Zhuhai, students have found social acceptance and close ties on Augustana’s campus for over 100 years. Over the past several years, Augustana has been making strides to acknowledge and encourage students from First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities across Canada as well.

According to Augustana’s Aboriginal Student Advisor, Petra Cegielny, “The number of self-identified aboriginal students at Augustana has increased again this year. Some really exciting news is that a record number of self-identified aboriginal students graduated from Augustana last spring and we will be surpassing that number again this year!”

In response to the needs of this rapidly-growing segment of the student population, the campus has introduced several initiatives:

- The creation of a Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement Statement, meant to be used by anyone who wishes to acknowledge the traditional inhabitants of the territory on which Augustana Campus is located. Please see the inside front cover of this report to read our statement.

- The Personal Librarian for Aboriginal Students Program partners first-year, self-identified aboriginal students with a support person on staff at the Augustana Library. The librarian can be a first contact for research assistance or other questions they might have related to their university experience.

- The Aboriginal Student Mentor Program aims to connect new First Nations, Métis and Inuit students with senior aboriginal students at Augustana. These peer educators help incoming students connect with the community, become acquainted with the university, and provide guidance and encouragement in academics.

- The multi-faith prayer room opened as a safe, quiet space for prayer, meditation or contemplation. A fan was installed, with sage and sweetgrass available for students who wish to smudge.

- Aboriginal students participated in International Week, with a display at the International Expo. Events featured a jingle dance performance by student Katherine Swampy’s community dance class from Maskwacis, bannock tacos, a session on making dreamcatchers, and a road trip to attend the annual University of Alberta Round Dance in Edmonton.

- The Aboriginal Students Office celebrated Pride Week with rainbow bannock, partnered with the Samson Cree Nation Arts & Crafts Department to host a third moccasin making class, and hosted a smudge ceremony during the Augustana Students Association Wellness Week.

Next year’s Report to the Community will include details about Wahkohtowin Lodge, the aboriginal student commons in the lower level of the Forum, which will open in September 2015.
**Dr. Lalit Chawla (BSc ’91)**

2014 Distinguished Alumni Award

Dr. Lalit Chawla (BSc ’91) grew up in New Sarepta and attended Augustana before embracing his twin career goals of medicine and magic. He is a full-time family physician in Chatham, Ontario, and serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Western Ontario in London.

Dr. Chawla incorporates his skills as a magician into his clinical practice. This has been admired and even enthusiastically adopted by other health care professionals. He has written a book, given a TEDx talk, and held workshops all over Canada. Find out more at www.magicandmedicine.ca.

“I have always talked fondly of the great experience and knowledge I learned from Augustana,” says Dr. Chawla. “It really was the catapult for creating a great life and destiny. My family has been greatly blessed by the knowledge and opportunities Augustana has given us. Being on a smaller campus - particularly Augustana - provides an advantage toward success in one’s life.”

Dr. Chawla visited Augustana Campus for a series of talks – including an Augustana Alumni Lunch & Learn – at the end of September 2014.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to alumni in recognition of outstanding achievement in one’s vocation.

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**Marion Bennett (BA ’90)**

2014 Lois Aspenes Award

Marion Bennett’s first degree was a BSc Honours from London University in England in 1944. She earned a BEd degree from the University of Alberta in 1951 and moved to the Camrose area in 1957 with her husband David to be teachers at the Bashaw School.

Upon retirement, Marion registered at Augustana and graduated with a four-year Bachelor of Arts degree with great distinction in 1990, having majored in Religious Studies. Even after receiving her degree she continued to take classes.

“Many much younger alumni and Augustana faculty remember Marion as an energetic participant and a vibrant exemplar of lifelong learning,” said Dean Allen Berger. “But Marion is also a role model in other ways. People who have worked at Augustana longer than I have can’t remember her missing a Community Awards Banquet, and her ongoing interest in the young people who are the recipients of the generous awards she has funded is inspiring. As an engaged alumna, a generous benefactor, a friend and example for multiple generations of Augustana students, Marion is exceptionally worthy of this recognition.”

The Lois Aspenes Award recognizes the contributions of an alumnus/a to the life of Augustana.

