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Reflecting on the Past

Stefanie R. Bluemle
Augustana College, Rock Island Illinois

Sarah M. Horowitz

Jamie L. Nelson

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Reflecting on the Past
150 Years of Augustana Stories

Edited by

Stefanie R. Bluemle
Sarah M. Horowitz
Jamie L. Nelson



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Rock Island, Illinois, 61201

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Preface

Augustana's sesquicentennial was a year unlike any other in the college's life. During the course of 2010, there were more than a few red-letter moments:

- We published *Coming of Age: Augustana College, 1935–1962*, by Tom Tredway, and reprinted *Augustana... A Profession of Faith: A History of Augustana College, 1860–1935*, by Conrad Bergendoff – both predecessors of mine
- The Augustana Symphonic Band, Choir, and Symphony Orchestra performed at Orchestra Hall in Chicago
- We celebrated our first joint event with Augustana College of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, since that school's founding in 1889
- The U.S. House of Representatives approved a resolution saluting the extraordinary work of Augustana in American higher education
- The college and community received a visit by the Archbishop of Sweden, Anders Wejryd, continuing a tradition begun by Archbishop Nathan Söderblom in 1923
- We celebrated the 150th anniversary of the first day of classes with fireworks over the Mississippi River during a community celebration in our hometown's newly-dedicated Schwiebert Riverfront Park
- We set a world record (for ice cream-eating, it should be noted)

While each represents an enduring memory that will forever fix the year-long sesquicentennial in the life of Augustana College, none of these can compare with contributions made to the observance by augustana.edu/150. This special website was conceived early on in our planning for 2010 and was made not only viable but indeed vital by the leadership of the Thomas Tredway Library's Special Collections.

Augustana College owes a lasting debt of gratitude to Carla Tracy, Jamie Nelson, Sarah Horowitz, and Stefanie Bluemle for their work in marshaling the considerable scholarly resources of the Tredway Library in support of the anniversary observance. This includes the research and creativity of many colleagues across Augustana's campus who, at the library's invitation, prepared the essays and biographical sketches that made the sesquicentennial website come to life.

Thanks to their guidance, visitors were offered innumerable moments in time that, taken together, created a vast mosaic depicting an institution that has successfully and effectively maintained its vibrancy and vitality for 150 years. I am very grateful for this book, which deserves to be reckoned as an unparalleled resource in understanding the history of this exceptional college.

STEVEN C. BAHLS
PRESIDENT, AUGUSTANA COLLEGE

Introduction

Contrary to popular belief, most librarians have little time to spend perusing the research materials in their care. Rather, their responsibility is to manage collections of books, journals, and manuscripts, with the intent of making them available to researchers. So it was a rare treat when the 150th anniversary of Augustana College gave a number of librarians at the college a special incentive to investigate Augustana-related people, groups, and events and to spend time with the materials in the college archives in much the same way our students might for research assignments.

Some of the topics and people we chose to investigate had reputations that preceded our research, while others developed from open-ended questions that we hoped would uncover interesting stories. The stories in this volume were originally published on a website as weekly stories with some correlation to the school calendar, and as stand-alone biographies; the “Augustana Through the Decades” essay was adapted from the online timeline. The weekly stories and biographies in this volume have been re-arranged for readability in a loosely chronological progression.

These stories were a labor of love for all involved, and as the 150th celebratory year came to a close, we wanted to preserve them and make them available to an audience who may not have read them on the website. It is fitting to preserve these incarnations of Augustana history, because they could not have been written without the assistance of all the documents and publications that have been

collected and preserved in the Augustana College Special Collections. Diaries, club minutes, photographs, newspaper clippings, correspondence, the *Observer*, and the *Rockety-I* were invaluable resources in assembling these stories. It should be noted, as well, that many of the stories were written by relative newcomers to the “Augustana story”: librarians and special collections student workers who did not personally know the faculty being profiled, or were not on campus for events such as the panty raid or teapot dome, and did not hear the stories at the knees of beloved alumni grandparents. We know, and wrote, about what could be distilled from the historical record from the evidence that has been left behind. These stories, however, are only part of a conversation. To continue this conversation, visit Special Collections and research these people and events or other aspects of Augustana history for yourself. Or, if you have materials to add to the college archives, contact Special Collections and add your voice to the historical record.

The editors would like to thank all the contributors to the weekly stories, especially those outside of the library who needed very little coaxing (Kai Swanson, Ann Boaden, and Christina Johansson). Special Collections student workers Leslie Nellis, Rebecca Hopman, and Eric Castle created content for the 150th website, and several other students supported this endeavor and digitized countless photographs (Kody Binns, Laura Burns, Maria Ford, Natalie Markovich, Kelsey O’Connell, Anna Pusateri, and Elsa Woods). Kai Swanson, Beth Roberts, and Leslie DuPree provided guidance and encouragement

throughout the project, from the idea stage of the website through the publication of this book. Leslie DuPree and Eric Page designed and maintained the 150th website throughout the 150th year. Thanks also to Kurt Tucker and Cassie Trent for their design of this book. Augustana College Thomas Tredway Library and the Augustana Historical Society provided the financial support to publish these stories in book form. Special thanks go to Carla Tracy, director of the Thomas Tredway Library, for her belief in the value of Special Collections and for permission to allocate our time in the service of telling these Augustana stories.

THE EDITORS

STEFANIE R. BLUEMLE, SARAH M. HOROWITZ,
AND JAMIE L. NELSON

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Augustana Through the Decades

1860–2010

Most 21st-century Augustana students know their school as a respected liberal arts college, with a Lutheran affiliation. Many students have also heard stories about the college's Swedish heritage. One hundred fifty years after the founding of the school and its parent church body, the Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod, it is easy to forget that Augustana did not begin as a liberal arts college. Instead, the synod's June 1860 constitution established "a theological seminary for the purpose of training pastors and teachers for our congregations," as well as a preparatory school—the college—to groom students for seminary.

Lars Paul Esbjörn was the first president of the new school. He had previously been a professor at Illinois State University in Springfield—a short-lived university with no historical ties to the present ISU—which was founded and supported by

two other Illinois-based Lutheran synods, also as a theological seminary. But Esbjörn and his co-founders of the Augustana Synod wanted a new church body, with its own seminary, that would be true to their Scandinavian roots and adhere strictly to the Augsburg Confession. The institution known today as Augustana College was born from that vision.

The timeline on the following pages traces the evolution of Augustana from a tiny theological seminary in Chicago to a 2,500-student liberal arts college on the Mississippi River. It highlights changes to the administration, the campus, the student body, and academic life, as well as various other milestones in the history of the college. In doing so, the timeline provides historical context to illuminate the biographies and Augustana stories collected in the remainder of this volume.

1860s

Augustana's first decade was a challenging one. When the seminary opened its doors in September 1860, it had 21 students and only one full-time faculty member. But Augustana remained ambitious despite its small size: only five days into their first term, the students founded a literary organization, the Phrenokosmian Society, which would play an important role in the school's social life for decades to come. Challenges remained, however: by 1863, the lack of adequate space and money led Augustana to move from Chicago to Paxton, Illinois. Enrollment fluctuated, especially during the Civil War years, as students left to join the army. Augustana also experienced its first change in leadership when President Lars Paul Esbjörn stepped down and returned to Sweden in 1863.

June 5, 1860

Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod founded

September 1, 1860

Augustana Seminary begins classes for the first time

1862

First library at Augustana: 5,000 books donated from the library of King Charles XV of Sweden

September 1863

Augustana College and Theological Seminary begins the new school year in Paxton, Illinois, with Tufve Nilsson Hasselquist as its second president

1865

Illinois legislature grants Augustana a charter

Spring 1866

Number of college buildings on the Paxton campus doubles to two: one academic and one residential

1868

Augustana realizes its initial plan of having three full-time professors

1870s

Large waves of Swedish immigration during the 1870s led to one of the most important decisions in Augustana's history: to move the college from Paxton to a location closer to these new immigrants. The Augustana Synod selected Rock Island, Illinois. While much of the decade was devoted to raising money to purchase land in Rock Island and to construct buildings on the new campus, other aspects of college life were not forgotten. The first of Augustana's many musical organizations, a Silver Cornet Band, was founded, followed by an orchestra, and the Phrenokosmian Society began to publish a weekly paper.

1870

Norwegians formally leave the Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod

1871

Augustana Synod, committed to moving from Paxton, empowers Augustana College and Theological Seminary to accept offers for land donations

January 1873

A committee is appointed to raise \$5,000 to purchase a 16 acre plot of land half-way between Rock Island and Moline

1874

Synod asks each member of an Augustana congregation for 25 cents per year to support Augustana College and Theological Seminary

October 14, 1875

New campus and first college building in Rock Island dedicated

Fall 1876

Augustana publishes its first catalog in English

May 1877

First Augustana College class graduates

1880s

The 1880s were a time of change and expansion at Augustana. Music continued to be an important part of campus life, and the first professor of music, Gustav Erik Stolpe, was appointed. Swedish became less important to the curriculum and ceased to be required for all "courses," or majors, while courses were added in scientific disciplines, as well as business and phonography. Gymnastics and athletics appeared on campus and in the course requirements. Women began attending Augustana, first as non-matriculated students and later pursuing degrees. Social life also expanded with the founding of the Adelpic Society, a second literary society; the Linnean, a scientific society; the Students Foreign Missionary Society; and the Alumni Association.

1880

Augustana establishes a scientific course, leading to a Bachelor of Science degree

April 11, 1881

First concert of the Handel Oratorio Society

November 8–9, 1883

Augustana celebrates the 400th birthday of Martin Luther

Spring 1883

Board of Directors approves new rules and regulations on student dress, noise on campus, and other aspects of daily life

May 1885

Ines Rundstrom is the first woman to graduate from Augustana College

January 18, 1886

Augustana Conservatory founded

October 1888

Founding of the "Commercial Department"

June 12, 1889

Dedication of Memorial Hall (now Old Main)

1890s

Now firmly ensconced in its Rock Island home, Augustana was on firmer footing than it had been in previous decades, but it was not secure. Other Augustana Synod groups had established colleges in their own regions, leading to competition for students. Debt was a continuous problem, especially as the college undertook improvements to the grounds, and faculty complaints about low salaries were frequent. In spite of these issues, school pride never failed: Augustana obtained both a school song, by E.W. Olson, and its school colors. Gymnastics and athletics grew in importance, and their presence on campus was solidified with the construction of a new gymnasium, much hailed in college publications. This period also saw, at the request of the faculty, a major revision of the curriculum, which allowed students to take electives for the first time. The dome on Memorial Hall (Old Main) was finally completed, allowing Augustana to be seen for several miles along the Mississippi.

June 1891

Olof Olsson named third president of Augustana College and Theological Seminary

1892

Augustana's first woman faculty member, Anna Westman, appointed

June 9, 1893

Jubilee celebrates the 300th anniversary of Sweden's establishment as a Lutheran nation

Fall 1893

Varsity football team plays its first season

June 1898

Senior class petition to wear caps and gowns at commencement is denied by the Board of Directors

1898

First Augustana Library publication: "The Mechanical Composition of Wind Deposits," by J. A. Udden

Fall 1899

Mandatory morning prayers held in English instead of Swedish for the first time

October 1899

Augustana purchases the land between 36th and 38th Streets and 7th and 5th Avenues

1900s

The first decade of the 20th century was one of growth, modernization, and gathering strength for Augustana. It also demonstrated a historical spirit on the part of the college, as it was during this time that April 17th began to be celebrated as Founder's Day in honor of the early leaders of Augustana. President Andreen set out to raise money in an attempt to build an endowment for the college. Student organizations and sports continued to grow, and their activities were regularly reported in the campus newspaper. In the *Observer* one could follow the successes of ace pitcher Donald Gustafson, who struck out 100 men in seven baseball games, and the growth of debating and Swedish-language clubs. Modern life also encroached upon the college as Rock Island paved both 38th Street and 7th Avenue.

June 1901

Gustav A. Andreen elected fourth president of Augustana College and Theological Seminary

October 21, 1901

Wennerberg Male Chorus founded

December 1902

First issue of the *Augustana Observer*, the student newspaper

February 26, 1904

Augustana participates in its first intercollegiate debate

June 1905

Synod bans intercollegiate contests in baseball, football, and basketball

1908

Founding of Sigma Pi Delta, the "Speeds," the first sorority on campus

January 28, 1909

The sons and daughters of Mr. and Mrs. F.C.A. Denkmann announce they will give Augustana a library building

1910s

Augustana began this period on a high note, with the celebration of its 50th anniversary and the dedication of a new library. A curriculum revision also took place, following a trend of increased interest in social studies and science. Like all colleges, Augustana felt the effects of outside events such as World War I and the influenza epidemic. Student enrollment reached a peak of 244 students in 1916–1917 before declining due to the war. Many Augustana students enlisted, and students and faculty who remained on campus participated in numerous activities in support of the war effort. In 1918, Augustana shut down for four weeks because of the influenza epidemic.

June 5–15, 1910

Celebration of the 50th anniversary of Augustana College and Theological Seminary

May 31, 1911

Dedication of Denkmann Memorial Library

1912

Augustana becomes a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, a major accrediting body

1912

First annual yearbook under the name *Rockety-I*

November 8, 1915

Eighteen women students meet to form the Oriole Club, a woman's chorus

1916

A revised curriculum is implemented, creating more courses of study and giving students more choice of electives

1917

Football restored as an intercollegiate sport

March 20, 1917

Augustana Woman's Club founded; the club discusses issues of women on campus and serves as an advocate to the administration

April 16, 1917

Augustana Band enlists as a body in the Illinois National Guard

1918

Spanish language classes added

1920s

This was a decade of contention about the place of Augustana College and Theological Seminary in the Augustana Synod. Since many regional conferences within the synod had their own colleges, they resented having to support Augustana College. Some congregations felt that having the theological seminary less appealing to potential students. On campus, the need for new facilities was acute: Augustana had constructed only two buildings in the past 25 years. The college engaged campus planners and a team to study the educational situation and needs of the college and to provide guidance on its future. A successful fundraising campaign was undertaken to raise money for the endowment and needed facilities. The 1920s also saw a great upheaval in social activities, including the death of the two campus literary societies, among the oldest student groups at Augustana, and the rise of fraternities and sororities.

1920

Institution of an honor system and a Student Council to supervise it

October 16, 1920

First annual homecoming celebration

October 23, 1920

Augustana student Luther P. Kron murdered in Galesburg on his way home from reporting on the Augustana-Milliken football game for the *Observer*

1921

Plans begin for separate seminary buildings on campus

November 6, 1923

Dedication of the new seminary buildings

May 1925

Commercial Department dissolves

Fall 1928

Woman's Building (now Emmy Carlsson Evald Hall) completed

May 1928

Augustana undertakes its first major fundraising campaign

Fall 1929

Augustana becomes the first Lutheran college to establish a department of geology

May 1929

Jesse Route is the first African-American to graduate from Augustana

1930s

Like colleges and universities across the country, Augustana felt the effects of the Great Depression keenly. Payment on pledges was down, enrollment did not increase over a number of years, and faculty salaries were cut. At the same time, Augustana risked losing its accreditation from the North Central Association, due primarily to inadequate science facilities in Ericson Hall. Rescue came in the form of the brand-new Wallberg Hall of Science, built from money left to Augustana by a former student. Notwithstanding the nation's general economic woes, other construction was completed later in the decade; most notable of these projects was Andreen Hall, named in honor of President Emeritus Gustav Andreen, whom Conrad Bergendoff succeeded in 1935.

March 18, 1931

Augustana Choir performs for the first time. Henry Veld directs the combined Wennerberg and Oriole choruses at Orchestra Hall in Chicago

1935

Diamond Jubilee celebration of Augustana's 75th anniversary

May 6, 1935

First class held in Wallberg Hall of Science

January 1936

Construction of bell tower completed

October 1, 1936

Conrad Bergendoff inaugurated as fifth president of Augustana College and Theological Seminary

March 1937

Augustana obtains membership in the American Association of University Women

October 24, 1937

Andreen Hall dedicated

May 1938

First annual *Saga*—the college's literary magazine—published

December 9, 1938

George Lenc ('39) drafted by professional football team, the Brooklyn Dodgers

1940s

During the first half of the 1940s, Augustana felt the effects of World War II as it lost some students to the armed services and gained others through a cadet training program organized by the Department of War. Thanks to the GI Bill, enrollment increased significantly after the war's end, as it did at colleges and universities throughout the United States. The biggest change Augustana experienced in this decade, however, was to the structure of the school itself: in 1947, the Augustana Synod voted to separate the college and theological seminary. President Bergendoff lamented the synod's decision as going counter to Augustana's premises and strengths; the united college and seminary, he wrote in his president's report of 1947–1948, had been "testimony to an academic world, all too split into unrelated parts, that our Church believed that all truth is of God and all learning is related to the Word."

March 30, 1943

First group of Army Air Force cadets arrives on campus

May 16, 1945

SS *Augustana Victory*, a 10,800 ton cargo vessel named for Augustana College, is launched

April 26, 1946

Augustana is a founding member of the College Conference of Illinois, a new athletic conference

September 1947

Enrollment reaches record high of more than 1700 students

August 31, 1948

College and theological seminary separate

February 24, 1949

First panty raid conducted in Woman's Building, by veterans attending under the GI Bill

1950s

On a small scale, Augustana's fortunes mirrored the United States' increasing prosperity post-World War II. The 1950s were a busy decade, in which the college more than once obtained national distinction and its campus expanded significantly in size. Academically, Augustana opened the decade by establishing its own chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the academic honor society. By the later '50s, it was celebrating its victory over a number of much larger universities in the National Debate Tournament at West Point. Meanwhile, a generous donation of land from the Davis-Weyerhaeuser family increased the size of the campus from 60 to 86 acres, and a bequest from J.M. and Elsa N. Westerlin financed construction of a new women's dormitory on the donated property. Bergendoff Hall of Fine Arts and Centennial Hall were built beginning in the mid-1950s. Slowly but surely, Augustana's grounds were taking on an aspect that would be familiar even to a 21st-century observer.

March 17, 1950

Augustana chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (PBK) established

November 13, 1952

First broadcast by WAUG, the campus radio station

June 30, 1954

Augustana acquires House on the Hill and the future site of Westerlin Hall

February 18, 1955

Fire destroys top story of Wallberg Hall

March 27, 1955

Augustana Choir performs "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning" on Ed Sullivan's *Toast of the Town*

June 1, 1955

Construction completed on Bergendoff Hall of Fine Arts

November 14, 1955

Fraternity members decorate the dome of Old Main as a teapot, in what will become Augustana's most famous "phrig"

April 27–28, 1957

Augustana debate team wins National Debate Tournament

G. Timothy Johnson ('58) wins the men's Interstate Oratorical Contest

November 3, 1957

Westerlin Hall dedicated

Fall 1959

Centennial Hall opens
Co-ed dining becomes a regular practice, scheduled for each Sunday at noon

November 15, 1959

Crosell Memorial pipe organ dedicated in Centennial Hall

1960s

Although the 1960s are generally known as a time of student activism, Augustana students' responses to the major events of that decade were moderately conservative. In 1967 an editorial in the *Observer* noted that "last year the student body exhibited its general disapproval of demonstrations against the Vietnamese War, and only a small minority of Augie students have taken part in such demonstrations"; also in 1967, a poll of Augustana students and faculty demonstrated a near 50-50 split between those who supported and those who opposed the United States' policies in Vietnam. At the same time, however, students were taking greater note of another significant issue: civil rights. In 1964 the student body made its first collective effort in support of the Civil Rights movement, raising money to donate to poor Southern African-Americans. By 1969, the newly-formed Afro-American Society organized a Black Power symposium, to which it invited some of the most controversial figures of the day. Students appeared at Centennial Hall en masse to learn about Black Power directly from those involved in the movement.