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**Gunvor Mygind**

2014 Alumni Citation Award

Possessing an inquiring mind and a generous heart, Mrs. Gunvor Mygind has found many ways and reasons to give back to the community of Camrose—a community that she and husband Erik adopted as “family” not long after coming to Canada from Denmark as newlyweds in 1950. Together, they built a successful farm while Gunvor also worked at Rosehaven Care Centre.

A gymnast in her youth, Gunvor still believes that participating in sports and the arts helps shape a healthy lifestyle, thereby creating healthy communities. At 94 years of age, Gunvor continues to be very active in the Camrose Pottery Club and participates in seniors’ floor curling each week—active well into her golden years and a role model for all of us!

Gunvor also believes in the importance of education. She has created two Augustana scholarships, both of which each year support several students whom she follows with great interest. She plans for our future as well with a planned gift which will support the activities of our music and athletic programs.

The Alumni Citation Award recognizes the contributions of a non-alumnus/a to the life of Augustana.
Community Service-Learning (CSL) is an important aspect of Augustana, and it allows students to engage creatively with the community. CSL classes focus on time spent in the community, and reflection on the impact that students, organizations, and community members can have on each other.

We were approached by the Camrose Public Library to develop a program for newcomers to the community and to Canada. The desire for a program that catered to immigrants was part of the library’s Service Plan, as Camrose has seen a marked increase in the number of immigrants and newcomers in the city. We originally set out to learn more about the newcomer demographic and their needs. It became clear that the diversity of newcomers in Camrose meant that this could not be a “one-size-fits-all” program.

We identified four key areas: language learning, social integration, provision of resources, and cultural engagement. By the time we finished developing the program, the library was encouraging us to implement it. Over the summer, we began holding four sessions a month. Through direct dialogue with newcomers, we were able to offer specialized programs that better suited their needs.

Our focus has often been to ensure newcomers have access to all of the support services within Camrose. We have had speakers from Legal Aid, the Temporary Foreign Workers’ Advisory Office, the Camrose Wildlife Stewardship Society, and the Camrose Adult Learning Council. We celebrate different cultural events, provide information about Camrose, Alberta, and Canada, and offer a space for interaction and social engagement.

Some people find it difficult to make Camrose their home. Through our studies, the Camrose Public Library, and our CSL project, we hope we have made these challenges a little easier.

New Certificate in Undergraduate Research

Augustana’s new Undergraduate Research Certificate will be available to every student and embedded in every discipline.

“These days a baccalaureate is not by and large a terminal degree,” said Associate Dean of Research Dr. Roxanne Harde, “but we have a number of our students who simply want to go to work. This certificate indicates that they are ready to do so—that they have been a part of an extended research project in their field. Science students can find a placement in a lab. Other students are better prepared for graduate school or a professional program such as law or medicine. The kind of skills taught in this certificate would be handy in any field.”

Earning the certificate promises to enhance students’ overall performance in all of their courses, make them attractive candidates for graduate and professional programs, and then highly marketable when they look for employment in their profession.

The certificate requires 12 credits of coursework related to undergraduate research, including research methods and capstone courses, while maintaining a minimum 3.0 GPA on these courses. Students must present at a research conference—including the biannual Student Academic Conference. Credits can also be obtained through publishing in a peer-reviewed journal or employment as a research assistant.

Interested students should talk to their Academic Advisor. “We should see some graduates with this certificate as early as the 2016 Convocation,” said Roxanne, “since we already have a significant number of students engaged in undergraduate research at Augustana.”
Sustainable Rural Communities

This year, the Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities (ACSRC) had a number of opportunities to work directly with rural Alberta communities. In the fall, the ACSRC hosted two scenario-planning workshops as part of a broader project on land use planning and municipal governance reform in Alberta. These workshops brought together over 60 municipal leaders, administrators and planners from 35 municipalities across the province to discuss how rural governance and development can, and should, look in the future.

The ACSRC is also proud to announce a new collaboration between the University of Alberta, regional development organizations and Alberta Family and Community Support Services in Beaver County (including the communities of Viking, Tofield, Ryley, Holden and Kinsella). This project will see the design, implementation and evaluation of a unique, three-stage youth engagement project for Beaver County.

Next year, in partnership with the Battle River Alliance for Economic Development, the ACSRC will introduce the Rural Alberta Innovation Learning Commons. This Commons will offer opportunities for elected officials, administrators, community members and students to learn about rural economic development.