1960

Augustana's 100th anniversary

June 1962

Augustana Church merges with three other organizations to form the Lutheran Church in America

November 17, 1962

Clarence Woodrow Sorensen inaugurated as sixth president of Augustana College

February 26, 1964

Augustana students hold "Fast for Freedom Food" in support of the Civil Rights movement

May 1964

College approves Student Judiciary Committee, which gives students greater authority over disciplinary matters on campus

April 26–29, 1965

Classes cancelled as Augustana students fight Mississippi flood

As the United States transformed in the 1960s, Augustana College as an institution witnessed changes of its own. In 1962 the Augustana Synod, the formation of which had led directly to the establishment of the college and theological seminary in 1860, merged with three other bodies to form the Lutheran Church in America. And in the mid-1960s, the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, which formed in a merger of the Augustana Theological Seminary with three other seminaries, finally abandoned its Rock Island campus. Although the move permitted Augustana College to expand its grounds and science facilities, it also meant a final, symbolic break of the college and theological seminary, which had once been so closely tied to one another.

February 13, 1966

Campus church organized

Fall 1966

Erickson Hall opens to students

Slough path opens

June 2, 1967

College completes purchase of theological seminary's property

June 30, 1967

Augustana purchases North (now Sorensen) Hall, formerly the Augustana Book Concern

Fall 1968

New Science Building (now Swenson Hall of Geoscience) opens

February 7–8, 1969

Black Power Symposium

May 2, 1969

John Deere Planetarium and Carl Gamble Observatory dedicated

Fall 1969

Augustana adopts quarter system

1970s

In the 1970s Augustana approached a size that would be familiar to students of today: 1971 saw enrollment reach 2,000 for the first time. Educational opportunities expanded as well, when Augustana organized the first European term in 1972; Asian and Latin American terms followed in the mid-1970s. Other highlights of the decade included a new president—Thomas Tredway, in 1975—and the first of two visits to campus by King Carl XVI Gustav of Sweden, who visited in recognition of Augustana's and the Quad Cities' Swedish heritage. In the midst of the excitement of new faces and new developments, some efforts also continued from earlier years. For example, the Black Student Union pursued civil rights efforts begun in the 1960s, meeting with the Augustana administration to talk about campus policies on racism and the general environment for African-Americans on campus.

1970
Black Culture Center established

Fall 1971
Enrollment reaches 2,000 for the first time in college history

February 4, 1972
African-American students hold sit-in in President Sorensen's office to demand an official campus policy on racism

Fall 1972
Students and faculty visit London and Hamburg for the college's first international term

December 16, 1974
Carver Physical Education Center dedicated

February–May, 1975
Augustana celebrates 100 years in Rock Island

Fall 1975
Augustana adopts plus/minus grades; these distinctions are for recording purposes and are not used to calculate GPA

October 4, 1975
J. Thomas Tredway inaugurated as seventh president of Augustana College

April 20, 1976
King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden visits Augustana

September 1979
College Center completed

1980s

The 1980s saw a number of changes and developments at Augustana; two of the most significant directly affected the lives of women on campus. First, co-ed housing began in Anderson and Bartholomew Halls in 1984. Although the college had been admitting women since the nineteenth century and had further integrated men's and women's lives throughout the twentieth, pre-1984 efforts to institute co-ed housing had failed, due, at least in part, to lack of student interest. But this first successful attempt led quickly to more co-ed housing on campus. Second, in the wake of Title IX in 1972 and the NCAA's 1980 decision to institute women's championships, Augustana participated in forming the Women's College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin, which brought women athletes into NCAA competition. At nearly the same time—late 1986—the Augustana football team made history by becoming the first (and, as of 2010, still the only) team in NCAA Division III competition to win the Stagg Bowl four years in a row. Combined with a new Presidential Scholars program for academically advanced students and a new research center for Swedish immigration in Denkmann Hall, these developments made for an exciting decade at Augustana.

August 1980
WVIK begins broadcasting as a full-power public radio station

Fall 1981
Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center (SSIRC) opens

Fall 1983
Presidential Scholars program begins

Fall 1984
Co-ed housing begins in Anderson and Bartholomew

Fall 1986
Women begin participation in NCAA athletics

December 13, 1986
Augustana football team wins NCAA Division III championship for the fourth consecutive year

April 20, 1988
Queen Silvia of Sweden visits Augustana

1990s

The most conspicuous changes at Augustana in the 1990s were to the physical face of the campus: four major buildings were constructed or dedicated in that decade, creating the campus we know today, in the early 21st century. The '90s began with a new library, which was not only larger in size than the Denkmann Memorial Library but also more welcoming to students. In 1995 PepsiCo was dedicated, giving students a recreation and fitness center. New Science (now Hanson Hall of Science) and Olin opened near the close of the decade, ensuring students the most up-to-date biology, chemistry, and physics facilities as well as access to modern technology.

Augustana made international news more than once in the 1990s. Geology professor William Hammer gained attention in both scientific and popular circles when he discovered a new species of dinosaur in Antarctica early in the 1990s. And in 1998, mathematics graduate Daniel C. Tsui ('61) won the Nobel Prize in Physics, making him the first and only Augustana student or faculty member to become a Nobel Laureate.

September 15, 1990
New library building (now the Thomas Tredway Library) dedicated

December 29, 1990
Geology professor William Hammer discovers *Cryolophosaurus ellioti*, a new species of dinosaur, in Antarctica

January 24, 1991
Classes cancelled for teach-in on Persian Gulf War

October 20, 1995
PepsiCo Recreation Center dedicated

September 13, 1996
King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden make their first joint visit to Augustana

April 23, 1998
First Celebration of Learning, a symposium showcasing the results of student research

October 31, 1998
Olin Technology Center and New Science building (now Hanson Hall of Science) dedicated

December 10, 1998
Daniel C. Tsui ('61) of Princeton University awarded Nobel Prize in Physics

2000s

The first decade of the twenty-first century was an ambitious one at Augustana, as the college strove to enhance its national reputation as a high-quality liberal arts institution. The college established new majors in response to burgeoning student interest in subjects like anthropology and environmental studies. It also created new faculty lines, some to support the new majors and others to enhance learning opportunities in established fields of study. Student enrollment increased as well—from about 2,200 to 2,500—within the span of a few years. At the same time, Augustana changed its curriculum to re-imagine general education, provide a more coherent first-year experience, and give students in-depth research experiences in their majors in the form of a universal Senior Inquiry requirement. A variety of national organizations affirmed Augustana's academic excellence in the '00s: the Lilly Endowment gave the college a \$2 million grant to open a Center for Vocational Reflection; the Association of College and Research Libraries honored the Thomas Tredway Library with its prestigious Excellence in Academic Libraries Award; and the United States Board on Geographic Names assigned the name Mount Augustana to a peak in Antarctica, in recognition of the college's contributions to Antarctic research. Augustana's continuous efforts at improvement and its commitment to student learning make it well-prepared for the years and decades ahead.

May 2000
President of Augustana no longer required to be Lutheran

November 2002
Augustana receives a \$2 million grant from the Lilly Endowment

October 10–11, 2003
Steven C. Bahls inaugurated as eighth president of Augustana College

2005
Augustana adopts a new strategic plan with Senior Inquiry at its center

Fall 2005
Augustana welcomes students displaced by Hurricane Katrina

April 19, 2006
Thomas Tredway Library receives Excellence in Academic Libraries Award from the Association of College and Research Libraries

Fall 2006
Honor Code, which holds students responsible for academic integrity, implemented

October 21, 2008
Mount Augustana named in Antarctica

January 14, 2010
President Steven C. Bahls and President Emeritus Thomas Tredway officially open Augustana's sesquicentennial celebration

Why Rock Island?

“Few locations combine, in a more eminent degree, the advantage of accessibility, healthfulness, beautiful surroundings, and quietness for the purpose of study.”
1882–1883 catalog

The location Augustana College and Theological Seminary chose to relocate to in 1875 may need a little explanation when viewing the 1880s image of campus included with this story. This location was chosen so as to better serve the school’s intended population, Swedish Lutheran immigrants. Looking at the dirt path that was to become 7th Avenue, you may very well ask, “Better than what?” In order to answer the question of why Augustana chose Rock Island, it is helpful to understand why the school’s two previous locations were abandoned.

When the Augustana Seminary opened its door on September 1, 1860, that door was to a two-story, wooden framed school house behind the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church in Chicago, at the intersection of Wells and Superior Streets. Instruction was also given in the basement of the Norwegian church in Chicago. Twenty-one students enrolled the first year (ten Swedish, ten Norwegian, and one “American”), and enrollment dipped after that. As early as 1861, efforts were made to find a permanent location for the school, and sites in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Illinois were considered. In 1863, the Board of Directors purchased land near Paxton, Illinois, moved the school there, and incorporated under the name Augustana College and Seminary. Coming from the bustle of Chicago, Paxton was a sleepy town, seemingly off the beaten path to anywhere.

The Illinois Central Railway had invited Augustana to examine some of its land holdings near Paxton. The Railway later sold the college land well under its value and offered the college a commission for selling other land in Paxton to new settlers. The “campus” in Paxton eventually consisted of six frame buildings, all serving double duty as classroom space and living quarters for students and faculty. Distractions in Paxton were few; days started at 5:00 a.m. and students helped with the chores. A literary society that had been formed in 1860 in Chicago provided the Friday night entertainment, with debate, oratory, and music on the agenda. After less than a decade in Paxton, it became clear that Paxton was not evolving into a mecca for Scandinavian Lutherans, as the wave of Swedish immigrants was moving north into Minnesota, or west into Nebraska and Kansas. Paxton had missed its mark.

The search was on for another location, and the charter of the institution was changed to allow the school to move to “any suitable place within the state of Illinois.” Geneseo, Illinois, had expressed interest in raising money to entice Augustana to relocate, but by 1871 had not raised the funds. The Board also allowed the search committee to accept offers of land from Knox, Henry, Rock Island, Bureau, and Cook counties, though such offers never materialized. By 1873, Rock Island was selected as the new home for the now named Augustana College and Theological Seminary.

So, why Rock Island? The Mississippi River was busy with steamer traffic with over 1,000 steam

boats docking in Rock Island in 1870. The first train had reached Rock Island in 1854, and the first train bridge across the Mississippi was completed in 1856, linking Rock Island and Davenport. The population in Rock Island had skyrocketed from 7,000 inhabitants in 1852 to nearly 30,000 in 1870, with over 3,500 Scandinavians settling in Rock Island and Moline in the 1870s. The Scandinavians were the largest ethnic group in the area, with Germans a close second, and those from the British Isles a trifle fewer in third place. This location with both river and rail access was the hub that Paxton could never be.

The site selected for campus was halfway between Moline and Rock Island, with a trolley running past campus connecting the towns. The 16-acre plot was secured for \$10,000. This “picturesque bluff land,” nestled among pastures, orchards, and barns, provided a place remote from town centers but with connections to a metropolitan area and easy access to Augustana for students from the Midwestern Swedish-immigrant communities which Augustana served. In Rock Island, Augustana

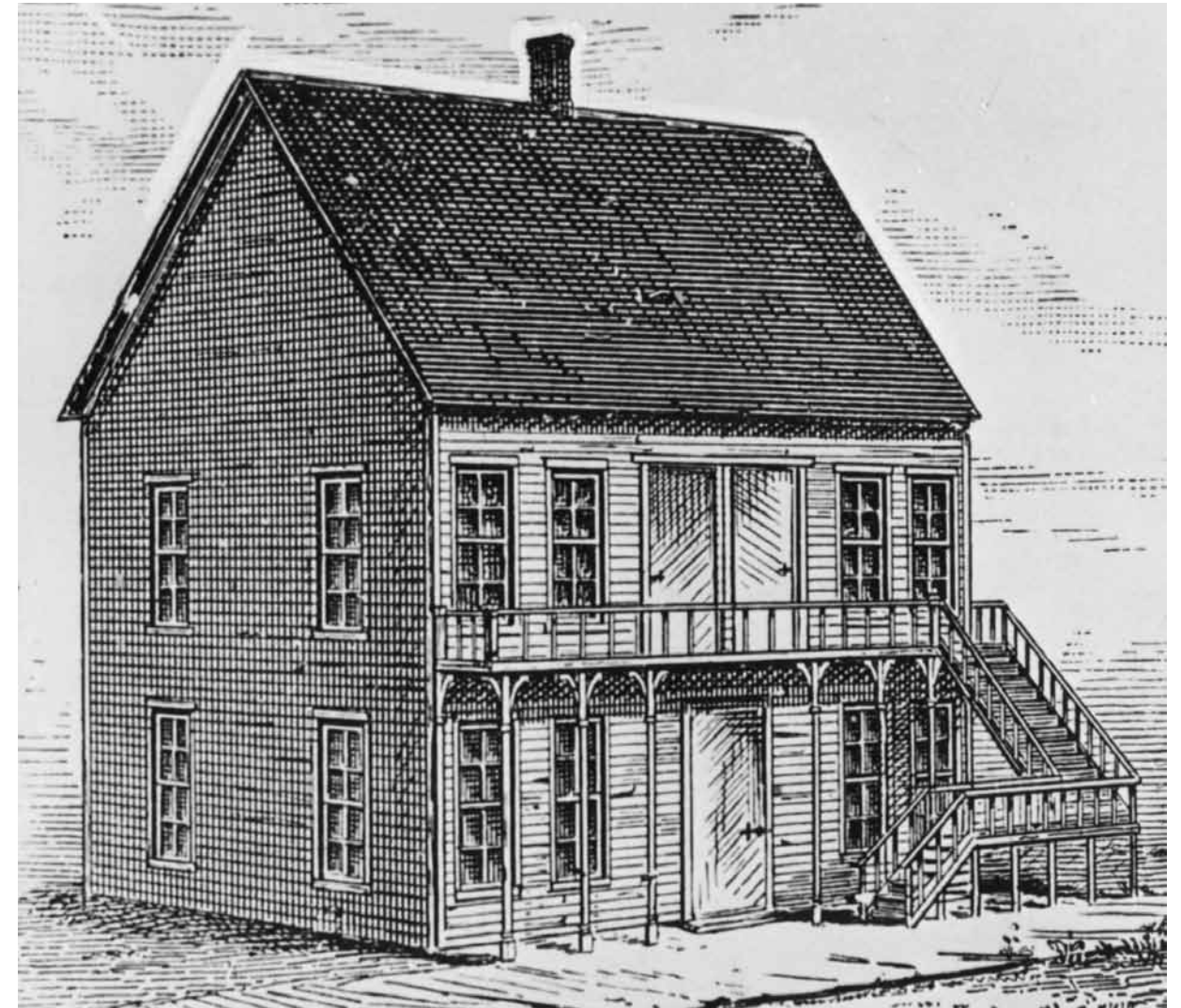
would thrive, quickly adding buildings to campus, increasing its enrollment, and graduating the first Augustana College class with a bachelor’s degree in 1877. Of those first six college graduates in Rock Island, two were born in Sweden, and the other four were of Swedish parentage, but born in Princeton, Galesburg, and Rockford, Illinois, and Sugar Grove, Pennsylvania.

Advances in transportation and shifting demographics have changed the face of both Rock Island and Augustana College. The Quad Cities area now boasts a combined population of more than 375,000. Recent graduating classes have numbered in the 500s, with approximately 30 states and a dozen countries represented each year. Augustana students study the geography and biology of the Mississippi River and its environs, engage in community service in the Quad Cities, and participate in and attend concerts, lectures, and art exhibitions open to the community.

JAMIE L. NELSON



View of 7th Avenue and the First College Building, Rock Island in the 1880s



First Augustana College building in Chicago

Was Augustana the First School to Use Letter Grades?

Look carefully at the hand-written chart reproduced at the end of this story. It was created by Lars Paul Esbjörn, the first president of the Augustana Seminary, most likely at the end of the school's first academic year (1860–1861). In this chart, Esbjörn uses the designations a, ab, b, bc, and c to record the performance of twenty Scandinavian students in five subjects of study: Norwegian history, geography, Swedish history, church history, and theology. A scale is written in pencil in the bottom left-hand corner of the chart:

a 95
ab 90
b 85
bc 80
c 75

Why is this document so important? It may be the oldest evidence extant in the United States of the evaluation of students using letter grades.

The story that Augustana pioneered the use of letter grades in this country has circulated before. However, this particular Augustana “first” tends not to receive as much attention as many others—be they academic (first geology department at a Lutheran school) or otherwise (first panty raid)—perhaps because it would be nearly impossible to prove. But a 1949 article in the *Observer* found the possibility compelling enough to declare it with confidence. “Horrible Truth Revealed,” the headline reads, “A, B, C Grading System Began at this . . . Institution.” The article, which was written by junior Bernard Wickstrom, tells the story of then-President Conrad Bergendoff’s conversation in 1939 with Sir

William Craigie and James R. Hulbert, the editors of *A Dictionary of American English on Historical Principles* (1938–1944). They informed Bergendoff that they could find no evidence of any school’s having employed letter grades earlier than Augustana.

In Craigie and Hulbert’s published dictionary, their etymological note for the letter A, as used to denote the highest possible mark for a piece of schoolwork, reads as follows:

The system of grading by means of the letters A, B, C, etc., has been used in various institutions (e.g., Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill.) since 1883.

Although the entry provides no explanation for its choice of date, the year 1883 most likely comes from the Augustana College and Theological Seminary catalog of 1883–1884. Here, Augustana published for the first time an official policy of evaluating students with letter grades. The catalog explains that students will be assessed at the end of each academic year with respect to their knowledge and ability, diligence, deportment, and attendance. It continues:

The following expressions are employed as testimonies in respect to 1:o Knowledge and Ability: Superior (A), Excellent (a), Laudable (AB), Commendable (ab), Good (B), Admissible (b), Inadmissible (C); 2:o Diligence: Very Good (A), Good (B), Ordinary (b), Censurable (C); 3:o Deportment: Very Good (A), Good (B), Exceptionable (C).

Apparently, this schema was the oldest officially enacted letter-grading system Craigie and Hulbert

found in the course of their research, and, because of this, they highlighted Augustana in their entry on letter grades. However, as the wording of the entry demonstrates, they declined to claim that Augustana was the first school to use letter grades, presumably for lack of concrete proof.

A later dictionary, Mitford M. Mathews’s *A Dictionary of Americanisms on Historical Principles* (1951), expands upon the link between Augustana and the earliest use of letter grades:

The faculty minutes of Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, for June, 1877, refer to the adoption there of a marking system using the letters A, a, AB, ab, B. Augustana was founded by graduates of the Swedish universities of Upsala and Lund. In at least some of the elementary schools in Sweden letters were used as grade marks certainly as early as 1871, and the system adopted at Augustana apparently reflects earlier Swedish usage. The use of letters in this way at other institutions has not been investigated.

Indeed, the faculty minutes of June 1877 include a grading chart quite similar to Esbjörn’s of 1861, except with more subjects of study and slightly different letter combinations, including capital letters as well as lowercase. Portions of the chart, as well as much of the surrounding text, have been eaten away—most likely by insects or mice—so it is impossible to determine its complete context. But the text that remains, meticulously hand-written in Swedish, suggests that the situation was not quite as Mathew’s 1951 dictionary interprets it. Specifically, the faculty minutes of June 1877 do not refer to the adoption of letter grades but, instead, describe letter grades as a system already in existence. In other words, Augustana may well have been using letter grades continuously between 1860 and 1877. The gap between Esbjörn’s chart of 1861 and the faculty minutes of June 1877 remains a mystery. Former Augustana President Conrad Bergendoff, in *Augustana . . . A Profession of Faith* (1969), the definitive history of the college’s early years, comments on Esbjörn’s use of letter grades, but he does not say



The first class to earn a Bachelor’s of Arts degree from Augustana College

whether the system ever fell out of use in that first decade. Clearly, Craigie & Hulbert and Mathews, in their respective dictionaries, cited the dates 1883 and 1877 because of the supporting written evidence. But letter grading may well have been, in effect, the “official” Augustana marking system throughout its earliest years.

What none of this answers, of course, is whether Augustana was truly the first school in the United States to use letter grades: that may be impossible ever to determine. What we do know is that Augustana was, if nothing else, among the earliest adopters of letter grades.

Mitford Mathews’s dictionary links letter grades back to Sweden, where, he writes, they were used “as early as 1871.” Bergendoff, on the other hand, implies the system was used in Sweden by the 1850s or earlier: he notes that Esbjörn drew on an existing Swedish marking system when he began evaluating students with letter grades in 1860. Either way, it would make sense that the first school in the Augustana Synod—a Swedish-Lutheran church body—might have introduced letter grades to the United States. That would make this now-ubiquitous marking system yet another legacy of Augustana’s Swedish heritage.

STEFANIE R. BLUEMLE

Thanks to Christina Johansson for her assistance in translating the faculty minutes.

Examens med Skandinaviska Studenterna

| | <i>Norsk Histor</i> | <i>Geo- grafi</i> | <i>Svensk Hist.</i> | <i>Engl. Abstr.</i> | <i>Hebr.</i> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1. C. Anderson | ab | b | | | |
| 2. P. Br. ntion | | | | c | bc |
| 3. K. Erikson | a | a | a | | |
| 4. H. Holmqvist | c | | | | |
| 5. S. Jensen | bc | c | | | |
| 6. J. Nesson | c | b | | | |
| 7. G. Olsen | c | c | | c | b |
| 8. O. Ostrom | b | | | | |
| 9. A. Jacobsen | ab | ab | | | |
| 10. John Esbjörn | ab | a | b | b | |
| 11. Jos. Esbjörn | ab | ab | b | | |
| 12. G. R. Espina | b | bc | | | |
| 13. A. W. Kahlsten | ab | a | b | b | |
| 14. K. M. Halland | bc | a | bc | | |
| 15. C. O. Kullgren | bc | a | bc | b | bc |
| 16. G. Larsson | | a | bc | b | ab |
| 17. P. Suneson | | b | c | bc | b |
| 18. And. Lindström | b | a | b | | |
| 19. F. O. Suwell | bc | b | b | bc | ab |
| 20. Armand Johnson | | | | | |

L.P. Esbjörn's grading chart from 1860–1861, the first year of Augustana College and Theological Seminary

Anders R. Cervin

Professor of Mathematics, Greek, and Natural Sciences, 1868–1878

Anders Richard Cervin was born on April 20, 1823, in Kristianstad, Skåne, Sweden. He was the second of four children. At the age of five, Cervin's father died, leaving his mother to care for all of the children. Rather than depend on other family members for support, Cervin's mother opened a school for girls. Cervin attended Lund University, where in 1847 at the age of 24 he graduated with highest honors and a doctorate in philosophy. After graduation, Cervin taught for six years at the College of Helsingborg.

In 1855, T. N. Hasselquist, who had married Cervin's sister Eva, invited Cervin to come to the United States and assist in the production of the periodical *Hemlandet*. Cervin left for the U.S. in April 1856 and finally arrived in Galesburg, Illinois, in early June 1856. In Galesburg, Cervin assisted Hasselquist in editing *Hemlandet* and with his preaching duties. After working in the United States for about fifteen months, Cervin went back to Sweden to teach in Kristianstad. He taught in his native city for three years while also taking theological courses at Lund University. On September 20, 1864, Cervin was ordained. Four days later, he was married to Emma Thulin. Together they left for America.

The couple arrived in Chicago in October 1864. Cervin immediately took up the position of editor of *Hemlandet*, which he held for four years. In 1868, he accepted a call to teach at Augustana College in Paxton, Illinois, where his brother-in-law,

Hasselquist, was president. Cervin taught a variety of subjects, including mathematics, Greek, and natural science, and assisted with courses in Swedish and theology. He also translated into Swedish a Norwegian theology textbook written by Gisle Johnson



A.R. Cervin

and introduced to Augustana by professor August Weenaas. In addition to his teaching, Cervin also edited the periodical *Augustana* in 1875.

Anders R. Cervin taught at Augustana College for ten years; poor health forced him to retire in 1878. He died on January 5, 1900, in Rock Island, Illinois. He had four children: Anders Emanuel, Olof Zakarias, Josef Ebenezer, and Louisa Elisabeth. Olof became a noted architect in the Rock Island area, and Louisa, or Lillie, taught at Augustana's Conservatory. Cervin was a gifted teacher and an editor. In acknowledgement of his achievements, Cervin was awarded the honorary title Jubilee Doctor of Philosophy by his university in Sweden fifty years after he had obtained his doctorate.

LESLIE NELLIS

A Celebratory History *Anniversary Tales*

“All of us human beings are prone to lapse now and then into emotional musings on the past, while, as a rule, we likewise are very much inclined to the celebration of anniversaries, reminding us of the things and people of the past, whom we like to remember.”

C.O. Granere, on Augustana’s 50th Anniversary

Anniversaries are a good time for looking backwards, and the sesquicentennial is not the first time Augustana has celebrated its history. Dour portraits aside, the early Augustana faculty liked to party, though they would define those early celebrations in a much different way than we do today. In the early years of the college, celebrations, then usually known as *jubilees*, were almost a frequent occurrence. A jubilee in November 1893 celebrating the 400th birthday of Martin Luther included speeches by Augustana Synod leaders and music such as Handel’s *Messiah*, Haydn’s *Creation*, and Wennerberg’s *Psalms*. Only one afternoon session of the celebration was in English; all the others were held in Swedish. In June of 1893 a jubilee was again held, this time celebrating the 300th anniversary of Sweden’s establishment as a Lutheran nation. Bishop K.G. von Schéele of Sweden was the guest of honor, and musical performances once again contributed to the event’s success.

But it is the celebration of Augustana’s own history that led to the greatest festivities at Augustana. The 1910 Jubilee, held in honor of Augustana’s 50th anniversary, was a marathon ten day affair, lasting from June 5 through the 15th. The first part of the session (June 5–9) was devoted to the commencement of

Augustana College and Theological Seminary, while June 9–15 was devoted to the Augustana Synod and included their regular meetings and reports as well as historical sessions. The jubilee was honored with greetings from President Taft and the King of Sweden, which were read aloud to attendees. All activities took place in Jubilee Hall, a temporary building constructed for the event; the building could hold 4,000 people and was filled to capacity several times during the jubilee. Commencement activities included eight five-minute speeches on “The Pioneers of Augustana,” as well as speeches by Governor Eberhart of Minnesota, Bishop K.G. von Schéele of Sweden, and the speech by C.O. Granere quoted at the beginning of this story. Granere was the only living representative of those who had taught at Augustana in 1875 when its doors first opened in Rock Island.

One of the main features of Augustana’s centennial celebrations in 1960 is still visible on campus today: Centennial Hall. Both Centennial Hall and the College Union (Biology Building) were dedicated in 1960. Major events for the centennial included speeches by Nobel Laureate Glenn T. Seaborg and poet Mark Van Doren and a performance in the new Centennial Hall by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Centennial Hall was also the site of all performances for the Tri-Cities Symphony and the Handel Oratorio Society during the centennial year. In another musical event, the Augustana Choir appeared with the NBC orchestra on Easter morning. It was not only Augustana which celebrated this momentous occasion, however. On June 6,

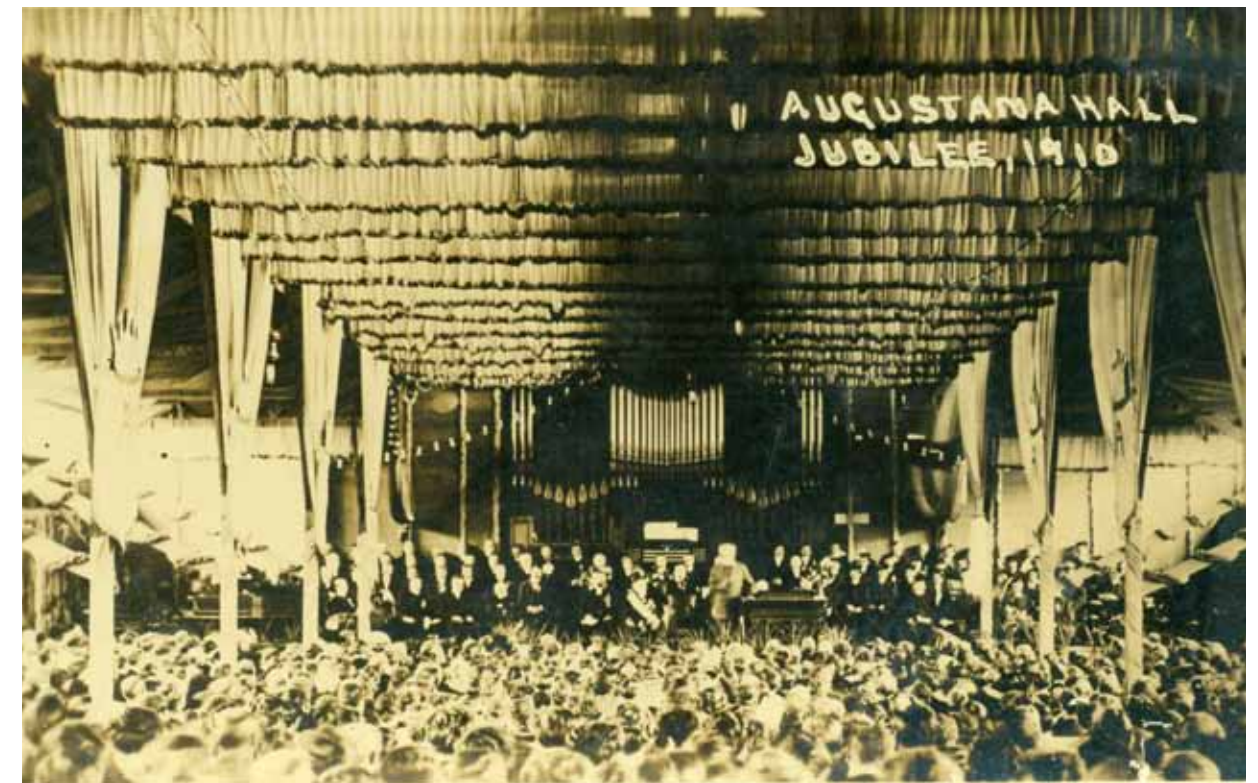
two whole sections (12 and 10 pages respectively) of the *Rock Island Argus* were devoted to Augustana College, under the overall headline “Swedish Immigrant Dream Realized; Hail Centennial!” These sections included numerous stories about both the college and the synod, including historical stories, as well as ads from local businesses congratulating Augustana. WHBF-TV broadcast interviews with senior professors on their philosophies of life and teaching. One other marker of the centennial still stands on campus: the centennial boulder on Zion Hill, erected to honor the “memory and ideals” of Augustana’s founders.

Augustana once again celebrated a milestone in 1985, when it turned 125 years old. In honor of this achievement, on January 25, 1985, students sponsored a birthday party in the College Center with cake, punch, and balloons—a more informal celebration than in earlier years. Once again the arts proved an

important part of the college’s celebrations, as special events included performances by the choir and band and a theatrical performance of Ibsen’s *The Wild Duck*. Swedish Archbishop Bertil Werkstrom brought greetings from Sweden during his visit, and Augustana was recognized by Congress. Founders Day, April 27th, was celebrated with a campus open house and special displays and demonstrations by many departments.

No “Jubilee Halls” have been built for our sesquicentennial, but the 150th website and the book you hold in your hands have been designed to bring us all together under one roof. In the new world of social media, we gather at online guestbooks and view digital photos of Augustana’s past; our methods of celebration may be changing, but the opportunity to reflect on Augustana’s history remains unchanged.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ



Jubilee Hall in 1910

Carl Otto Granere

Professor of Swedish and Latin, and College Librarian, 1871–1913



C. O. Granere

to Illinois upon hearing T.N. Hasselquist's description of the needs of Swedish-American congregations there during a visit to Sweden by Hasslequist. Granere graduated from Augustana Theological Seminary in 1871 and was ordained in the ministry at Galesburg, Illinois, the following year.

Beginning in 1871, Granere served as a professor of Latin and Swedish at Augustana as well as assistant

Carl Otto Granere was born on September 27, 1844, in Granhult, Högsby parish, Småland, Sweden. He pursued a classical college course, receiving his bachelor's degree in Stockholm in 1870 and traveling to Augustana College in Paxton, Illinois, the same year. Granere

was moved to come

instructor in church history and doctrinal theology. He served as vice-president of the college from 1883 to 1887. The Augustana Board granted Granere a doctorate in 1898; in the same year he was appointed librarian of the college. Granere continued his duties as college librarian until his resignation in 1913. He spoke at Augustana's 50th anniversary celebration, where he was the only living representative of those who had taught at Augustana in 1875 when its doors first opened in Rock Island.

Granere married

twice, first to Sophia Albertina Wiborg (d. 1883), and later to Marie Thomason, mother of their four children: Ruth Mirjam, Carl Emanuel, Helga Johanna, and Hortensia Linnea. He died in his home in Detroit, Michigan, on February 4th, 1933, at the age of 88, the last surviving member of the faculty from the pioneer days of Augustana College. He is buried in Riverside Cemetery in Moline.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

Early Science and Scientists At Augustana

“Geology at Augustana can be viewed as an expression of the desire for openness and inclusiveness, the willingness to follow wherever legitimate scholarship might lead, characteristics of those branches of the Lutheran church that have owned, and supported, the college from its very beginning.”

So wrote Augustana geology professor Richard Anderson ('52) in a 1992 memorial volume to Fritiof M. Fryxell ('22), who was perhaps the best-known and most influential science professor in the history of the college.

But the tradition to which Anderson refers in this passage—a tradition in which the sciences are an element of, rather than antithetical to, a Lutheran education—goes back much further than the start of Fryxell’s career as an Augustana faculty member in the 1920s.

Beginnings of Science at Augustana

As Fryxell reports in his brief history, *Science at Augustana College* (1922), Augustana’s first president, Reverend Lars Paul Esbjörn, was himself a scientist of sorts. Before assuming the presidency of the new Augustana Seminary in 1860, Esbjörn taught science and mathematics at Illinois State University, and he took a personal interest in astronomy, physics, chemistry, and math throughout his life.

Both Fryxell, in *Science at Augustana*, and former Augustana president Conrad Bergendoff, in his article, “Fritiof Fryxell and Augustana,” attribute to Esbjörn an early recognition that the new seminary

must ultimately prepare students for a variety of careers by teaching a variety of subjects, including science.

The early Augustana curriculum, however, focused primarily on languages and religion. It was not until 1876 that an Augustana professor, Reverend Henry Reck, began teaching a course in “Natural Philosophy,” which involved much recitation and no hands-on laboratory work. In the late 1870s, Reverend A.R. Cervin offered an optional field course in botany.

Josua Lindahl

The sciences became a permanent part of the Augustana curriculum with the appointment in 1878 of Johan Harold Josua Lindahl as professor of natural science and mathematics. Lindahl was Augustana’s first full-time professor of science and its first professor who was not also a minister. His charge was to establish a natural science department at the college.

Lindahl earned his doctorate in 1874 at the University of Lund in his native Sweden. In the early- to mid-1870s he made a name for himself internationally: among other accomplishments, he participated in deep sea expeditions, served in prestigious European museums, and acted as curator for Sweden’s exhibits at the 1876 World’s Fair in Philadelphia.

At Augustana Lindahl found relatively inferior conditions. The science facilities were located in what

was then known as “House Number Two,” which would later become the president’s home; there was little in the way of laboratory equipment or “modern” scientific amenities.

Yet Lindahl arrived at just the right time. As Bergendoff reports in his college history, *Augustana ... A Profession of Faith* (1969), Augustana’s increased emphasis on science in the 1870s coincided with that of many schools in the United States.

Moreover, the Augustana Synod explicitly supported this emphasis: according to Bergendoff, the synod in 1876 (two years before Lindahl was hired) determined that science classes should be offered at Augustana through the college level, rather than being limited to the preparatory level, which had apparently been suggested by the faculty. In other words, the church body itself was responsible for advocating science instruction.

Under Lindahl’s direction, the college’s science offerings immediately expanded: Lindahl taught zoology, botany, physiology, and chemistry in his first school year. The natural philosophy course, originally taught by Henry Reck, soon became a physics class.

Lindahl also quickly developed a reputation as an excellent teacher who knew how to motivate students. An avid museum enthusiast, Lindahl actively developed Augustana’s natural history museum, which he believed would spark interest in students who might not otherwise recognize the importance of science.

Put together, Augustana’s administrative decisions, Lindahl’s personal contributions, and the prestige his famous name brought to Augustana ensured that the college’s fledgling science program had a solid foundation. When Lindahl left the college in 1888 to become Illinois State Geologist, he was replaced by a former student: J. A. Udden.

J. A. Udden

Johan August Udden was born in Sweden in 1859; his parents immigrated to Minnesota in 1861. He earned his bachelor’s in 1881 and his master’s in 1889, both from Augustana. When Augustana hired Udden in 1888, he was serving on the faculty at Bethany College in Kansas, where he had been a founder and one of the first instructors.

But Udden returned happily to Augustana. After Lindahl’s departure, responsibility for the science program was divided, effectively doubling the size of the full-time science faculty. Udden served as professor of biology and geology, while first Jacob Westlund and then Victor O. Peterson served as professor of physics and chemistry.

Yet it was Udden who had the greatest influence on the progress and reputation of Augustana’s science program at the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth centuries.

Like Lindahl, Udden was known as an excellent teacher; his dedication to student learning was such that, in the late 1890s, he spent \$100 of his own money (more than \$2500 today) on a dozen microscopes and other scientific equipment for use by Augustana students in their classes.

Udden also developed a national reputation as a geologist during and after his 1888–1911 tenure at Augustana, a reputation that, like Lindahl’s, brought prestige to the college. While at Augustana, Udden conducted the research that led to his presentation of a grain-size scale for wind deposits in *The Mechanical Composition of Wind Deposits* (1898), the first in what became a long series of Augustana Library publications.

Udden’s grain-size scale classified particles on the basis of their measurable size. For example, he defined “coarse gravel” as being 4–8 mm in diameter, “gravel” as 2–4 mm, “fine gravel” as 1–2 mm, and so on, using a consistent ratio: the diameter of

particles in each category was half that of those in the next larger category.

More than twenty years later, University of Iowa geologist C. K. Wentworth, in “A Scale of Grade and Class Terms for Clastic Sediments” (*Journal of Geology*, 1922), proposed a more thorough scale that included aqueous and glacial deposits as well as wind deposits. Wentworth used Udden’s grain-size scale as the basis for his own scale, noting that Udden’s classification scheme was the only one he could find that employed “the uniformity of ratio of the geometrical series which seems to the writer to be essential to any thorough quantitative study of the mechanical composition of sediments.”

Wentworth’s 1922 scale is known and employed by geologists to this day as the Udden-Wentworth grain-size scale.

Udden’s other most noteworthy accomplishment came after his tenure at Augustana, while he was a geologist at the Bureau of Economic Geology and Technology at the University of Texas. There, Udden’s recognition that drill cuttings could be analyzed to determine the presence of oil, gas, and water in subsurface sediments led to the discovery of oil in the West Texas basin.

But even Udden’s later accomplishments reflected well on Augustana, where he had earned both his degrees and launched his research career. Augustana granted him an honorary doctor of philosophy in 1900 and an honorary doctor of laws in 1929.

Changes to the Curriculum

In addition to his contributions as a teacher and researcher, Udden was one among a handful of faculty who encouraged curricular changes at Augustana that placed greater emphasis on the study of science.

In *A Profession of Faith* Bergendoff recounts the college’s 1895 adoption of two parallel but overlapping “courses of study”: a classical course and a scientific

course. In other words, science was singled out as an area of focus, similar to a “major” today.

The new scientific course required less Latin than the new classical course, and no Greek at all, focusing more on French and German instead, as well as natural history, geology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and astronomy. The classical course still required some science, though less than the scientific course. And both courses required what Bergendoff calls a “common core” of classes in Swedish, Christianity, history, and philosophy.

Both Bergendoff, in *A Profession of Faith*, and former Augustana President Thomas Tredway, in *Coming of Age: A History of Augustana College, 1935–1975* (2010), attribute to then-President Olof Olsson the recognition that such changes were beneficial, and even necessary, to a college and theological seminary seeking to make its way in late nineteenth-century America. Olsson understood that Augustana must focus on quality education; promote scientific inquiry; and teach Christianity as a rigorous, academic subject in order to succeed.

Part of what led to the college’s greater emphasis on science was the effort made by faculty members such as Udden, faculty who were in touch with developments in education across the country.