For more information on the ACSRC, visit www.acsrc.ca.

Augustana's First BSc/BEd Graduate

A few years ago, Augustana announced a new degree program in partnership with the Faculty of Education. The combined five-year program equips students with Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education degrees, and their placements are in rural or small city schools around Alberta. Erin Sharp is the first graduate of this combined degree program.

Erin graduated from high school in Camrose with a passion for science and the desire to be a teacher. She returned to Camrose from B.C. ten years later with her husband and three children and decided that the new combined BSc/BEd program was perfect for her; she could spend three years in the community before she would have to transfer up to North Campus and finish the Education part of her degree.

The combined BSc/BEd program is a very structured degree, where students choose their major and then plan their five years to make sure they cover all of their program requirements. “It was a great approach,” Erin said. “I chose my major and learned all about the subject. Then I learned how to teach the subject. Upon finishing my program, I am confident about my ability to teach; I can walk in to a classroom with the skills I have and be successful.”

Read the full story at news.augustana.ualberta.ca/?p=17117

Days after her interview, Erin Sharp was offered a position at Our Lady of Mount Pleasant School in Camrose, teaching junior high math, physical education, language arts and cosmetology.
Promotions
Augustana Campus is proud to announce the promotion of Dr. Lars Hallström to the rank of full professor. Lars was recognized for his outstanding work as a lecturer, researcher, director of the Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities, and outreach to rural Canadian communities.

Augustana is also pleased to announce the following faculty members who were awarded tenure and promotion to the rank of associate professor for the quality of their teaching, research, and service:

- Brian Rempel, Chemistry
- Jeremy Sylvestre, Mathematics
- Tomislav Terzin, Biology

Augustana Awards
Holly Abt was awarded the 2014 Augustana Humanities medal for highest academic achievement by a humanities major. Andrea Benoit received the Fine Arts medal, and Brendan Dzioba received the medal for Social Sciences. Emily Ervin received both the 2014 Augustana Medal for highest overall academic achievement and the Sciences medal.

The Student Award for Library Research was awarded to Caitlin Harney, based on library research conducted for her paper "Joint Attention Deficits and Language Acquisition in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder" that she wrote for Dr. Paula Marentette.

1st-year Biology major Natasha Spencer of Whitehorse received the Dean’s Citation Entrance Award this year. Jennifer Taylor of Stettler was awarded the $25,000 President’s Entrance Citation Scholarship.

Based on their presentations at Student Academic Conferences, Augustana presented Outstanding Undergraduate Research Awards to graduated B.Sc. Environmental Science student Samantha Matters of Mannville and 4th-year B.Mus. student Spencer Kryzanowski of St. Albert. Honourable mentions went to 4th-year English students Jessica Stambaugh of Tofield and Brittany Johnson of Camrose.

The Augustana Teaching Leadership Award went to Neil Haave (Biology), and the Sessional Teaching Award recognized Jeremy Wideman (Biology).

Accomplishments
Nearly 400 Augustana students in 33 classes across 10 disciplines participated in 526 community-service learning (CSL) opportunities with a range of on-campus departments, local organizations, and the regional business community. CSL encourages students to get out of the traditional university classroom and engage with the world in order to make connections between theory and practice.

Augustana was home for a sixth summer to Reading University, an intensive four-week program aimed at developing the reading skills of area students in the early elementary grades.

Augustana hosted an entire day of activities in the University of Alberta’s Festival of Teaching. Professors opened classrooms to visiting colleagues and participated in a panel discussion on teaching, both within and beyond the classroom.

In partnership with the Battle River School Division, Augustana hosted more than 800 students for Augustana Conservatory’s Classics for Kids musical performances.

Augustana held the annual Information Literacy Workshop, related to creativity and student engagement in teaching. This year’s workshop featured Mary MacDonald, professor and Head of Instructional Services at the University Libraries, University of Rhode Island in Kingston, Rhode Island.
The following are selected achievements from Faculty in the 2014-15 academic year.