The “Scientifics,” an early science club, in 1894

Science in the Twentieth Century and Beyond

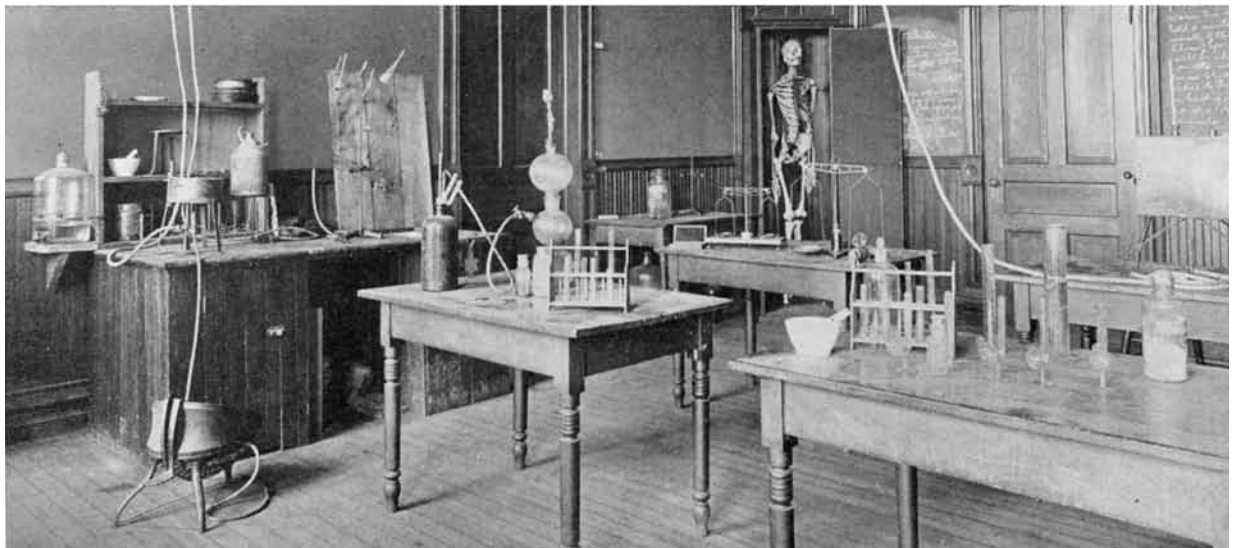
In the long run, Augustana's increasingly greater emphasis on science was not just economically practical. Rather, science at Augustana has been, in many ways, an expression of just the perspective articulated by Richard Anderson in the quote that opens this story: that is, a perspective of support and encouragement of inquiry, which Anderson's quote associates with the Lutheran church itself.

Perhaps this perspective explains why, in "Fritiof Fryxell and Augustana," Bergendoff can report on the relatively minimal fuss occasioned even by biology professors teaching Darwin's theory of natural selection—and this in the early 1920s, before the Scopes "Monkey" Trial.

As Tredway writes in *Coming of Age*, Bergendoff himself believed that "faith ... enlightened reason, and gave its discoveries their ultimate meaning"; therefore, "the final meaning and place of [the sciences'] work in the universe of learning was determined by the larger view of life which Christian faith afforded." This perspective was reflected in Bergendoff's 1935–62 presidency.

Today, the college boasts numerous excellent science programs—some of which are nationally respected—even as it maintains its ELCA affiliation and promotes discussion of religion and religious faith. That peaceful coexistence of science, religion, and religious study is not merely a 20th–21st-century phenomenon but, rather, the legacy of 150 years of science at Augustana.

STEFANIE R. BLUEMLE



Early science lab in Old Main

Reverend Henry Reck

Professor of Natural Philosophy and English,

1871–1881

Henry Reck was born near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on August 24, 1829. He attended Gettysburg College and graduated in 1850. Immediately after graduation, Reck entered Gettysburg Seminary. He was ordained as a Lutheran minister by the Pittsburg Synod in 1852. Reck served the congregations of Birmingham and Allegheny City until May 1863. He then became interested in church institutional work and took charge of an orphanage in Rochester, Pennsylvania. In 1870 he became associated with an orphanage in Jacksonville, Illinois.

Augustana College called Reck to teach at the school in Paxton, Illinois, in 1871. Reck became the head of the Natural Philosophy (science) department, and offered the first science class in Augustana's history in 1871. Reck also taught philosophy and English courses, and officially added professor of English to his duties in 1878. When Augustana decided to leave Paxton, Reck was named chairman of the committee looking for new locations for the college and, in 1872, found the Rock Island location for the new school.

Reck was appointed Vice President of Augustana upon its move to Rock Island in 1875. Reck worked hard to beautify the Rock Island campus, and President Hasselquist credited him with the land-

scaping. Reck was also the chief representative of the college to the community; he was asked by the board to visit local families and churches and collect donations for Augustana.

In September 1881, Reck's health began to fail. Teaching became impossible, so he returned home to his

father's farm in Adanis County, Pennsylvania. After ten years of service to Augustana, Reck died on October 27, 1881. He was remembered as an earnest pastor, able teacher, and enthusiastic supporter of the college. He left behind a wife, Anna R. Merring, whom he had married during his stay in Rochester, Pennsylvania, and five children: William, Samuel, Warren, Ernest, and Marion. In recognition of Reck's service to the college, Augustana awarded his widow a sum of money with which she built a house that became Fairview Academy, a boarding school for girls.



Henry Reck, 1870s

LESLIE NELLIS

Johan Harold Josua Lindahl

Professor of Natural Science, 1878–1888



Josua Lindahl, 1897

student's examination at the University of Lund on May 26, 1863. He received his doctorate in 1874, and the following year was appointed docent in zoology at the University of Lund. During a five year period before coming to the United States, Lindahl participated in many scientific expeditions and served as curator of Swedish materials at several international expositions.

In December 1878, Lindahl became a professor of natural science and mathematics at Augustana College and Theological Seminary in Rock Island, Illinois. He was the first full-time science teacher at

Josua Lindahl was born in Kungsbacka, Halland, Sweden on January 1, 1844, the son of Johan and Susanna Björkländer Lindahl. When he was ten years old his father died and Lindahl was sent to live with relatives in Karlshamn. There he attended public schools and subsequently took the

Augustana College as well as the first professor at Augustana who was not a minister. Lindahl laid the foundation for the science program at Augustana and created a natural history museum so that he could use the specimens, many of which he collected himself, in his classes.

Lindahl left Augustana in 1888 after being appointed to the position of state geologist and curator at the Illinois Natural History Museum in Springfield, Illinois. Although the collections were rich in material, the condition of the museum was chaotic, and Lindahl worked hard to put it into working order. A change in governors led to his resignation of this political position after five years. From 1895 to 1906 Lindahl was the director of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History. After leaving the Cincinnati Society, Lindahl established a salubrin laboratory (a classic Swedish ointment which eased itching and burning), of which he was the manager.

Lindahl married Sophie Pahlman on March 18, 1877. They had four children: Sven Carl, Eva Hedvig Sophia, Seth Harald, and Signe Elizabeth Ida Sophia. Lindahl passed away in Chicago on April 19, 1912.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

Johan August Udden

Professor of Natural Science and Geology,

1888–1910

Johan August Udden was born in Uddabo, Västergötland, Sweden, in 1859 to Andreas Larson and Inga Lena Udden, and immigrated to the United States with his family at the age of two. Udden attended St. Ansgar Academy in Minnesota from 1873 to 1876. He received his bachelor of science degree from Augustana College in 1881. On August 27, 1882, he married Johanna Kristina Davis; the couple had three sons: Jon Andreas, Anton David, and Svante Mauritz. In 1882, Udden accepted a teaching position at Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas, where he was professor of natural science and geology from 1882 until 1887.

In 1888 Udden returned to Augustana College to join the faculty and to teach natural science and geology. He received his master's degree in 1889 at Augustana, and honorary doctorates from Augustana in 1900 and from Bethany College in 1921. While at Augustana, Udden supervised the geology museum, which had been started by Josua Lindahl. He was also a leader of the Weatherman's Club, a forerunner of the Science Club at Augustana. After 23 years of teaching at Augustana, Udden resigned in 1910 to accept a position in the Bureau of Ecology, Geology, and Technology at the University of Texas, Austin.

Udden was active in geology outside the classroom. In the summer of 1892 he served as assistant to the state geologist of Illinois, preparing a collection for the World's Fair in Chicago. From 1899 to 1903 he worked as a special assistant to the Iowa Geological Survey. He was assistant geologist for the University of Texas Mineral Survey from 1903 until 1904, and he worked as a geologist for the Illinois Geological Survey from 1906 until 1911. He also served as special agent for the United States Geological Survey from 1906 until 1914. In addition to this work, Udden wrote numerous publications, many of them dealing with wind as a geological force. He is perhaps most famous for his development of a grain-size scale, part of which is still in use today.

Udden was a fellow of the Geological Society of America and a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. King Oscar II of Sweden decorated him with the Order of the North Star in 1929 for his distinguished service. He was a delegate to the 12th International Geological Congress, which met in Toronto, Canada, in 1913. Udden passed away January 5, 1932, in Austin, Texas.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ



J.A. Udden (second from left) visits geological formations near Peoria, IL with (l-r) S.W. Beyer (Iowa State), T.C. Chamberlin (University of Chicago), Samuel Calvin (University of Iowa), and Frank Leverett (U.S. Geological Survey) in May 1898

Augustana Day, New Day

Early Women of Augustana College

Note: Women attended Augustana as early as 1871, but not until a decade later did they actually begin studying for and receiving degrees. The first woman, Inez Rundstrom, graduated in 1885, the second, Anna Olsson, in 1888. The first woman faculty member, Anna Westman, Class of 1892, began teaching the fall after she earned her degree. Then, slowly but steadily, numbers of women increased. Women took courses across the undergraduate curriculum—Rundstrom and Westman majored in math, Olsson in philosophy and literature. They were not, however, permitted to venture up the hill into Seminary classrooms.

What would it have been like to be a woman at Augustana in those early years? The following is a composite view, reconstructed from various contemporary documents. Specifically, it refers to the span from the beginning of the nineties to the first years of the new century. By then women had their own residence, Ladies Hall, which, despite its rigid and prescriptive rules, provided a venue for companionship and relaxation after a long day of classes. A day, perhaps, like this one.

The two women referred to by name are Netta Bartholomew Anderson, Class of 1894, and Anna Olsson (noted above), Class of 1888.

The bell clangs at 6 a.m.
(You can imagine matron swinging it,
Robust and alert in the dark of dawn.)
You groan, yawn, burrow. The pillow
Is deep. Maybe you talked too much

The night before, eaten
Too many nuts and apples, as you stitched
The small white stitches of your unmentionables,
The bigger stitches of your unmentionable
Dreams...the cute boy in the high collar who smiled
at you
Across the classroom, across the bright campus...
And deeper what-ifs: I get the highest grade, I get to
go abroad, I get to...
Do something new. Something splendid. Learn
more...
Or maybe you studied late, light haloed on the page.
Excited, determined. You want to shine.
So morning comes too soon. You sit up,
Swing legs to floor. Your hair
In its long night braid swings too.
The girls—"ladies," they're called officially—
Rise around you, white nightgowned shapes,
Shuffling, bed to basin, splashing on
Wake-up water stirred with stirring light.
Some squint and grunt. Others grin.
Some, maybe, pray.
Breakfast at seven.
It's an Augustana day.

Not a bad building to look at, where you live.
You glance up at it, east of Main, just at campus
edge.
The sun, poking up the sky, taps it first.
Double house, frame with brick veneer,
To glow when the light's right. You don't leave it
Even when the rats invade. Just tuck up bare feet
And keep the lamp on all night long. --Now: to
class,

Westward across campus. Your skirt skims the
ground,
Skirling like leaves. You walk with head high, hair
piled and gleaming.
Class at 8. Your schedule might look like this:
Botany German Piano practice Philosophy Geology
English Voice Latin
Or like this
Natural history Chemistry Algebra English History
Swedish Piano Choir practice.
You sit straight in your forward-facing desks,
Listen to black-suited, white-haired professors,
Look at sun dusting the wooden floor,
At the sudden dance of stars when chalk
Breaks mid-word in the teacher's hand.
You take notes in long shaded strokes.
Listen to the boys recite.
Race music with your fingers
On key and string;
Or taste and breathe it
As light flattens (but sopranos don't).

You finish up at 5, come back to supper.
Sometimes it's bread and molasses
When college cashflow's slow as.
Evening: you settle down to study. No gentlemen
admitted.
Rustle of paper, scratch of pen, whisper of
(unauthorized)
Conversation. Then—
"Prayers, ladies."
You close your books, cork up your ink.
Listen to scripture, sing, be silent until
Free time! Nine o'clock. Apples and tea. Lights out
at ten
thirty. (Unless you're cramming.)

Quiet in your room
Maybe you pray.
Or watch at the window
To see the dreams come out
After
An Augustana day.

And what did you think and feel and want and
hope,
You in your cinched waists and chin-lifting collars?
Love? Work? Knowledge?
Did you burn, with Netta, when they said
They loved you as girls but didn't care for you as
students?
Scorned "women's rights"? Thought education for
you
A waste of time? Did you want to torch convention,
Claim your place, hike up your clogging skirts and
run,
Run shouting with the voice you'd found, forced
them
To hear? Or, like Anna, did you love it—the look of
campus, its paths
Gentle beneath your feet, the sun on the hills and
strewn across
The far river? Did you love the silence when you
could sit
On Zion Hill on your own private tree stump, book
across your knees,
Looking down when you looked up,
Reading away the light
Till it went inside you, deep,
And you stood up glowing like a lamp?
Did you worry? Wonder? Welcome
The new day that waited
Just off the edge of the hill?

ANN BOADEN



Women sledding near Old Main, from the 1915 *Rockety-I*



A tea party, from the 1915 *Rockety-I*

A. W. Williamson

Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy, 1880–1905



Andrew W. Williamson

Andrew Woods Williamson was born January 31, 1838, in Lac qui Parle, Chippewa County, Minnesota. His father was a Presbyterian minister who worked as a missionary and physician to the Dakota Sioux Indians. In 1853, at the age of 15, Williamson enrolled at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois. Four years later, in 1857, he graduated from Marietta College in Ohio. He then earned his master's degree in natural science from Yale University.

Through all his schooling, Williamson believed that his vocation was to be an educator. He began teaching in public schools in Minnesota in 1861. However, his teaching career was interrupted with the start of the Civil War. Williamson enlisted in the United States army and served for the entirety of the war. He was first stationed at Fort Ridgely, Minnesota, near the Sioux Indians he had grown up with, and then took part in the Vicksburg campaigns. He was honorably discharged in 1866 after contracting swamp fever.

After the war, Williamson went back to school, this time studying law in Minneapolis. His time in law school was short-lived, however, as he accepted a call to teach at Central College Academy, where he would remain until he became ill in 1870. For

the next ten years, Williamson taught at a variety of schools until his health forced him to give up teaching. He then took up shop-keeping in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota. As his health returned, he began teaching at public schools once more. In 1877, after his conversion to Lutheranism, Williamson began teaching mathematics at Gustavus Adolphus College, where he remained for three years.

Williamson came to Augustana College in 1880 as the chair of the mathematics and astronomy departments. During his 26 years at Augustana, Williamson served as secretary of the general faculty and as vice-president from 1887 to 1888.

In 1905, Williamson's health was failing; however, he did not want to leave the school or give up teaching. The students and faculty threw him a farewell reception in November of 1905, where he said his goodbyes to the Augustana community. A student resolution praising Williamson also appeared in the *Observer*. He died on October 1, 1906, in Portland, Oregon.

Williamson is remembered as a quirky teacher who loved to tell stories from his life with the Sioux and his experiences during the Civil War. He always had salted peanuts in his pockets, was famous for talking to himself while crossing campus, and was a great supporter of Augustana athletics. He was also admired for his generosity to students in need and for his charitable donations to the college. In 1910, Williamson's former students erected a monument in memory of their professor at his gravesite.

Anna Westman

Instructor of Mathematics, 1892–1894

Assistant in English, 1896–1897

Anna Lovisa Westman was born January 7, 1863, in Säby, Jönköping, Sweden. She was one of seven children. In 1868, her family immigrated to Chicago, later moving to the Illinois prairies. Anna enrolled in Augustana's Preparatory Department, which acted like a high school, when she was 23, and two years later became a student at Augustana College. Westman elected to take the "scientific course," or major, an unusual choice for a woman of her time. While Westman's studies would have included courses in many scientific disciplines, she concentrated on mathematics, studying under popular professor Andrew Woods Williamson.

In 1891, her senior year, Westman was named principal of Augustana's Ladies' Hall, the home of Augustana's female students. There she would have had a function something like that of the director of a boarding house. Westman graduated from Augustana in 1892; she was only the third woman to graduate from the college. Upon her graduation, Westman was offered a position as instructor of mathematics, thus becoming Augustana's first female faculty member. While teaching at Augustana, Westman studied for her master's in English, also taking classes in Italian and philosophy, although there is no record of her completing another degree. In 1894–1895, Westman studied at the University of Berlin. In 1896 she returned to Augustana, where she taught English for a year. Then, at age 34, she left both Augustana and academia and moved to Cleveland, Ohio.

Westman died on August 1, 1910. A year after her death, a donor who wished to remain anonymous established the Anna Westman Stipend, to be awarded to a woman studying at Augustana. The memorial fund honors Westman as a "friend and helper of young women struggling, like herself, to obtain a college education."

Information on Anna Westman is very scarce; most of the information included here comes from Ann Boaden's article "The Vocation of the Mind: Augustana College's First Three Women Graduates" (Part III), published in The Lutheran Journal.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ



Senior class of 1892, with Anna Westman in center

The Old Main Story

Designs, Domes and Dolomite

Old Main, the best-beloved and most well-known building on the Augustana College campus, and a cultural monument to the achievements of nineteenth-century Swedish immigrants, did not have an easy journey to its present form. In 1884, at the request of the faculty, the Augustana Synod, the governing body of Augustana College and Theological Seminary, authorized plans for a new academic building. A building committee was formed and John Enander, a leading Swedish-American journalist, suggested that the design for the building be based upon that of a new building at the University of Uppsala in Sweden.

Davenport architect E.S. Hammatt made drawings for the proposed building, and a rendering of the potential structure appeared in the 1883–1884 college catalog. The building was intended to be for academic purposes only, in contrast to the Main Building, which had both academic space and living quarters for students. The building would have room for the library and museum, a space specifically for the seminary, and a two-story chapel in one of the wings. Augustana wanted to build a building that was not only useful, but also one that would be “monumental,” for the ages, and as beautiful and imposing as possible.

Objections were soon raised to the original design because of its mix of stone and brick and the mix of architectural styles. Also, at least one member of the committee expressed the wish that the building have a dome; Americans, he claimed, would expect this feature. Thus, Chicago architect L.G. Hallberg was

asked to supply the college with a new design. His revised plans were in the Renaissance style, which the synod publication *Hemlandet* described as a universal style, providing examples of buildings in Renaissance style from both Sweden and the United States.

The cornerstone for the building that would become Old Main was laid on November 6, 1884, at a service commemorating Luther’s Reformation Thesis. A gift of \$25,000 from P.L. Cable of Rock Island enabled the board to authorize the use of stone for the whole building and the addition of the dome despite the added costs of these features. The addition of the dome would also require revisions to the foundation in order for the building to bear the extra weight. The stone used for the building was buff-colored dolomite from quarries near LeClaire, Iowa.

Work on the building was slow. In November 1885, stained glass windows for the chapel and two staircases were installed with money raised by a young people’s society in Galesburg, Illinois. Finally, on February 2, 1888, a procession from the first college building to Old Main took place and use of the new building began. Only some of the rooms were ready, however, and work continued on the rest of the building. In addition to classroom space, the new building contained a faculty room named Cable Hall in honor of P.L. Cable and his generous gifts to the building fund. An organ and opera chairs were added to the chapel, which seated 500 and would become the site not only of religious services but also

of meetings, musical rehearsals and performances, and public lectures.