**Major Publications**

**Roger Admiral**
Played a selection of Howard Bashaw compositions in the Canadian Music Centre’s CD *15 for Piano*.

**Erin Garvin**
Co-edited the book *Greece, Macedonia, and Persia*.

**Lars Hallström**
Co-edited the book *Sustainability Planning and Collaboration in Rural Canada*.

**Roxanne Harde**
Co-edited the book *Eleanor Hodgman Porter’s Pollyanna: A Children’s Classic at 100*.

**Andrea Korda**
Wrote *Printing and Painting the News in Victorian London*.

**Srilata Ravi**
Co-edited the book *Autour de l’œuvre de Gérard Bouchard*.

**Refereed Articles in Prestigious Journals and Performances or Exhibitions at Prestigious Venues**

**Alexander Carpenter and Jérôme Melançon**
*Rock Music Studies*

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**Augustana Celebrates its First Decade with the University of Alberta**

On July 1, 2004, two of Alberta’s oldest educational institutions joined forces: Augustana University College in Camrose—formerly the Camrose Lutheran College—merged with the University of Alberta. Ten years later, while the college’s heritage is still recognizable in the campus buildings and liberal arts and science curriculum, the benefits of this historic merger have breathed new life into Augustana, the university, the Camrose area and the entire province.

Find the story of the merger and the benefits to the university, the city of Camrose, and the province as a whole at aug.ualberta.ca/10years!
**Achievements at Augustana**

**Julian Forrest**  
Exhibition at Gallery 501.

**Bill Foster**  
*Journal of Sport Management*

**Amy Guerber**  
*Journal of Managerial Issues*

**Lars Hallström**  
With alumna Naomi Finseth (BA ’13) in *Journal of Rural and Community Development*.

**Keith Harder**  
Exhibition at the Penticton Art Gallery.

**Glen Hvengaard**  
*Human Dimensions of Wildlife; Purple Martin Update*

**James Kariuki**  
With alumna Emily Ervin (BSc ’14) in *Electrochemical Science*.

**Stacy Lorenz**  
*Journal of Sport and Social Issues*

**Jérôme Melançon**  
*The International Journal of Canadian Studies*

**Rebecca Purc-Stevenson**  
*Quality of Life Research; Rehabilitation Psychology*

**Kevin Sutley**  
Directed Judith Thompson’s *“The Crackwalker,”* which was nominated for two Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Awards.

**Janet Wesselius**  
*Toronto Journal of Theology*

**Jane Yardley**  
*Canadian Journal of Diabetes; Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice; Pediatric Exercise; Contemporary Clinical Trials*

**Awards, Editorships and other Honours**

**Yvonne Becker**  
Received the 2014 Teaching Faculty Award for the Support of Information Literacy.

**Marina Endicott**  
Appointed judge for the International Commonwealth Foundation Short Story prize.

**Bill Foster**  
Associate Editor, *Academy of Management Learning & Education*.

**Nancy Goebel**  
Recognized with the 2015 Association of College and Research Libraries Women and Gender Studies Section Award for Significant Achievement in Women’s Studies Librarianship.

**Neil Haave**  
Received a McCalla Professorship; appointed Managing Editor of *Collected Essays in Teaching and Learning*; received a grant for the Editing of Scholarly Journals at the University of Alberta.
Piano, Artwork and Poetry in Scenes from Childhood

Augustana celebrated the new Jeanne & Peter Lougheed Performing Arts Centre by sponsoring an arts showcase on November 16. The event featured music professor Milton Schlosser performing 13 short piano works from German composer Robert Schumann’s Kinderszenen on the new 9-foot Mayer Steinway. Rhonda Harder Epp, Visual Artist, presented childhood through 26 original artworks, and English professor Paul Harland read poems by various authors on the same subject.

ACAC Honours Augustanians

The Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC) celebrated its fiftieth anniversary by establishing a Hall of Fame for the thousands of athletes, coaches and builders who have participated in the ACAC. Fifty people were selected to be honoured at the inaugural event, and five of them have close ties to Camrose Lutheran College, Augustana University College, or the University of Alberta’s Augustana Campus: Dr. Garry Gibson (Coach), Trisha Lorenz (’92) (Athlete), LeRoy Johnson ’63 (Builder), Kenneth Lovsin ’86 (Athlete), and Les Parsons (Coach).
Augustana at a Glance

There were 158 Augustana graduates in 2014.

355 students received $456,165 in scholarships, bursaries and awards for the 2014/15 academic year!