Memorial Hall, as it was officially known, was dedicated in June of 1889 during the Augustana Synod convention. The dome remained incomplete, however. It was finally finished in 1893 in time for the Jubilee celebrating the 300th anniversary of Sweden’s establishment as a Lutheran nation, and could be seen for several miles across the Mississippi River. Although officially known as Memorial Hall, this name seems to have been used infrequently and the building was generally called the “New College Building” during its earliest years, while in the 1920s it became the “Main College Building.” It was

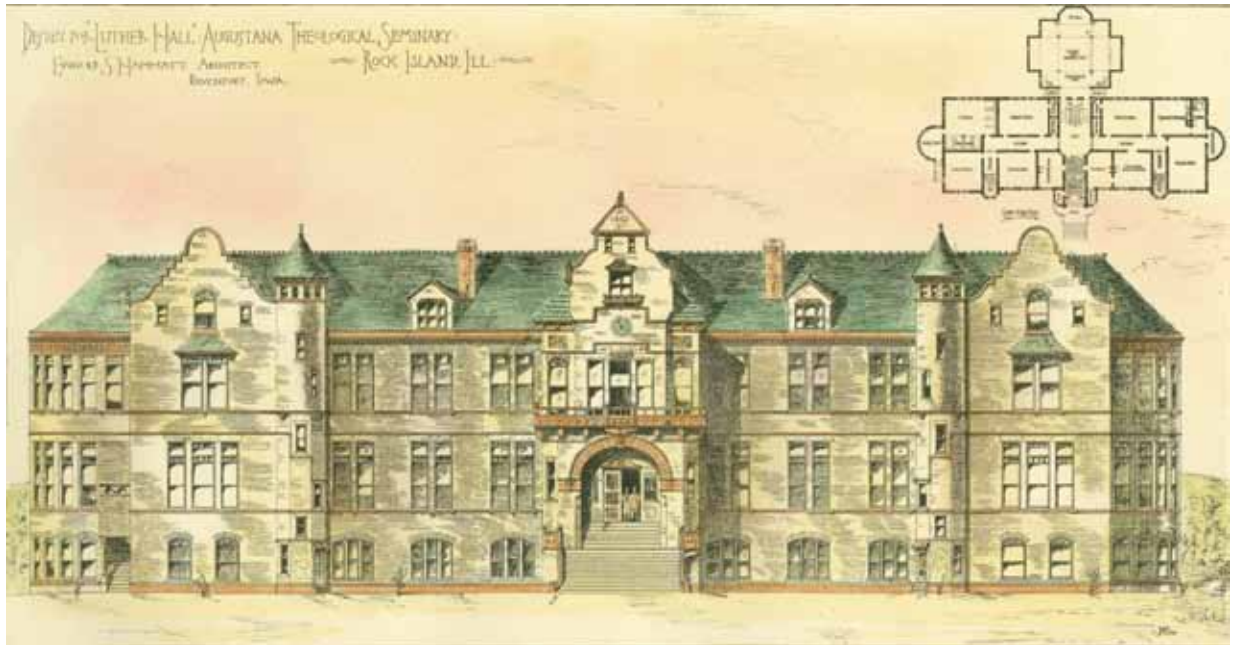
only in the 1935–1936 catalog that the building was officially called “Old Main” for the first time.

Since its completion, Old Main has undergone numerous renovations, the most extensive of which removed the chapel and remodeled the whole building as classroom space. Today, Old Main houses humanities and language departments as well as providing classroom space. It remains, however, in the words of President Conrad Bergendoff, “a place of countless and precious memories and a landmark both physically and spiritually.”

SARAH M. HOROWITZ



Original design for Old Main as shown in the 1883–1884 *Augustana Catalog*



Second design for Old Main, from *American Architect and Building News*, 1884



Old Main Chapel

Anders Bersell

Professor of Greek, 1880–1903

Anders Olof Bersell was born on May 16, 1853, in Mora Parish, Utmedland, Sweden. His parents were not spiritual and neither was Bersell at the beginning of his life. He was well educated and began teaching in his hometown of Mora in 1868, at the age of 15. After recovering from typhoid fever, however, he felt a calling towards the church.

Bersell left teaching in 1872 and began to study at Fjellstedt's school in Uppsala, a famous school for those interested in missionary and ministerial work. At the age of 19, he began to study at Uppsala University. In May 1880, Bersell graduated from the university and, one month later, he married Uma Botilda Lagerlund. He taught briefly at a mission school in Stockholm, and then received two calls to teach in the United States, at Gustavus Adolphus College and at Augustana College. Bersell chose the teaching job in Rock Island at Augustana College.

At Augustana, Bersell mainly taught Greek, although he also taught German, Swedish, Latin, and various philosophical and religious subjects throughout his career. To earn extra money to support his ever-growing family, he also worked

for the Augustana Book Concern, where he translated a number of books, wrote a Swedish ABC book and reader, translated three hymnals, and edited a Greek grammar and literature text for freshman entitled *Notes on Greek Grammar*. Bersell worked hard to raise the academic standards of Augustana College, and was well-respected

by faculty members and students. Bersell was sickly, however, and was forced to decline the offer of the vice-presidency of Augustana due to his failing health. In 1894, Augustana gave Bersell an honorary doctorate in recognition of his service to the college. He died on December 16, 1903, leaving behind his wife and twelve children.



Anders Bersell

LESLIE NELLIS

Gustav Erik Stolpe

Professor of Music, 1882–1893



Gustav Stolpe

In 1882, Gustav Erik Stolpe was invited to become the first full-time faculty member in music at Augustana College and Theological Seminary. No one is quite sure why he accepted, because Stolpe was already a well known musician in Sweden, accomplished in

teaching, performance, and composition. He came from a long line of organists and had earned the degree of Music Director at the Royal Conservatory in Stockholm. Among his stellar credentials was accompanying Jenny Lind on a tour of Sweden. Why would a successful artist in Sweden, at the age of 48, move from his beloved home country to an outpost in the middle west of America?

We can guess. For one thing, he was independent and emotionally tough. His mother died when he was 12; he played the organ at her funeral, including the funeral march that he composed for the occasion. Perhaps Gustav Stolpe had the grit and determination he would need to start a new life in America.

By the time he made a concert tour of the United States, in 1881, his wife Engel had died and his son Mauritz had already immigrated to America.

Perhaps he felt that his family ties lay in the U.S. Most of all, the musician with a big personality and indefatigable energy, it seems, enjoyed a challenge, especially one where he was in control.

Stolpe would need all the energy he could muster to teach music at Augustana. In a typical week in the year 1886-87, he taught seven organ lessons, six violin lessons, and ten vocal lessons, as well as classes in history and theory. He played organ, violin, and piano; accompanied students; joined trios and quintets; conducted various music groups; served as organist at the Moline Lutheran Church; and continued to compose, leaving at the time of his death a corpus of work that included 38 operettas, 25 orchestral works, 25 pieces for brass band, 25 piano solos, and more.

Stolpe's major contribution to the development of music at Augustana was his founding of the Conservatory in 1886. The numbers are staggering. When Stolpe joined the college faculty in 1882, only 25 students had graduated from the institution. The Conservatory began with 17 students in 1886. When Stolpe left the college seven years later, in 1893, the Conservatory enrolled 157 students. And his influence was marked. His students went on to teach at the college and at other Lutheran colleges around the country.

Stolpe resigned from the college in 1893 because of a disagreement with the administration over the merging of his Conservatory choir with the Oratorio Society. No doubt he was bruised by the experience

and felt underappreciated. Perhaps he secretly exulted over the fact that it took a group of no less than five instructors to replace him. After a few years running a small music school in Rock Island, Stolpe moved to New York, then headed the music department at Upsala College in New Jersey where he died in 1901.

Fifteen years later, in 1916, Stolpe was honored in a memorial printed in the *Augustana Bulletin* written by a former student, Professor Adolf Hult of the Augustana Theological Seminary, who finally delivered the praise Stolpe would have relished and that he deserved. Hailing Stolpe as the "greatest church musician of the Augustana Synod," Hult goes on to suggest that Stolpe never quite meshed

with the "Twin Cities" communities he inhabited: "He lived and died in our land as one of us, even if his European carriage, his transatlantic thoroughness, the Swedish gentleman-spirit of the noblest type, his culture worked into his character, even if this and yet more gave proof of the fact that he was not one of us."

In 1976, Sven Hansell wrote a paper about Stolpe. The subtitle reads: "The Most Significant Teacher, Composer and Performer Among Swedish-American Immigrants of the Midwest During the Late 19th Century." No doubt Gustav Stolpe would have liked this pronouncement as his epitaph.

MARGARET ROGAL

Augustana Student Life in the 1890s *As Seen Through Lydia Olsson's Diaries*

I met Lydia Olsson this past summer while working in Augustana's Special Collections. When I say met, I mean it in the most figurative sense of the word. Lydia Olsson, the youngest daughter of former Augustana president and professor Olof Olsson, died more than half a century ago. However, Lydia lives on in the college archives. I found her while browsing the manuscript collections in search of something new and exciting. What I discovered was the story of an intelligent and independent young woman making her way through life at Augustana College.

Lydia left a record of her life behind in her many journals, five of which we are lucky enough to have. Although I never met Lydia in person, and will unfortunately never have the chance, I feel I know her as well as my closest friends. I have laughed at her opinions on men, grimaced at her never-ending list of chores, relished her descriptions of campus life, and mourned for her doomed romance. More than anything, I have embraced the opportunity to learn about Lydia. Her diaries reveal the story of a strong-willed, clever young woman who lived and worked at Augustana College in the last years before the turn of the twentieth century. During those years, Lydia had no car, computer, or cell phone. She was not allowed to vote, nor did she have the freedom of choice that most young women have today. But Lydia did not need any of these things to live her life in her own distinct way. Getting to know Lydia has made me reflect on my own Augustana story. Her experiences have made me wonder – what will Augustana students be like in another 150 years?

Lydia Olsson and her family moved to Rock Island in 1887 so Olof could teach at Augustana College. She was 17 when she entered the second level of the Preparatory Department, Augustana's pre-college program, in 1891. During the next decade, Lydia took classes in phonography and typewriting, elocution and physical culture, voice, and china painting. She became the college's assistant librarian, and then the head librarian, in the late 1890s. She participated in social and academic clubs, sang in the choir, and attended parties and lectures. Her whirlwind of activities kept her busy, but she always managed to have fun.

*Was at Sarah's for supper and then we went to Chapel together. Mahnquist stared at us and smiled a long while, which made us nearly croak. I told Sarah I could see my picture in his greasy hair. Everybody has gone to bed and here I am sitting writing such nonsense. I am wicked! [Sunday, January 29, 1893]**

Lydia enjoyed school as much as she enjoyed her constant round of social events. She never complained about her academic work, instead exclaiming, "pray let me learn as long as I live" [Wednesday, December 21, 1892]. Lydia particularly took pleasure in learning the skills of typewriting and shorthand. She often wrote passages of her diary in shorthand – especially when she wanted to keep a secret from prying eyes! While she could not practice typing in her diary, she often mentioned her typewriting classes.

Great Ceasar! He drilled us four on the type-writer for speed to-day and my how we did go at it. I got six

letters written in 30 min. Ella got 4 so did Carnagan, don't know how many Hull got; of course I had written it before several times. [Tuesday, November 22, 1892]

Without a doubt, Lydia liked life on the Rock Island campus. But what student's life would be complete without a few complaints here and there? Much like the students of today, Lydia made it clear when something did not live up to her standards.

It's raining and I never saw such roads, it's perfectly scandalous that R.I. can't afford to pave their College street. They ought to be punished! [Tuesday, December 6, 1892]

Though she might have had complaints, Lydia was saddened to see her student days end. By 1894 she had finished her academic work at the college. She continued to live on campus with her family and still took part in the college's social life. However, she often felt useless and unproductive. Like many Augustana graduates, she wanted to have a purpose in life. She yearned for some new activity to fill her days.

If I had a regular work of something and earnt a little money regularly I would feel as tho' I had some mission to fulfill in this world, but now sometimes I feel as tho I were no earthly use or good. [Thursday, January 4, 1894]

Her wish was soon granted by Reverend Johannes Jespersion, a family friend and college administrator. Lydia became the assistant librarian for Augustana, and spent her days reading among shelves of books and artifacts (at that time the library was housed on the third floor of Old Main and shared space with the College Museum). While she did enjoy the time to read, it does not seem as if she was the strictest librarian.

Ceder came into the reading room this afternoon and as he closed the door he spied E. Lofgren then. It made me nearly explode of laughter for the reason that he teases me so for him and says he has heard that EL is always in there. I tell him it is lonely and I need some company oftern. [Thursday, May 3, 1894]

Lydia's humor and lighthearted character served her well throughout her life on campus, and her job allowed her to give back to the school she loved so much. She might not have been the most typical student (just being a woman set her apart), but I think she certainly embodied the Augustana spirit. Even though the parties and classes have changed, can we really say the students of today are so very different from Lydia? Whether we are searching for new ways to succeed in life, or grumbling about any changes to our beloved campus, Augustana students in 2010 have quite a bit in common with Augustana students in the 1890s. Who is to say the same won't be true in another 150 years?

I have had the pleasure, and honor, to get to know Lydia Olsson over the past few months. I am amazed at how much our lives overlap, and how different they can be. Since I already had an interest in Augustana history, I am sure I was drawn into Lydia's life more quickly than some might be. But I think everyone on campus has something in common with Lydia, and with the many other Augustana students of decades past. So whether you are a first-year just beginning your time at Augie, a senior finishing up your last, or an alumnus far away from campus, I encourage you to spend a few minutes thinking about your own Augustana story, and how it connects with those of past and future students.

REBECCA HOPMAN

*Lydia's original spelling, grammar, and word choice are retained throughout this article to maintain the character and the authenticity of her voice.

The Lydia Olsson diaries (1892–1896) are part of the Olof Olsson papers (MSS 3), and are housed in Augustana Special Collections, on the first floor of the Thomas Tredway Library. The diaries, as well as more information on Lydia, are available upon request for further study.



The Olsson family: Olof Olsson is in the center, surrounded by his children Anna, Maria (Mia), Lydia, and Johnannes



Ladies' Chorus in Swedish costumes in 1898; Lydia is second from left in the front row, in the striped skirt

Claude William Foss

Professor of History, 1884–1932

Claude William Foss was born on August 28, 1855, in Geneva, Illinois, to Charles and Charlotte Erickson Foss. He had three older sisters who had been born in Sweden. The Foss family attended one of the churches that Reverend Erland Carlsson, a founder of Augustana College, had started in 1853. At the age of three, Foss and his family moved to Goodhue, Minnesota, where he attended public school and the Red Wing Collegiate Institute. In the fall of 1879 Foss enrolled at Augustana College; he graduated in 1883 after pursuing studies in both the classical and scientific courses.

While at Augustana Foss impressed faculty members with his aptitude and work. He was hired immediately after his graduation to fill Professor W.F. Eyster's position as an instructor of English and history. In 1884 Foss was named the chair of the history and political science department, a position he held until his retirement in 1932. Foss was known as an enthusiastic teacher who could make history live.

In 1886 Foss was elected vice-president of Augustana, and he served twice as acting president after the deaths of President Hasselquist and President Olsson. Foss was a member of the board of directors of the Augustana Book Concern from 1901 to 1927. He made great efforts to collect and preserve records relating to the history of the Augustana Synod and Augustana College, an interest which led him to become a founding member of the Augustana Historical Society in 1930; he served as its president until his death. Foss also collected Swedish-American newspapers for Augustana's

archives, of which he was the curator until 1932. Foss earned two honorary degrees from Augustana: a master's degree in 1899 and a doctorate in 1900.

Outside his work at Augustana, Foss served as the editor of several periodicals, including the *Augustana Quarterly*.

He wrote *Glimpses of Three Continents*, an account of his travels, but focused his scholarly efforts mainly on translations, of which *Masterpieces from Swedish Literature* and Carl Grimberg's *History of Sweden* are the best known. He also translated several songs for the hymnal of the Augustana Lutheran Church. Foss was an active member of the Rock Island Public Library Board and also served as a city councilman from 1893 to 1897.

Foss married Sarah Margaret Shuey on August 2, 1887. The Fosses had no children, but raised an orphaned niece, Martha. Foss retired from Augustana and was named professor emeritus in 1932 after 49 years of service to the school. He died three years later on February 8, 1935.



C.W. Foss outside Old Main

Finding out What They Might Do

The Beginning of Women's Athletics at Augustana

"The honor which the co-eds have brot [sic] has, perhaps, not been so great as that which the boys have brot, nor have they triumphantly borne home any shield. But who knows what they might do if given a chance?"

Blanche Carpenter, a.k.a. the aggressive and indefatigable "Carp" of women's basketball, wrote this in 1917, when her team had played and won four games. Her words encapsulate the early history of women's athletics at Augustana: getting chances to prove "what they might do."



Blanche Carpenter, from the 1914-1915 women's basketball team



Anne Greve, from the 1934 *Rockety-I*

Those chances came slowly. Amid a cultural milieu that looked warily at the robust woman, especially if her limbs were uncovered, Augustana's first gym class for women was organized in the 1890s. Attired in securely fastened high necked blouses, "voluminous bloomers," and skirts "a daring eight inches from the floor," the students cast off bustles and stays and engaged in "proper exercises, movements, marches, etc." By the first decade of the twentieth century, strict propriety yielded to competitive vigor. Women were cycling, playing tennis, and facing off against Macomb, Normal, and Monmouth in basketball. In 1919 the Woman's Club successfully petitioned the college to hire a "girls' gymnastic teacher," and requested time in the newly-built gymnasium.

But those efforts weren't sufficient, according to 1920s student Maude Adams. Not until 1924, she claims, did Augustana "at last become interested in girls' athletics" which "have been held down until a few energetic workers have given their attention to that fact..." The leader of these "energetic workers" was Anne Catherine Greve, Augustana's first director of women's athletics.

Under Greve, who assumed faculty status while still a student at the college, women's athletics did indeed "bloom forth." Young, fit, and pretty, with short curly hair and an engaging grin, Greve nevertheless knew how and where to apply pressure to achieve her goals. Chief among those goals was defined in her slogan: "Every girl an athlete participating in at least one sport," and in her decade-long tenure

at Augustana she came near making that happen. The sheer variety of sports she organized, usually with just one paid student assistant, is amazing: two girls' varsity basketball teams, baseball, volleyball, and tennis teams, a Red Cross Lifesaving Corps, archery, horseback riding, and riflery programs. She also served as advisor for the Augustana Girls Athletic Association and the elite Valkyries squad. By the time she left in 1934, Augustana not only held its own with other schools of comparable size, but could "justly...boast...one of the most highly developed girls' athletic departments of any college in the state."

It took some fighting. The yearbook records frankly that to gain facilities space and practice time Greve

and her "girls" had to buck "conservative thought, sarcastic word, and common practice."

Greve's work ushered in the impressive growth of women's athletics under her successors Jane Sweet Brissman, Janan Effland, Diane Schumacher, and Liesl Fowler. Today Augustana women participate in intercollegiate basketball, cross country, softball, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball, and most recently lacrosse. They've racked up College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) titles in basketball, cross country, swimming, track and field, soccer, and volleyball—all when "given the chance." Blanche Carpenter could have predicted it.

ANN BOADEN



The Rena Basketball Club in 1900

Edward Fry Bartholomew

Professor of English Literature and Philosophy, 1888–1932



E.F. Bartholomew

Known as Augustana's "Grand Old Man," Edward Fry Bartholomew was born in Sunbury, Pennsylvania, on March 24, 1846. His parents were of English and German heritage. The first school he attended was Freeburg Academy, Freeburg, Pennsylvania. During his years at the acad-

emy he taught district school in several places, thus earning money toward his education. At the age of nineteen he entered the Missionary Institute at Selinsgrove (later Susquehanna University). In the fall of 1868, he transferred to Pennsylvania College (later Gettysburg College), where he received his bachelor's degree in 1871, graduating with high honors. He also earned his master's degree from Gettysburg College in 1874.

In 1874, Carthage College in Carthage, Illinois, offered Bartholomew the chair of natural and physical sciences. In the fall of 1883, he took a position as professor of English at Mount Morris College, in Mount Morris, Illinois, which he held until 1884, when he was asked to become president of Carthage College. He served in this capacity for four years. In the spring of 1888, he resigned from Carthage and accepted the chair of the English literature and

philosophy departments of Augustana College and Theological Seminary.

The position at Augustana was to be his last and longest, extending over a period of 44 years. In 1894 and 1895 Bartholomew took a leave of absence and traveled to Germany to study at the University of Berlin. Upon his return to teaching in 1895 Bartholomew received an honorary doctorate from Augustana. Bartholomew taught steadily until 1932 when he resigned his teaching position at Augustana. Though retired, he was recalled in the spring of 1935 to teach two hours a week; he was 89 years old.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities at Augustana, Bartholomew would also often offer chapel sermons (famous among those who heard them) or devotions on campus and was active in the community. He was widely known in the Quad Cities area as an eloquent speaker and lecturer. He authored several books, including, most notably, *The Relation of Psychology to Music* (1899), *The Psychology of Prayer* (1922), and *Biblical Pedagogy* (1927). He also served as pastor of five different congregations at various points in his life.

Throughout his career, Bartholomew kept in close contact with Carthage College where he would return to give lectures or attend events. In token of their high esteem for Bartholomew, Carthage College awarded him the following honorary degrees: a Doctor of Divinity degree in 1888, a

Doctor of Humane Letters degree in 1912, and a Doctor of Law degree in 1930.

Bartholomew celebrated his one hundredth birthday on March 24, 1946, and received callers at home although he was recovering from a stroke. He passed away a few months later, on June 10, 1946.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

The Handel Oratorio Society

On an early April evening in 1879, Augustana professor of theology Olof Olsson, on leave from his position at Augustana College and Theological Seminary, attended a concert in London of Handel's *Messiah* that rocked his soul and profoundly influenced the direction of music at Augustana and in its surrounding community. Olsson wrote of his experience: "At times I was so carried away that I was hardly aware of myself. When the whole choir and orchestra came to the chorus, 'He shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, God' it penetrated marrow and bone and I feared I could not overcome the trembling I experienced ... Here the Christian hope has found its most glorious musical expression."

Professor Olsson determined to develop this transformative musical and religious experience in his small college on the banks of the Mississippi in the United States. Back in Rock Island in the summer of 1880, he rallied friends and acquaintances and "without much fuss the Handel Society was organized"; the group consisted of students and choirs in Moline, Rock Island, and Andover, Illinois. Their

first concert was presented in Moline on April 11, 1881, as part of the celebration of Holy Week, almost two years after that momentous concert in London.

In 1898, the group was renamed the "Handel Oratorio Society" and nearly every year since, the society, made up of college and community musicians, has performed Handel's *Messiah* as well as other oratorios. The Handel Oratorio Society is one of the reasons that Augustana College has built strong cultural ties with the Quad Cities. In 1906, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary concert of the Society, the *Observer* reported, "An appreciative audience which taxed the chapel to its utmost... was not disappointed. The members of the chorus... sang as they had never sung before." To celebrate its 100th anniversary, the society commissioned Charles Wuorinen's "The Celestial Sphere," which premiered April 25th, 1981 at Augustana College. The Society's Christmas season performances of the *Messiah* have become a Quad Cities tradition.

MARGARET ROGAL



Oratorio Society on stage in Old Main Chapel, 1915



Oratorio Society 100th anniversary performance of "The Celestial Sphere," 1981

C.L.E. Esbjörn

Professor of Languages, 1887–1939



C.L.E. Esbjörn, 1910s

returned to Sweden, where his father accepted a call to become the rector of Östervåla parish. About nine years later, after the death of his father, Carl Esbjörn, along with his mother, his two brothers, Constantin and Paul, and his two sisters, Maria and Hannah, returned to the United States and settled in Swedona, Illinois. Both Carl and Constantin attended their first year of college at Augustana in Paxton, Illinois. Esbjörn continued his education after Augustana's move to Rock Island and graduated in 1880 at the age of 18.

In the fall of 1880, Esbjörn began his teaching career as an assistant teacher in modern languages at Augustana. After a year of teaching, he went to the University of Michigan, where he obtained a master's degree in language. In 1883, Esbjörn taught at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. In 1887 he returned to Augustana as a professor

Born in Chicago, Illinois, on November 26, 1862, Carl Linus Eugene Esbjörn was the son of Lars Paul Esbjörn, a well-known leader in the Augustana Synod and the first president of Augustana College and Theological Seminary. Esbjörn was about a year old when his family

of language. His fifty-two years of teaching at Augustana were interrupted only for post-graduate study at the University of Leipzig, the Sorbonne, and the University of Chicago. Esbjörn taught a plethora of languages at Augustana: German, French, Spanish, Greek, Latin, Hebrew, and English. He often used singing in his classes, especially his German classes, and was remembered by his students as a real musician. Esbjörn also became a librarian at Augustana, and organized the Charles XV collection, books which had been presented to the college by the King of Sweden as the basis for its first library.

Esbjörn had a wide range of interests outside his teaching. One was simplified spelling; his work on this subject attracted the interest of the Carnegie Foundation. Esbjörn's interest in contemporary social issues can be seen in his awareness of the temperance question (he was known to favor prohibitionist candidates) and his concern about world peace. He donated money to Augustana College for the creation of a fund to be used for international peace, which today is known as the C.E. Esbjörn Memorial Peace Fund.

On December 30, 1939, Esbjörn left his home on 34th Street in Rock Island to mail a letter and was struck by a car and killed while crossing 7th Avenue. He was survived by his wife, the former Mrs. Mae Sauerma, whom he had married in 1925.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

Nils Forsander

Professor of Theology, 1889–1915

Nils Forsander was born in Gladsax, Skåne, Sweden, on September 11, 1846. He studied at a public college in Lund, then continued his studies at a private college in the same city. During the summer of 1870, Forsander met T. N. Hasselquist, President of Augustana College and Theological Seminary, in Sweden. The next fall, Forsander accompanied Hasselquist to Paxton, Illinois, where he completed the theological course required for entering the ministry of the Augustana Synod. During the illness of Professor A. J. Lindström, Forsander taught his Greek and Latin classes. Forsander was ordained in 1873 and worked in many different congregations including Aledo, Sagetown, and Raritan, Illinois, from 1873–1875; Kossuth, Iowa, from 1875–1880; and the Bethesda Church in Page County, Iowa, from 1880–1890. Between the years 1887 and 1890, Forsander worked as the secretary of the Illinois and Iowa Conferences of the Augustana Synod. Forsander married Johanna Charlotta Ahlgren of Burlington, Iowa, on January 6, 1875.

In 1889, Forsander was called to Augustana College and Theological Seminary as a theology professor. He taught courses in church history, symbolics, isagogics, homiletics, pastoral theology, and apologetics. In 1894, Forsander was awarded an honorary doctorate of divinity by the Board of Trustees of Augustana College. In 1907, King Oscar II of Sweden awarded him the Order of the North Star. He was so well liked by his students that for his 60th birthday, they gave him a bust of Olaus Petri (a major figure of the Protestant Reformation in Sweden) by the artist Jean Le Veau. During his time at Augustana, he was a devoted teacher, editor,

and author. He also invested a great deal of money in the school by setting up and contributing to scholarship funds. Forsander left Augustana in 1915.

In addition to his dedication to teaching, Forsander was very active

as a writer. He began writing as a young man by translating hymns from German to Swedish. He wrote in both English and Swedish, and wrote many theological texts. Forsander was a diligent reader and accumulated a large library focusing on theological literature, some of which survives today in Special Collections. He edited and contributed to the journals *Augustana*, *Luthersk Kvartalskrift*, *Ungdomsvännen*, *Korsbaneret*, *The Lutheran*, *The Lutheran Church Review*, *The Independent*, and *Hemvännen*, as well as many other periodicals. He was also an editor for a Swedish-English theological quarterly *Tidskrift för teologi och kyrklig a frågor*. Forsander wrote a historical sketch of the Augustana Synod, as well an encyclopedia of the Lutheran Church in Sweden. He translated many works from German and wrote a commentary on the unaltered Augsburg Confession, the founding document of Lutheranism, which was published in two editions.



Nils Forsander, 1900s

Augie Wants Football!

Augustana's Ban on Intercollegiate Athletics

The October 1905 *Augustana Observer* brought what was to some disturbing news: “the athletic department of the Augustana Observer promises to be an unimportant feature this year on account of the action taken at the recent synodical meeting at Stanton, IA. The decision taken by this honorable body is deplored by many of the students at the institution...” The decision in question was that of the Augustana Synod, the church body governing Augustana College and Theological Seminary, to ban all intercollegiate contests in football, basketball, and baseball. The synod members felt that intercollegiate competition was harmful to the physical and moral development of young people and had a detrimental effect on their congregations. Instead of intercollegiate athletics, the synod urged its colleges to offer systematic education in gymnastics and encourage participation in outdoor activities.

Although the ban led to a lack of intercollegiate competition, athletics at Augustana did not die. Instead, intramural sports became popular. Most classes at Augustana supported a basketball team; the *Observer* regularly reported on the outcomes of matches between, for instance, the juniors and seniors. There were also several popular tennis clubs. In February 1907, the *Observer* reported on the founding of a new athletic organization, the Olympic Club, which was “to further the interests of athletics among its members and to receive a systematic training in general gymnastics.” Augustana teams also played local community and high school teams, especially during baseball season.

Some members of the Augustana community felt that the athletic ban was deleterious to Augustana. Colleges from other branches or conferences of the synod which defied the ban on intercollegiate athletics were increasing their enrollment, often at Augustana's expense. In June of 1908, the Augustana Synod rejected a petition for the reinstatement of intercollegiate athletics signed by 500 students from Augustana and Gustavus Adolphus Colleges. Then, in June of 1910, the synod reinstated all intercollegiate sports with the exception of football. It would be on football that student activism, including yearly petitions to the synod asking for football's reinstatement, would focus in the coming years.

The increasing agitation of the student body on behalf of football can be seen in the *Observer*, exemplified by pieces such as a “Football Ode,” which ends with the following unambiguous and emphatic lines:

What we want is simply football,
Football now, and ever football.
Football, football, football, football!!!

The ode appeared in the December 1913 *Observer*, which also contains an account of a student protest in favor of restoring intercollegiate football at the end of a freshman-sophomore game.

The issue of football came to a head at the June 1917 Augustana Synod meeting. One of those who spoke in favor of allowing football was Rev. Emil F. Bergren, who had been the captain of the last Augustana football team, in 1904. When the vote

was finally called, it was 216 in favor of allowing college boards of directors to decide what sports were allowed, and 140 against, a decision which led to applause from Augustana students in the audience. Rev. E.E. Ryden, class of 1910, closed his account of the synod debate, published in the *Observer*, with the following advice to Augustana students: “insist on the highest moral as well as physical standards, prove to the world that an Augustana student, even

in football garb, can be a consistent Christian, and then—hit the line hard!” On Saturday, October 27, 1917, Augustana played its first intercollegiate football game in over a dozen years, defeating Iowa Wesleyan 35 to 6 and inaugurating a new era in athletics at Augustana.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ



Students demonstrating for the return of intercollegiate football in 1914

C.E. Lindberg

Professor of Theology, 1890–1930



C.E. Lindberg

Conrad Emil Lindberg was born in Jönköping, Sweden, on June 9, 1852. His first college education was in the gymnasium of his native city. In 1871, Lindberg came to the United States and attended Augustana College and Theological Seminary. He gradu-

ated from the seminary and was ordained on June 28, 1874. However, the Augustana Synod urged him to enroll in the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia to continue his studies. Immediately after graduating in 1876, he was offered a position at the Swedish Lutheran Church of Minneapolis, but he declined, as he wanted to stay close to city life and further educational opportunities. Therefore, Zion Church in Philadelphia became his first position as a pastor. In 1879, Lindberg accepted a call from Gustavus Adolphus Church in New York City. There, he was a very successful preacher and leader for Swedish immigrants. He helped build a beautiful church through his fundraising efforts. Lindberg was elected president of the New York Conference of the Augustana Synod and served in this capacity for ten years. When Lindberg arrived on the east coast, very few Augustana churches were organized and thriving. Through his leadership and mission work, he helped organize and create many congregations.

For his efforts, he was recognized as a leader of the Swedish Lutheran Church in the East.

In 1890, Lindberg was elected unanimously as a professor of theology at Augustana College. While working at the college, he served as chairman and secretary of the theological faculty. He used both Swedish and English in his lectures, and taught classes on systematic theology, hermeneutics, apologetics, dogmatics, ethics, liturgics, and church polity. Lindberg wanted higher standards for the seminary curriculum, a goal which he achieved. He convinced the synod to eliminate the “minimum course”; raised the length of the seminary course to three years in 1896; and by 1897 ordination was denied to anyone not completing the seminary program.

In 1893, Lindberg was awarded an honorary doctorate of divinity from Muhlenberg College, the leading Lutheran college in the East. He was also honored by the King of Sweden, who made him a Knight of the Royal Order of the North Star in 1901. This honor was conferred by the Right Reverend K. H. G. von Schéele, Bishop of Gotland. In 1899, Lindberg was elected Vice President of the Augustana Synod at the synodical convention at St. Paul, a position to which he was reelected four times. The Board of Directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary considered Lindberg for the presidency of the college in 1900, but instead elected Gustav Andreen. However, Lindberg was made Vice President of Augustana College in 1901,

and served as acting president during the absences of President Andreen.

Lindberg frequently contributed to church literature, newspapers, magazines, theological reviews, and journals. He wrote a total of 14 books. His principle work was a textbook about dogmatics, which won recognition from reviewers and educators in both

the United States and Sweden. When deanships were established in 1920, Lindberg was promptly asked to be dean of the Seminary. Lindberg died during the summer of 1930 after 40 years as a teacher in theology. He was remembered as a great preacher, a strong leader, and an inspiring teacher.

LESLIE NELLIS

Augustana Book Concern

A Swedish Publishing House Adjacent to Augustana College, 1889–1962

At the turn of the twentieth century the building now known as Sorensen Hall was home to a vibrant Swedish immigrant publishing house known as the Augustana Book Concern (ABC). Founded in 1889, ABC served as the official publishing house for the Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Synod until its 1962 merger with the Lutheran Church of America. As a consequence of this merger, ABC was absorbed by the Board of Publications in Philadelphia, which was part of the Lutheran Church of America. In 1967, Augustana College purchased the building which had housed the ABC and renamed it North Hall; in 1975 it was renamed to honor retiring president C.W. Sorensen.

ABC's main publication focus was to supply the Augustana Synod congregations with religious texts such as bibles, hymnals, choir music, and Sunday school literature for children. In addition, ABC published an array of Swedish-American literature, poetry, historical works, and reprints of Swedish national literature. Another significant ABC genre was religious and literary serials for both adult and young-adult readers. Among the more widely distributed were *Prärieblomman Kalender*, a literary Swedish-American calendar, the illustrated Christian monthly magazine *Ungdomsvännen*, which was for a younger audience, and *Korsbaneret*, an annual biographical calendar.

Beyond its local bookstore in the building on 7th Avenue and 38th Street, ABC also had stores in New York, Chicago, and Minneapolis. Furthermore,

ABC distributed books in Europe, Africa, and Asia, often as part of the Augustana Synod's missionary work. During the years 1889–1915, ABC printed 3.9 million volumes of which 80% were in the Swedish language. It was not until the 1920s that English language titles outnumbered those in the Swedish language. This shift coincides with the beginning of a general "Americanization" of the Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

In its early phase, ABC's business grew rapidly and the newly erected Italianate three story brick building on 7th Avenue and 38th Street was extended with an annex after just a decade. Additional expansions followed to meet the increasing publishing demands of the Augustana Lutheran church body in North America. The final addition in 1959 included a three story addition on the north side and matching new modern brick siding for the original structure. The expansion and remodeling was completed just three years before the Augustana Book Concern was absorbed by the larger publishing house and began to downsize its business in Rock Island.

CHRISTINA JOHANSSON

The Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at Augustana College collects and preserves Augustana Book Concern publications and also has several archival collections related to the history of the Augustana Book Concern.



Typesetting at ABC in the 1920's, with foreman C.A. Larson. Cases of type are on the right, and already set blocks can be seen on the tables



Exterior view of the ABC building in the 1910s

Edla Lund

Professor of Voice, 1895–1912



Edla Lund

Edla Lund, née Ferngren, was born on August 8, 1867, in Stockholm. As a child, she displayed great singing ability. In 1884, she was one of five children selected from among 30 applicants to be accepted into the Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm. After graduating from the academy

in 1887, Lund married Professor Victor Lund of the Bethany Conservatory; however, he died in 1893. They had two sons, Carl Edward and Sven Joseph. Lund taught vocal music at Bethany, but resigned after her husband's death and returned to Stockholm for advanced voice training where she also learned piano and organ. She came back to the United States in 1895 when she was offered a position at the Augustana Conservatory.

The conservatory was a bountiful source of music at Augustana College and Theological Seminary that attracted many students who were interested primarily in music. Musical groups were very popular in the Quad Cities, which gave Lund the

opportunity to work closely with the conservatory as well as with local choirs. Lund directed many musical groups, including the Svea Male chorus, the Chapel Choir, the Ladies' Chorus of the Rock Island Musical Club in 1908, and the first Choral Union of Moline. She was also a frequent soloist at the Moline Congregational Church and was a member of the Etude Club of Davenport and women's club in Moline. As proof of her outstanding leadership, she directed the concert in honor of the 25th anniversary of the Oratorio Society in 1906, as well as the 1910 Jubilee celebration for the 50th anniversary of the Augustana Synod. The Handel Oratorio Society was under Lund's charge from 1908–1912; she was its first female director.

As well as holding her position at Augustana, Lund toured the country as a singer and organist. In May 1894, Lund won a prize for her organ playing at the Kansas Musical Jubilee. In 1896, she toured the Central West with the Apollo Club. In 1902, she performed over a dozen concerts in New York and Pennsylvania with Professor Zedeler. In 1905, she toured the Pacific coast for the Swedish Day at the Louis and Clark Exposition in Portland. In 1912, after teaching at Augustana for 17 years, Lund retired from Augustana and took another teaching job.

LESLIE NELLIS

The Denkmann Serenade

An Outburst of Gratitude

On January 28, 1909, President Gustav Andreen issued a call for an all-campus meeting in the Chapel at four o'clock. This unusual request incited a great deal of speculation on campus, but no one came close to guessing the truth. At the meeting, President Andreen announced that the children of Mr. and Mrs. F.C.A. Denkmann had decided to give Augustana a library in honor of their parents. The library was to cost no less than \$100,000. It was the largest single donation ever received by Augustana College at that time.

The *Observer*, which named its February issue the "Denkmann Memorial Library Number," describes the reaction to Andreen's announcement:

Staid old Augustana chapel perhaps never heard a more joyful announcement, and the scene that followed was one of those rare spontaneous outbursts of enthusiasm that seldom take place within its walls. For a moment, however, there was complete silence as though every one was stunned by the sudden surprise. But the pause was only momentary and then the whole chapel rang out with 'Hip, hip, hooray! hooray! hooray!' Then followed cheers for the Denkmanns and for Dr. Andreen, and finally came 'Rockety-i-kei.'

Work and classes were suspended for the rest of the day, and students gathered to make plans to show their appreciation for the donation. It was decided that a group of students would march to the houses of each of the donors (seven in all) and show their gratitude with a good old-fashioned serenade. The students began their torch-light parade that evening; even a huge downpour could not dampen their enthusiasm. The rain did, however, prevent the band from bringing its instruments, but the Wennerberg Chorus was present to provide music. At each of the stops the chorus performed and Emil Bergren gave a speech of thanks on behalf of the student body. Mr. J.J. Reimers, whose wife was one of the donors, was so impressed at this demonstration in such inclement weather that he hired a private trolley car to take the students back to campus.

The serenade was much appreciated by the Denkmann family, and Denkmann Memorial Hall remains a splendid tribute to their generosity. The cornerstone of the building was officially laid on January 21, 1910. On May 19, 1911, students and faculty formed a human chain to carry the books from their old quarters on the third floor of Old Main to the new library, where they remained until the construction of the Thomas Tredway Library in 1990.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ



Denkman Library Reading Room set up for the dedication ceremony in 1911



Denkman Library cornerstone laying ceremony, January 1910

Olof Grafström

Professor of Art, 1897–1926

Jonas Olof Grafström was born on June 11, 1855, in Attmar, Medelpad, Sweden. His father, C. P. Grafström, was a judge for the district court. Even as a small child, Grafström showed tremendous talent for drawing. He was sent to a high school in Näfsta, and, beginning in 1875, to the Academy of Fine Arts in Stockholm. He graduated in 1882 with other notable artists such as Anders Zorn, Bruno Liljefors, Richard Berg, and Johan Tirén. After graduation Grafström painted his way across northern Sweden and Lapland, perfecting his landscape technique. He received acclaim for some of these paintings; one was even purchased by King Oscar II of Sweden.