Mean incoming high school average for Fall 2014 admission: 80.2%

Self-identified First Nations and Métis students: 68

There were 1076 enrolments for 2014-15. Out of these, 458 were men and 618 were women.

Students by year of program:

- No year status = 39
- 1st year = 406
- 2nd year = 240
- 3rd year = 201
- 4th year = 190

Students by province:

- Alberta = 811
- BC = 50
- SK = 40
- NT = 23
- ON = 12
- MB = 3
- NL = 3
- QC = 2
- NB = 1
- NS = 1
- PEI = 1
- YT = 1
- Int’l = 128

International students attended Augustana from the following countries: Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, El Salvador, Germany, Ghana, Hong Kong, India, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Taiwan, United Republic of Tanzania, Thailand, Ukraine, United States, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Selected Distinguished Visitors, 2014-15

A Joyful Noise Community Choirs
Mustafa Acar, Aksaray University
Vangie Bergum, Writer
Darrol Bryant, University of Waterloo
Rev. Dr. John Chryssavgis, Ecumenical Patriarchate
Lynn Coady, Giller Prize Winner
Jane Coop, Pianist
Sofie Forrstrom, Royal Tyrrell Museum
Dr. Joel Gehman, University of Alberta
Steven Hansen, Lawyer
Isabella Hodson and Morgan Cole, Miquelon Lake Provincial Park
Bilal Kuspinar, International Rumi Centre
Dr. Deen Larsen, Franz Schubert Institute
Salim Munayer, Musalaha Ministry
Dr. Hal Nelson, Claremont Graduate University
Ronald Niezen, McGill University
Stephen Olson, Strix Ecological
Robin Phillips, Mannheim Stadt Opera
Lisa Priestley, Beaverhill Bird Observatory
Dr. Leonard Ratzlaff
Arthur Rowe, University of Victoria Pianist
Dr. Shauna Shandro, St. Edwards University
Glenys Smith, Camrose Railway Station
Nathalie Stanley and Susanna Bruneau, Battle River Watershed Alliance
Dr. Patricia Tao, Pianist
Vern Thiessen, Governor General’s Drama Award Winner
Dr. Kristof Van Assche, University of Alberta
David Wilson, Macewan University
Michael Zaugg, Pro Coro Canada
The Certificate in Sustainability (CIS) is a brand new credential for undergraduate students with a commitment to learning more about sustainability. CIS is jointly administered by the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES) and the Office of Sustainability. It is available to undergraduate students in nine different faculties, including Augustana Campus. As an embedded certificate, students can earn the designation while completing undergraduate programs in their respective faculties.

The Consul General presented a certificate of appreciation to Brian Evans for his work in celebrating the China-born former Camrose Lutheran College President, MLA, and Ambassador to China. David Goa received a beautiful painting of plum blossoms for the wall of the Centre. In return, the Consul received gifts, copies of Evans’ book, and a traditional Norwegian toast with aquavit and herring.

On November 7-8, Augustana held “Respecting the Land: Transition to a New Economy,” the third annual conference focused on our relationship with the land. This year’s conference focused on living within the gifts and limits of our world, with practical and local examples as well as round table discussions on sustainable food production, energy efficiency, local business and community development.

The Afri-Youth Club held its first dinner fundraiser on November 28 in the Forum. It was a time for building community, eating delicious African food, learning about Ebola and—most importantly—supporting those affected by the disease. Funds were raised for Doctors without Borders Canada to assist Ebola victims in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia.

On Thursday, March 5, the three University of Alberta Augustana choirs, Camrose Camerata, and the Edmonton Youth Choir joined voices to present Carl Orff’s thrilling masterpiece, Carmina Burana, in the new Jeanne & Peter Lougheed Performing Arts Centre in Camrose. Over 170 singers and instrumentalists took to the stage in a single unforgettable performance.

Our bookstore has had some exciting changes this past year. Not only have they brought in Vikings merchandise, but they extended their Thursday evening hours and have programmed presentations, game nights and craft nights in order to reach out to the Camrose community. They are currently exploring ways to keep student book costs down.

The Augustana Library has introduced several new initiatives to welcome and support students and community members. The first offers course textbooks as reserve items; the second sponsors a reference assistant to help with research in a space some users find intimidating. The last initiative was to furnish a Kids Korner, with a small table and child-sized chairs.