In 1886, Grafström moved to Portland, Oregon, and began painting the Pacific Northwest. He also lived in Spokane, Washington, and San Francisco. Grafström won medals in several art competitions throughout the United States, and his landscapes became popular in the Swedish-American community. Grafström also became a well-known painter of altarpieces, many of which found their way into Augustana Synod churches. From 1893 to 1897, Grafström taught art at Bethany College. In the fall of 1897, Grafström arrived at Augustana College to become the head of the art department.

Art was a new subject at Augustana: the department was established in 1894 under Mae Munroe. In addition to his classes and his own work—he painted several hundred pieces during his time in Rock Island—Grafström also gave private lessons. He was well liked by his students, offering encouragement in English and Swedish as he walked between the easels in his classroom on the third floor of Old Main.

On June 15, 1904, Grafström married fellow painter Anna Nelson of Galesburg; they had two children, Ruth and Katarina, both of whom were artistically gifted. Grafström ran the art department at Augustana until 1926, when poor health forced him to retire. He returned to Sweden after his retirement and passed away on March 30, 1933, in Stockholm.



Olof Grafström

LESLIE NELLIS

On Tour in 1912 with the Wennerberg Chorus

A train connected Rock Island and Chicago in 1912, but it was a slow one; it took the boys of the Wennerberg Chorus of Augustana College six hours to make the trip. They had an entire car to themselves, and their spirits were running high that March day as they set off for a three-week spring concert tour through Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. The chorus was celebrating its eleventh anniversary, having been founded in 1901 on the occasion of a memorial concert for Gunnar Wennerberg, a Swedish composer well known and loved in the United States.

In the May 1912 *Augustana Observer*, member of the chorus Sigfrid Blomgren '12 writes a lively account of the tour. One gets the feeling on the first page that chorus trips probably haven't changed much in the last century. The boys had nicknames for each other and for their accoutrements, and humor was the rule of the day. Having only 15 minutes to dress for their first concert, they hurriedly climbed into their "bird suits" while Dip couldn't find his socks, Foxy couldn't get his collar to stand up straight, and Sam desperately tried to locate a comb to make his unruly hair behave. Poor Foxy had his share of troubles that first concert; he didn't make it to the stage on time and missed the performance.

Hunger, then as now, was an important consideration. In Cadillac, Michigan, the boys had to break up into small groups to get fed in the local restaurants. They drew straws at each establishment to determine who would get to eat at that particular place. The last group of six was so hungry by the time they found a lunchroom that "none of us to this day know what we had."

Crossing the lake at Ludington presented more adventures. After boarding the steamer and singing some impromptu sea songs, the boys portioned out their sleeping arrangements and then, hungry again, astonished the Irish cook by eating everything laid before them, from: "sliced cold beef to rhubarb sauce, then from catsup to sponge cake, from dry bread to coffee." The next day, a gale rocked the boat, and the boys experienced their first bout of sea sickness.

Male company was fine, more than fine, but if appealing members of the opposite sex happened along, all the better. When the chorus sang in Ishpeming, Michigan, which means "Heaven," the boys "noticed the superiority in numbers of the fair sex. The name Ishpeming perhaps accounts for this circumstance."

Aside from two members of the chorus almost getting left behind at the Orphans Home in Mishawaka and the entire group being briefly considered for admittance to the State Insane Asylum in Manistique, they all arrived safely back in Rock Island. Lest you think that the Wennerberg Chorus neglected the fine points of singing during their grand tour, here is what the *Davenport (Iowa) Daily Times* wrote about their homecoming concert: "That their singing reached the expectations of all and that they did full justice to the most enviable reputation which they gained during their recent tour of Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan was readily attested by the enthusiastic applause which they received and the numerous encores to which they were compelled to respond." Who says talent and skill can't go hand in hand with having a good time?


MARGARET ROGAL



Group photo of the Wennerberg Chorus between 1905-1910

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GUSTAV ANDREEN, ROCK ISLAND, ILL.

**The
Wennerberg Male Chorus**

assisted by
Prof. Algert Anker Carl Lindegren
Violinist Vocal Soloist

Prof. Peter Johnson
Director



TOUR OF 1912

Personnel of Chorus

| FIRST TENORS: | SECOND TENORS: | FIRST BASSES: | SECOND BASSES: |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Jan. W. Sandell | John A. S. Lindin | M. W. Gustafson | Gustaf Olsson |
| Harold Anderson | Emil Westlund | H. E. Lindquist | Marius Skarstedt |
| Harold Carlson | Carl G. Anderson | D. A. Knott | Sigvard L. Hanson |
| Samuel E. Johnson | | | Jan. Youngstrom |
| | | | Andrew Kempf |

Wennerberg Chorus 1912 tour program

Jules Mauritzson

Professor of Swedish, 1904–1930



Jules Mauritzson

Jules Göthe Ultimus Mauritzson was born on July 19, 1868. His father, Anders Mauritzson, was the rector of a parish in Marsvinsholm, Skåne, Sweden. Mauritzson attended the gymnasium in Helsingborg and the University of Lund, where he studied philosophy

and comparative religion. Mauritzson seems to have imbibed some of the radical ideas about religion and social reform circulating throughout the university at the time, and thus chose to learn the trade of bookbinding in Leipzig, Germany, after completing his studies at Lund instead of pursuing an intellectual career.

In 1896, Mauritzson moved to Chicago and worked as a bookbinder. He joined the Immanuel Lutheran Church and was inspired, partially by Emmy Carlsson Evald, to continue his study of religion. He enrolled in the Maywood Lutheran Seminary in Chicago, and then matriculated at Augustana Theological Seminary, where he was ordained in 1899. Promptly after his ordination he married Maria Thorsson, a school teacher whom he had met in Chicago.

Mauritzson served for two years as pastor of a church in Kiron, Iowa. In 1901, Mauritzson received a call from Augustana to occupy the Swedish language and literature chair. He served as acting professor from 1901 until 1902; he then took a two year leave of absence to conduct research and advanced study in Sweden in order to better equip himself for the position. Mauritzson returned to Augustana in 1905. During his tenure at Augustana, there was a rebirth of interest in Swedish. Mauritzson included modern writers in his courses, which previous professors had not done, and taught Danish and Norwegian as well as Swedish. He was especially interested in the playwright August Strindberg and wrote numerous essays on his works.

From 1909 to 1915, Mauritzson served as enrolling officer of the college, and in 1920 he was appointed Augustana's first dean, a position he accepted reluctantly because of his love of teaching. He served as vice-president of Augustana in 1927 and as temporary president in 1929 in the absence of President Andreen. Mauritzson was one of the founders of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies and served three terms as its president. He wrote several textbooks for use in Swedish instruction, was superintendant of the Sunday school at his church for ten years, and was the associate editor for a young adult paper.

On the night of February 6, 1930, Mauritzson was hit by a car while walking to an Augustana basketball game against St. Ambrose. He died early

the next day, leaving behind his wife, five children (Anna, Tyra, Elsa, Anders, and Gunhild), and one grandchild. After his death, students were eager to create a memorial to Mauritzson and gathered funds to perform a Strindberg play in his honor the following spring. In 1937, the Mauritzson Exchange Fellowship was created to sponsor a Swedish student to study at Augustana. A Mauritzson Memorial Scholarship is still awarded today to students from Sweden studying at Augustana.

LESLIE NELLIS

Knocking Lightly at Our Door

The 1918 Influenza Epidemic at Augustana

When a young man named Walter Grantz sent his letter of inquiry to President Gustav Andreen in August of 1918 (see letter, August 5, 1918), he was looking to attend Augustana that very same fall—registration took place on September 2nd and 3rd that year. Walter did enter Augustana as one of a record incoming 133 first-year students in the fall of 1918. Never before had the college enrolled so many students; in fact, the previous record had been set in the fall of 1913, with 75 entering freshman.

This spike in enrollment may have been caused by interest in the Students Army Training Corps, which enrolled 140,000 men at 524 colleges across the country in the fall of 1918. Augustana's unit inducted 120 men when it was created in September 1918. The SATC prepared men for active duty

October 1st letter from Walter Grantz to President Andreen. Walter's penmanship is markedly different, although the signature is the same, leading me to believe that either grief or his own sickness unsteadied his hand. Walter wrote directly to President Andreen to explain his absence—not to his professors or a student services office (none existed at the time).

(World War I was underway) and the members of the SATC had their room and board, tuition, and clothing paid for by the government.

Four hundred and thirty four Augustana students and recent graduates served in the U.S. armed forces from 1917 to 1919, and an additional 19 served as chaplains and YMCA and Lutheran Brotherhood workers. Nine of these students and graduates lost their lives in service to their country.

Walter Grantz's college career was short-lived and his interest in military service unfulfilled when he died October 7, 1918, and became another statistic for Augustana: the only Augustana student to die in the influenza pandemic of 1918. While the Augustana community was mostly spared from the 1918 flu, Walter's family was not so lucky. Walter sickened while home in Michigan for the funeral of his brother, and died before returning to campus (see Walter's October 1st letter to President Andreen, and Andreen's reply on October 4th); two additional siblings died shortly thereafter, leaving Walter's widowed father childless.

An estimated 50 million people—about 3% of the world's population at the time—died from the 1918 influenza and about 500 million worldwide were infected. This particular flu sickened young and otherwise healthy adults, who often died within a few days. October 1918 was the deadliest month in the United States, with 195,000 flu related deaths nationwide in that one month alone. The Rock Island County Health department instituted a ban

on public gatherings that closed schools, theaters, churches, and libraries in hopes of reducing the spread of the flu. Augustana was closed for four weeks due to this ban. By the end of October, one-fourth of the United States population had become ill.

An October 10, 1918, letter from the Illinois Department of Public Health implored President Andreen in his role as a pastor to

Urge the members of your congregation to avoid the careless sneezer, spitter and cougher. Such persons are largely responsible for the present alarming spread of this disease...All rooms should be exceptionally well ventilated and at the same time comfortably heated. (MSS 4, box 33, folder 11).

Such exhortations and the ban on public gatherings were not sufficient to shield Dr. Andrew Kempe, professor in the commercial department and treasurer of the college, who died October 16, 1918. In a resolution from the general faculty, Kempe was referred to as a "beloved colleague" whose "genial, kindly, manly presence" would be missed (MSS 4, box 73, folder 6a). Professor Edward Fry Bartholomew noted in his October 19 journal entry that Kempe's funeral was held outside, on the front steps of Denkmann Memorial Library, "on account of the Influenza Epidemic it was not allowed to hold services in any building." (MSS 19, box 6, folder 4).

Despite these deaths on campus, or perhaps because of the lingering threat of illness, the flu became a favorite topic for jokes and ditties in the *Observer*, including:

"We wonder if it is possible that the present epidemic of influenza, which is sweeping the country, is traceable to the recent drafts"

and

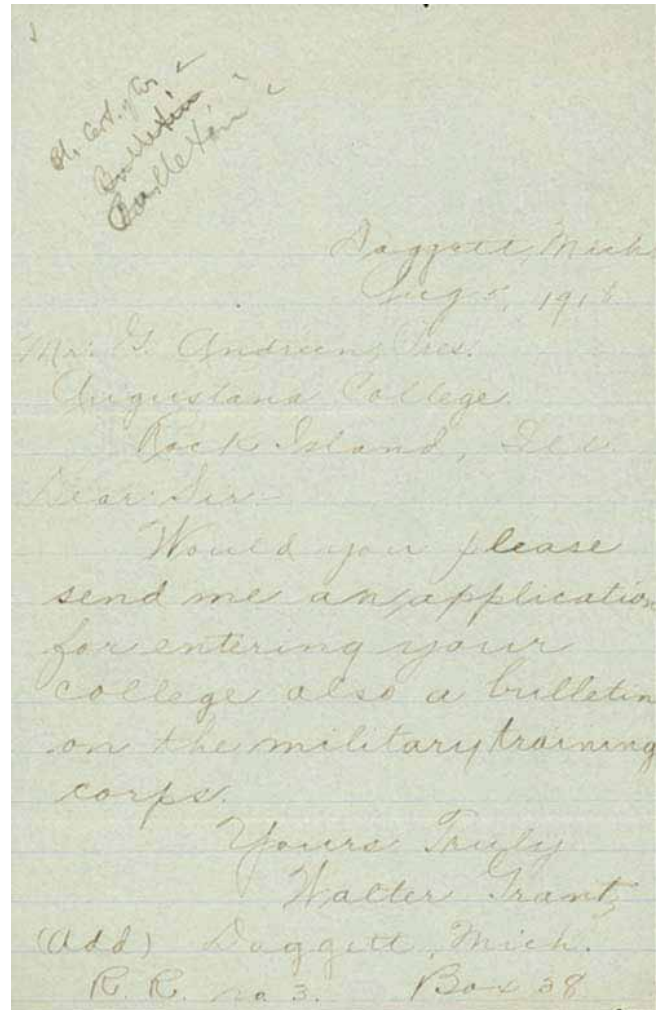
"I had a little bird/Its name was Enza/I opened the window/and in-flu-enza."

October 4th letter from President Andreen to Walter Grantz. President Andreen acknowledges Walter's October 1st letter and sends a personal response.

The December 1, 1918, *Observer* noted that the "'Spanish Influenza' has thus far knocked but lightly at our door," and, while true, this note was printed just a few days before Algert Anker, head of the violin department and third and final Augustana flu victim, died. Despite a memorial to Professor Anker in the January *Observer*, the newspaper that month was upbeat and optimistic, with calls to "renew the old college spirit" and reschedule many of the social and musical events that had been suspended or postponed in the fall due to the war and the flu. The Students Army Training Corps had been disbanded in December (the war had ended in November) and while several veterans enrolled or returned to Augustana, very few of the SATC members continued at the college. Soldiers and the flu had both come and gone in the space of one semester.

The H1N1 virus was in the news as the special collections librarians were planning articles for the 150th website. In the fall of 2009 campuses around the country were isolating sick students, cancelling classes, and wondering how to plan for and react to a possible pandemic. I thought that researching how Augustana had weathered the 1918 pandemic might be an interesting comparison but found relatively little contemporary information about the 1918 flu. I expected to find that several students had died from the flu, but instead there was a very rich story about the one student, Walter Grantz—a farm kid from Michigan, who left a paper trail in the presidential papers held in the archives.

JAMIE L. NELSON



August 5th letter from Walter Grantz to President Andreen. Walter's penmanship is clean and neat, as you would expect when someone is putting his best foot forward in applying to college. It is interesting to note that the first step in an application was to contact the president of the college directly—there was no admissions office in 1918.

I.M. Anderson

Professor of Greek, 1904–1944

Isaac Morene Anderson was born in Princeton, Illinois, on April 30, 1868, to Aaron and Elna Anderson, both immigrants from Sweden. Aaron Anderson had been an early supporter of Augustana College and Theological Seminary, and had contributed to the campaign to raise money to build Old Main. Gustav Rast, the husband of Anderson's sister, Joanna, encouraged the young Isaac Anderson to get an education, something for which Anderson expressed great appreciation in later years. Rast also helped Anderson find a teaching position in Pepin, Wisconsin, and helped pay for his college education.

Anderson graduated from Augustana College in 1892 and taught for two years at Red Wing Seminary. He then took a position teaching Greek at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, where he taught for nine years. Although he had not stressed Greek in his undergraduate work, Anderson pursued graduate study in the subject at Harvard University, the University of Chicago, and the University of Wisconsin.

In 1904 Anderson returned to Augustana to teach Greek. He was known as a gifted teacher and as a supporter of student success both inside and outside the classroom. Anderson was a member of the

Augustana Book Concern Board from 1906–1927, the China Mission Board, the Augustana Pension and Aid Fund, the Student's Aid Fund, and the Student's Foreign Missionary Society. At the synod convention in 1919 he was elected to the board charged with the revision of the synod's constitution. Anderson spent the years 1913 and 1914 in Chicago, working for the Mutual Trust Life Insurance Company, but returned to his position at Augustana. In 1932, Anderson was awarded an honorary doctorate by Gustavus Adolphus College.

Anderson was married twice. His first wife, Dagny Marie Dahl, passed away in 1901 after three years of marriage. On July 20, 1904, he married Susie I. Strauch, and together they had three children: Leroy Paul, Lois Florence, and Grace Helena. Anderson died in his home on January 10, 1952.



I.M. Anderson

LESLIE NELLIS

Fighting for Reform

The Augustana College Prohibition League

“Today... public sentiment, this vox populi, is growing, and in its work of reform is aiming its blows at that root of most of our modern evils, namely, the saloon.”

So said Conrad Bergendoff, future president of Augustana College, in the Augustana College Prohibition League’s oratorical contest in early 1914. His speech, entitled “Public Sentiment,” was published in the *Observer* even though Bergendoff was beaten in the oratorical contest by Helen Wiggers, the only female participant, who spoke on “Prohibition: The Only Hope of a Happy Nation.”

Prohibition refers to the temperance movement, which included national organizations such as the Anti-Saloon League and the Women’s Christian Temperance Union. The long-term goals of those in the temperance movement included strict regulation of alcohol traffic, eventual “dry” legislation, and awareness of the detrimental effects of alcohol. Many saw prohibition as a way to obtain social reform and eliminate crime, poverty, and suffering. In the United States, the efforts of prohibition supporters eventually led to the passage of the 18th amendment in 1920.

Augustana’s Prohibition League was one of the college chapters which made up the Intercollegiate Prohibition Association. Augustana was by no means alone in having such a chapter; in 1917 there were 266 such chapters across the country. The Augustana College Prohibition League was founded on February 13, 1911, “to promote broad and practical study of the liquor problem and related social and political questions, to advance the application of the

principles of prohibition and secure the enlistment of students for service and leadership in the overthrow of the liquor state” according to the 1911–1912 *Catalog*. The club’s motto was “we stand for the training of college men and women for service in the settlement of the liquor problem.” Meetings were held the second Friday of every month, and membership was open to all. Though many leaders of the national temperance movement were women, in its early years at Augustana the Prohibition League’s officers were all male.

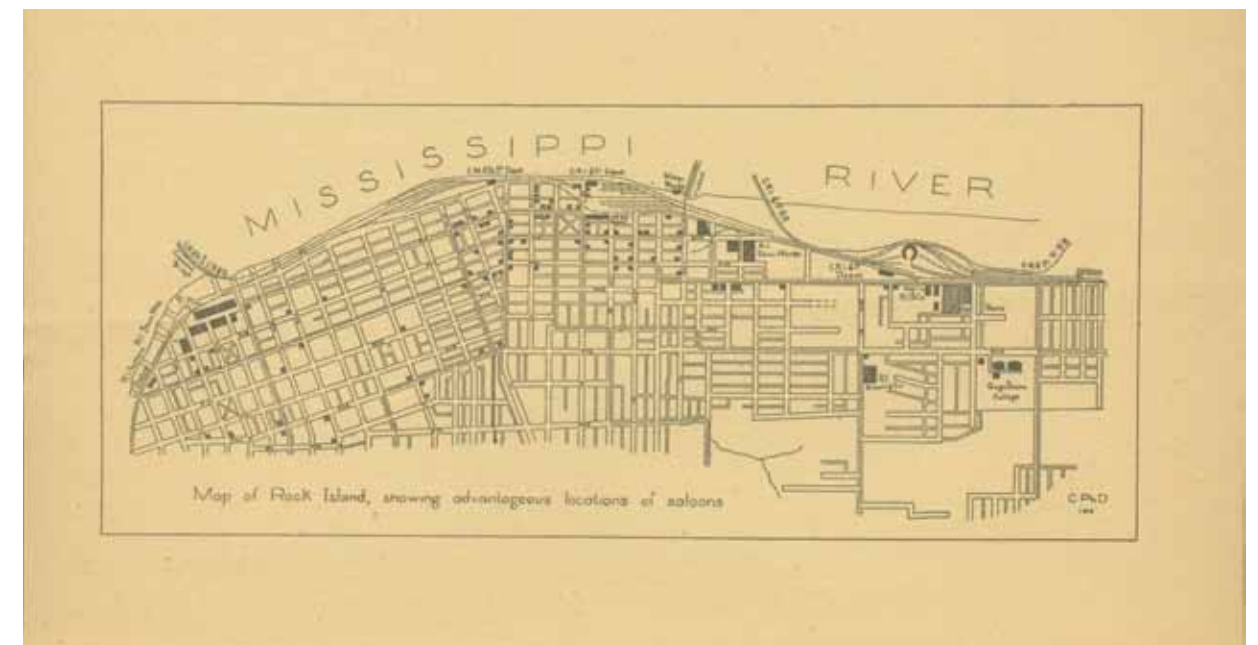
Even before the formation of the Prohibition League, prohibition had been an issue on the Augustana campus. The earliest mention in the *Observer* is from May 1904, and in March 1908 an *Observer* editorial remarks on how frequently the issue of prohibition appears in the student newspapers they received from other colleges while lamenting that “there are men, prominent at our institution and in our Synod, who hesitate to declare themselves in favor of a cleaner, better, and greater Rock Island”; in other words, on the side of prohibition. The Prohibition League was often spoken of as one of the busiest organizations on campus. Its activities included monthly meetings, sometimes featuring prominent speakers from the community or the national temperance movement, the annual oratorical contest mentioned above, as well as membership campaigns. These campaigns often seem to have turned into competitions about who could enroll the most members, and usually ended with the *Observer* reporting that membership was once again over 100 students.