This year’s International Week was a celebration of “unity in diversity” from January 19 to 24. “Our intention this year has been to cultivate an environment that can lead to a better understanding of diversity while emphasizing our similarities,” explains co-organizer Jaynita Maru, third year Biology and Psychology major from Nairobi, Kenya. The festivities included dance performances from cultures around the globe, a different culture’s cuisine for every meal in the cafeteria, lectures, films and the annual fashion show!

Both theatrical and house lighting in the chapel were switched over to LED this year, realizing a direct energy savings of 88% as well as better light coverage and quality. Funding was provided through the Energy Management and Sustainable Operations Office of the University of Alberta.

“In the Jungle” was the theme for this year’s Rocky Road Ice Cream Fantasy. Visitors had their faces painted, explored creative crafts, climbed the wall and ate ice cream—all while raising funds for Courtland’s Hope Foundation.

Lunch & Learn sessions, hosted by the Alumni Association, included ACSRC Director Dr. Lars Hallström discussing the future of water in Alberta and visiting professor Dr. Lydia Kokkola presenting on children’s literature. David “Doc” Larson and Glynnis Hood discussed “Beavers, Bugs, and Biodiversity” while alumnus Ryan Mason (’09) came back to talk about urban agriculture.

This year’s Alumni Brunch was attended by five Professors Emeriti, seven recipients of the Lois Aspenes Award and three of the Distinguished Alumni Award. Dean Allen Berger cooked pancakes for everyone in the brand new Jeanne & Peter Lougheed Performing Arts Centre. Lillus Leiren (’42) was welcomed as our earliest class attendee, and we welcomed both Classes of 1954 and 1964. Please register for the next Alumni Brunch on September 27, as part of the University of Alberta Alumni Weekend!

Pride Week is always huge at Augustana, and this year was no exception. A safe harbour was established in the Forum, and a map of campus displayed safe spaces for people to be who they are. Events included a bake sale, safe sex conversations and a Pink Shirt Day against bullying. Most popular of all was our rainbow shirt photo!
Each year at Christmas, the Augustana Residence Life team goes shopping for the food bank. Years ago, their tradition was to give each staff person a $5 coffee card. One year, a staff member suggested they pool that money and go shopping for the food bank. These days, that $5 per staff member is augmented by staff donations: this year, they had over $850 to spend. Through the generous support of the Camrose CO-OP, they purchased over $900 in groceries for the Camrose Food Bank!

Augustana Drama students brought two compelling tales to life this year. In the fall, improv students used story theatre to perform Oscar Wilde’s “The Picture of Dorian Gray.” This spring, they performed “The Illusion,” adapted by Tony Kushner from a 17th Century French comedy.

In recognition of her promotion, English professor Dr. Roxanne Harde offered her Distinguished Professorial Lecture on November 13. Her lecture, “I knew what I missed”: Nostalgia and Resistance in Indigenous Children’s Literature, covered the intersection of her research and teaching interests.

Can you imagine life as a transgender person? Or how about living with memories of childhood sexual abuse, alcoholism or physical and cognitive challenges? These were just a few of the topics available in recent Augustana Human Libraries, where readers who want to learn about a specific topic ‘check out’ people called human books for an hour of conversation. Visit library.ualberta.ca/augustana/infolit/humanlibrary/ for more information.

Sign up for our eCircle newsletter to find out about what we have planned next! Visit augustana.ualberta.ca/alumni/connected/. You can subscribe to eCircle, and alumni of Camrose Lutheran College, Augustana University College, and the University of Alberta’s Augustana Faculty can update contact information or sign our Guestbook.

Vikings Athletics

Augustana Director of Athletics Greg Ryan was inducted into the Volleyball Alberta Hall of Fame as a coach on June 28. Since its inception in 2004, only seven other people have received this honour.

Vikings Men’s Volleyball—in their fourth year of competition—took the ACAC gold medal and went to Nationals in Prince Edward Island, taking a respectable 7th place finish.

Vikings student-athlete and Camrose native, Braxton Fox, finished third in the ACAC Golf Championship and was invited to the 2014 PING Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association Golf National Championships. This is the second season of golf offered as a Vikings Athletics program.

Nostalgic hockey fans returned to ACAC action under the wooden roof of the Max McLean Arena. Augustana played Red Deer College on “Throwback Thursday” December 4. Former Voice of the Vikings, Dale Smith joined his son, current Vikings announcer Curtis Smith, on the mic.

Two student-athletes and Head Coach Lowell Niven from Augustana were part of the team representing Canada in the 2015 Winter Universiade.

Vikings Mixed Curling Team won ACAC gold again this year, with the Women’s Team taking silver as well. For our Mixed Team, that’s four golds and one silver in the past five years. Coach Roger Galenza was recognized as ACAC Curling Coach of the Year!
New Matching Gift Opportunity in Support of our Viking Student-Athletes

An exciting new initiative was created this past fall to invest in our Augustana Viking student-athletes. The University of Alberta will offer a 50% match each year for five years for new $2000 awards pledged by donors, thereby creating annual $3000 awards for our Viking athletes. The program has the potential to increase award support for our athletes by $750,000 over the next five years.

Our Viking athletes have long been leaders in inter-university sports, with individual athletes and teams earning national recognition. Our student-athletes maintain high grade point averages and provide leadership on campus and in the community, supporting sports programs throughout Camrose. The competition among universities for student-athletes is fierce, and these new awards will help attract talent to earn an Augustana degree while wearing the Viking red and black.

On hearing about this new program, Camrose Constable Tyler Bellamy (BA Phys Ed ’09) called up his fellow alumni of the Vikings hockey program.

“Our former teammate, Shawn Crickard, had passed away in September, and we wanted to do something to honour his memory,” said Bellamy. “I called up a bunch of guys from the team and told them about this award idea. The best part about a $3000 award in the name of our friend is that – in combination with the Jimmie Condon [athletic scholarship] – it means a tuition-free year for a student-athlete,” says Bellamy.

Blaine Gusdal, Vikings hockey head coach and a former Augustana student-athlete, has coached numerous Vikings players since 2008. According to Blaine, “The continued growth of our Vikings hockey program is greatly enhanced by support through this new matching gift opportunity. Many fine athletes have worn the Vikings uniform in the past, and these matching awards will ensure many more fine student-athletes will do so in the future.”

“This kind of support opens up a world of opportunities in support of our student-athletes,” says Augustana’s Dean Dr. Allen Berger. “We look forward to welcoming former athletes who wish to create an award themselves or want to help organize their former teammates to jointly fund an award. All it takes is a commitment of $2000 per year for five years, from an individual or a group, and the award will automatically be increased by another $1000.”

HELP the University of Alberta attract the best and brightest student-athletes to Augustana.

GET INVOLVED: Create an award on your own, with a friend or as part of a group! You choose the name of the award and the sport(s) you wish to support.

For more information, please contact: Augustana Campus Development Office
Bonita Anderson, Director of Development bonita.anderson@ualberta.ca
Bree Urkow CFRE, Development Assistant bree.urkow@ualberta.ca
4901 - 46 Avenue | Camrose, Alberta | T4V 2R3
Toll free: 1.800.590.9992 | Tel: 780.679.1558
Jeanne & Peter Lougheed Centre for the Performing Arts

At the November 1 Opening Night Gala of the new Performing Arts Centre in Camrose, the facility was named for some of Alberta’s strongest supporters of the arts. Jeanne (Rogers) Lougheed was born in Forestburg and grew up in Camrose. Jeanne and her husband, Premier Peter Lougheed, would become patrons and advocates of the arts throughout their lives together.

Please enjoy some photos of Augustana’s participation in the Lougheed Centre, from groundbreaking to the present!

The Jeanne & Peter Lougheed Performing Arts Centre was recognized as both the Best Institutional Project of Less than $50M and Best Project of the Year by Alberta Construction Magazine.

We have endeavoured to make this list as accurate as possible. Please accept our apologies if your name has been omitted or misspelled, and please let the Development Office know at 1.800.590.9992 so we might correct our error.


Jeanne Lougheed
Dr. Lalit Chawla
Dr. Lalit Chawla

Groundbreaking Event: June 7, 2012

MLA Verlyn Olson and Interim Premier Dave Hancock

Global Academic Leadership Development Program

Cargill Sponsorship Announcement

Alberta country legend George Canyon performed at the Opening Night Gala

Iqbal Amiri at the Festival of Ideas

Jeanne Lougheed

Dean Allen Berger

Cargill Sponsorship Announcement