In addition to their activities on campus, the Prohibition League also made a study of liquor issues in Rock Island, including its effect on the finances of the city. The result was “Survey of the Liquor Traffic, Rock Island, Ill.” which was issued in March of 1914. It included sections on the location of saloons, taxes, and liquor regulation in Rock Island. This was not the only attempt at a scholarly study of liquor issues at Augustana: the *Observer* reports that E.F. Bartholomew’s class on the liquor problem was quite popular. The 1916–1917 *Catalog* lists two philosophy courses with the title “Liquor Problem,” which include “lectures, papers, and class discussions on various phases of alcoholism,” with the second course being a continuation of the first. Simon Fagerstrom, writing in the 1917 *Rocketry-I*, notes that “students who have taken this course are unanimous in the opinion that they gained more positive and practical knowledge through this course than through any other one-hour course” (most

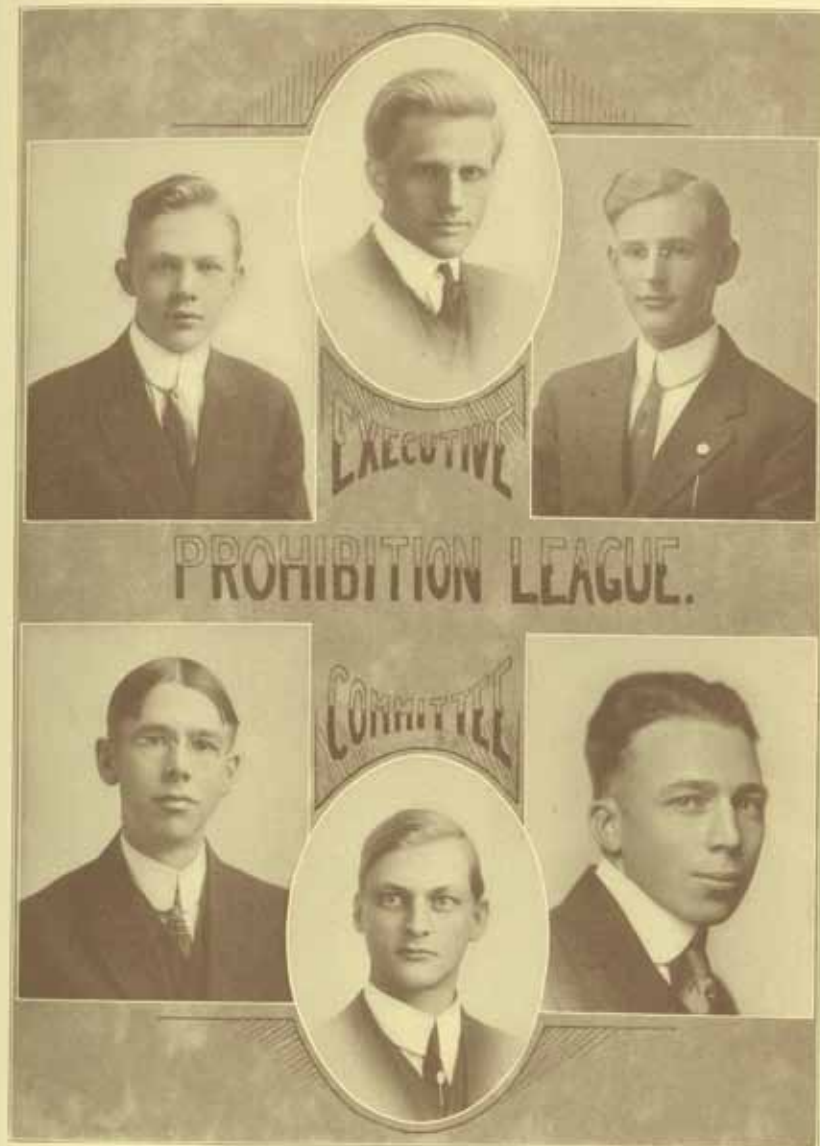
courses were three hours). The courses were popularly referred to as “boozology”—though presumably not by members of the Prohibition League.

Today Augustana College offers clubs related to almost any interest, with over 150 student organizations on campus ranging from Juggling Club to Habitat for Humanity. But there is no Prohibition League. Indeed, the league seems to have died out after the passage of the 18th amendment made prohibition law. Although the *Observer* reports on various student efforts toward worldwide prohibition, the Prohibition League is no longer listed in the *Catalog* after the 1921–1922 school year. Prohibition was repealed in 1933, and although it had been an influential movement, its moment at Augustana had passed. Even Conrad Bergendoff was known, in his later years, to enjoy a glass of wine.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ



A map of Rock Island, showing the “advantageous locations” of saloons, from the Prohibition League pamphlet “Survey of the Liquor Traffic, Rock Island, Ill.”



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| CONRAD BERGENDOFF..... | Treasurer |
| L. E. JONES AND EMIL J. JOHNSON..... | Reporters |

The officers of the Prohibition League, from the 1915 *Rockety-I* yearbook.

John P. Magnusson

Professor of Chemistry, 1907–1946

John P. Magnusson was born December 12, 1872, in Langaryd, Småland, Sweden, and grew up in western Minnesota. He received his bachelor's from Gustavus Adolphus College (1898), a master's degree from University of Minnesota (1902), and a doctorate in chemistry from Cornell University (1907). Before accepting a professorship from Augustana College, Magnusson taught and worked in administration at several high schools and then was an instructor at Cornell while completing his graduate studies. In 1907, Magnusson became professor of chemistry at Augustana College, a position he would hold until 1946. When he took this position at Augustana, he became the third chemistry specialist in the history of the school, following Jacob Westlund (1888–1889) and V. O. Peterson (1890–1906). While the science department had assistant instructors for the fields of chemistry, physics, biology, geology, and other natural and physical sciences, each major area had only one professor. This would remain true throughout Magnusson's tenure.

Magnusson, along with the other science professors and assistants, worked out of Ericson Hall, a brick house that had been converted into lab space. This was inadequate space for the purpose but was used until 1935. Due in large part to the poor science facilities at Augustana, the college was in danger of losing its accreditation from the North Central Association. Funds were donated by Marie Wallberg that were allocated for the erection of a new science building. A planning committee for the new science building consisted of Dr. Andreen (president of the college), an architectural consultant, a building consultant, and four science instructors, including Magnusson.

Together, this committee developed a plan for Wallberg Hall of Science. The new building was completed and ready for use in 1935.

Magnusson was known as "Doc" to students and colleagues alike and was remembered as

often having a pipe in hand when he lectured or led small group discussions. He was a thorough teacher who pushed his students to understand ideas rather than just memorize facts. By all accounts, he was an enthusiastic teacher with unfailing patience and a talent for inspiring others.

He wrote an elementary chemistry textbook for use in his classes, which was published in 1945. Magnusson was also interested in music and participated in the Handel Oratorio Society, the Wennerberg Chorus, and the Chapel Choir.

Magnusson married Margaret Bersell in 1910. They had three children: John, Lawrence, and Connie. All three attended Augustana College and studied under their father; two would enter the field of chemistry. Magnusson died November 1, 1946, after a brief battle with abdominal cancer. The J.P. Magnusson Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to Augustana chemistry majors.



J.P. Magnusson, 1940s

EMILY HUGHES DOMINICK
LESLIE NELLIS

“Entertainment” at Augustana *Then and Now*

It’s Friday night. What are your plans? You might go to Carver to cheer on the women’s basketball team. Two of your friends are performing in the spring play; maybe you’ll go see it tonight. Your fraternity friends invited you to an open party on 6th Ave. later on; should you stop by or just go straight out to The District?

Today’s Augustana students have an almost overwhelming number of choices when it comes to social and entertainment opportunities. On any given night, you can choose to attend (or participate in) art exhibitions, musical performances, sporting events, or parties. If you don’t want to go out, your options in your dorm room are equally vast: you might watch a movie, play video games, talk with friends in person, on your cell phone, or via text or IM. A few of these options didn’t even exist as recently as ten years ago; as technology continues to develop, it leads to an ever-increasing number of ways to communicate and be entertained. Meanwhile, the Office of Student Activities employs two full-time administrators and staff and works with countless students who coordinate and participate in over 150 student groups and organizations, including Greek Life, the Multicultural Programming Board, and the College Union Board of Managers (CUBOM).

If you had been a student at Augustana in the mid-to-late 1800s, your options would have been much more limited. The school was established for the purpose “of educating young men for the ministry and for preparing young men for the profession

of teaching”; with only male students and a much smaller number of them—only 90 students in 1875, when Augustana officially moved to Rock Island—the emphasis was on education, not student entertainment. The college’s Lutheran roots also remained vitally important; every student was expected to attend daily chapel service as well as Sunday worship. Not unexpectedly, then, many of Augustana’s first student organizations were either religious or academic in nature.

Two organizations that combined academic interests with musical pursuits and prayer were the Phrenokosmian Society and the Adelpic Society, literary societies established in 1860 and 1882, respectively. Like modern student organizations, which often form to enable students with shared interests to meet regularly and plan activities, the societies offered students a means through which to explore their interests; these interests, however, were somewhat more formal than those of many student groups today. The constitution of the Adelpic Society, for example, states that the group “desire[d] to conduct exercises in discussion, disputation, oratory, declamation, and music,” while the Phrenokosmian Society wished to “promote a Christian life, literary improvement, and intellectual development among its members.” The groups met regularly to discuss business that remains typical for student organizations—membership, finances, etc.—but also to plan events (often called “entertainments”) in which members presented orations, dialogues, debates, and musical performances. In the college’s earliest years, before the development

of the school’s musical and athletic programs, the weekly meetings and entertainments of the literary societies would have been among the only options for students seeking activities beyond the classroom and the chapel; even so, their activities remained grounded in academics and intellectual pursuits.

By the early 1900s, as the student body grew in number, students began to seek opportunities for social interaction beyond the formality and academic nature of the literary societies. Slowly, groups based on student interests beyond academics and religion formed and thrived, leading to the decline of the literary societies. In the 1915 *Rockety-I* yearbook, the statement about the Phrenokosmian Society—authored by the group itself—attests to students’ waning interest: “Its meetings are scheduled for every Friday evenings, but of late it unhappily seems to have been relegated to the position of a ‘filler’ for vacant Friday evenings...” The statement by the Adelpic Society can be easily interpreted as an effort to recruit members, asserting that the literary societies are “a great and effective factor in

raising the level of true culture among the students,” even while acknowledging that “a literary society, like all good things, is not always the most popular organization.”

Though the number of organizations available to Augustana College students in 2010 is vast, it also represents a balance among the many motivations students may have for coming together to form a group; groups exist for many reasons, which may be social, philanthropic, academic, musical, athletic, interest-based, or any combination of these. Though the literary societies declined, many groups—including national academic honor societies, departmental clubs, and professional organizations—still exist to enable students to explore their intellectual interests outside of the classroom. You can still start your Friday evening at a concert, play, or other “entertainment,” but thanks to the evolution of student groups at Augie over the past 150 years, that will likely be just the beginning of your night.

ANNE MADURA EAREL



Members of the Phrenokosmian Society dressed in traditional Swedish costumes to perform *Fritiof's Saga*, April 14, 1905.



Adelpic Society on the steps of Old Main, 1910

“Closer Bonds of Comradeship” *Early Greek Groups at Augustana*

In the early twentieth century, tennis was all the rage on the Augustana campus. By 1909 the college boasted eight tennis clubs, and in 1911 the *Observer* reported that nearly one in every five Augustana students played the sport. Although the earliest tennis players were men, tennis’s popularity quickly extended to Augustana’s women, who determined to form their own club. Thus, the SPD Tennis Club—whose members quickly earned the nickname “Speeds” for their agility on the court—was born in 1908: the 1909/1910 yearbook features a photo in its athletics section of ten young women in tennis uniforms, leaning on their elbows in the grass, tennis rackets in front of them. Each one smiles confidently at the camera, as though certain of her abilities as an athlete. But there is a knowingness to the smiles as well, a knowingness that suggests there is more to this group than meets the eye. In fact, as many readers of this story are likely aware, the SPD Tennis Club (now Sigma Pi Delta, though it is still casually referred to as the “Speeds”) was the first Greek organization on the Augustana campus, and it quickly evolved to become a sorority as most Americans would conceive of one today.

Although Sigma Pi Delta arose immediately out of the college’s tennis craze, the Greek groups’ most important predecessors were actually the Phrenokosmian and Adelpic literary societies, which dated back to the earliest years of Augustana’s history. In the United States as a whole, college and university literary societies had first appeared in the eighteenth century. They not only supplemented student learning but also provided a social outlet; however, as time went on, the social lacuna in students’

lives began to call for more urgent consideration. Fraternities and, eventually, sororities filled that gap beginning in the nineteenth century; like many literary societies, their membership was exclusive, but they were largely more attentive to students’ increasing need for social gratification and self-governance. The evolution of Greek groups signaled, in part, a growing sense that students can and should develop in college in more ways than academic alone.

Not surprisingly, the early-twentieth-century Augustana community was well aware of the distinctions between literary societies and social organizations like fraternities and sororities, the latter of which increased swiftly in number after Sigma Pi Delta’s establishment. In early 1910—when Sigma Pi Delta was still the SPD Tennis Club—the *Observer* printed an ambivalent editorial about the changing social scene at Augustana. In this column, the editors acknowledged the advent of social clubs and societies on campus, even as they distanced Augustana from the concept of fraternities and sororities:

It may be said . . . that the name by which such organizations [i.e., Augustana’s new social clubs and societies] are known does not, in any way, influence their character, and thus, whether the name be Greek, English or any other language, it matters not so long as the real purpose of the society is to bind its members together in closer bonds of comradeship. Aside from organizations of this kind, there are no social cliques at Augustana, and the report that the faculty has

sanctioned fraternities and sororities is without any foundation whatever (March 1, 1910).

Perhaps not surprisingly, another editorial, only two years later, lamented the ongoing struggles of the Phrenokosmian and Adelpic literary societies:

Do we really have two prominent literary societies, or has the adjective prominent become a misnomer? ... A sad fact to be noted is that almost any other kind of an entertainment is given preference to the regular society meeting, the result of which is anything but beneficial to the societies (March 1, 1912).

Although this later editorial never makes explicit the precise threat that the literary societies faced, the influence and appeal of social organizations are a clear subtext to the editors' argument.

In fact, the rise of fraternities and sororities coincided with the end of literary societies at colleges and universities nationwide. At Augustana, the Phrenokosmian and Adelpic societies disappeared entirely by the late 1920s. As interest in those societies steadily faded, the number of Augustana Greek groups increased rapidly; by the end of the 1910s a

number of additional groups had already appeared, including some that still exist today. Doubts persisted about the new social organizations: in the early 1920s, pressure from the synod and college board led President Gustav Andreen to require that all fraternities and sororities change to non-“Greek” names, an action that gave rise to the story of an early ban against Greek groups on campus. The name change did not remain in effect for long, however, and fraternities and sororities were unquestionably here to stay.

Today, 34% of Augustana men join fraternities and 38% of women join sororities. None of the social Greek groups on campus are chapters of national organizations; rather, each is unique to Augustana, meaning that the bond between fraternity and sorority members and their college is close. Many more additional student groups—with a large variety of foci—exist on campus today than when Sigma Pi Delta was established in 1908. However, the Greek groups' ongoing popularity testifies to the profundity of the changes they heralded one hundred years ago.

STEFANIE R. BLUEMLE



SPD Tennis Club, from the 1910 yearbook



PUGS pose with a dog, from the 1918 *Rockety-I*

Margaret Olmsted

Professor of Latin and Mathematics, 1921–1967



Margaret Olmsted working at her desk

Margaret Olmsted was born on February 7, 1894, in Orange City, Iowa. Her parents were Robert Ward Olmsted and Jennie Ernst Fahnstock Olmsted. She attended Rock Island High School, Rock Island, Illinois, and graduated in 1911. Margaret then attended Augustana

College from 1911 until 1915, and was voted president of her class. She was also the valedictorian of her graduating class; Dr. Conrad Bergendoff, later president of Augustana College, was the salutatorian. Olmsted earned a master's degree from the University of Illinois in 1916, and took graduate classes at the University of Iowa and the University of Chicago. After finishing her studies, she taught English and history for three years at high schools in Viola, Illinois (1916–17), and East Moline, Illinois (1917–19).

Margaret Olmsted joined the Augustana faculty in 1921. She was one of the earliest female professors at the school. In 1937 she was named associate professor of Latin and mathematics. She was known for

her love of teaching, and often stressed the importance of studying foreign languages. After 46 years of teaching, she retired in 1967. That same year, she was named professor emeritus of classics. Her connection to Augustana continued when she was named to the Augustana Alumni Association Board of Directors in the 1970s.

Olmsted was a member of several professional associations during her life, including the Rock Island-Moline Branch of the American Association of University Women, the Mathematical Association of America, and Phi Beta Kappa. Olmsted was also an active member of the Rock Island League of Women Voters. Along with her father, Robert W. Olmsted, she was a devoted member of Broadway Presbyterian Church.

Olmsted had three younger siblings: Elizabeth (Mrs. Eugene Youngert), Robert E., and Jeannette Olmsted. All four attended Augustana College under the encouragement of their father, and the three sisters completed their undergraduate degrees there. For most of her life, Olmsted lived in Rock Island, Illinois, together with her father and sister Jeannette. She died October 26, 1994, in Rock Island at the age of 100.

REBECCA HOPMAN

A Song of Our Own

Augustana's Search for a School Song

In January 1894, *The Alumnus* (a publication of the Alumni Association of Augustana College), issued what was to become a familiar call: "Why should not Augustana have a song of its own?" Similar pleas were printed in the *Observer* for at least the next thirty years. Each time a new call went out for a college song, the songs currently in use were mentioned and debated, and apparently fell short for some reason or other.

E.W. Olson, class of 1891, was awarded a prize of \$5 in 1894 for his song written to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne" (lyrics to this and all songs mentioned follow the story). Olson's song was printed in the 1900 *Class Annual* (Augustana's first yearbook) as the school song. Another E.W. Olson song was printed in the next yearbook, the *Class Annual* of 1905, written to the melody of a Swedish song, which began: "Thy name, Augustana, in cheers we extol/And bright burn the fires of our devotion." And if that wasn't rousing enough, an additional song appeared in the 1905 *Class Annual* to the melody of "Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching," which started: "Augustana on the hill!/Sing her praises with a will!" with a chorus of: "Hip, hip, hip, hurrah for yellow!/Hip, hip, hip, hurrah for blue!/They're the colors of the sky,/Of the sun and stars on high."

The 1910 *Jubilee Album*, published in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Augustana College and Theological Seminary, reprinted the same three college songs as the 1905 *Class Annual*, and all seemed well on the college song front until October 21, 1921, when the *Observer* published five college

songs. These five college songs, however, did not include the three noted above. At least eight college songs had been printed by the time the *Observer* called for even more spirit in 1922, stating:

Augustana has good songs and yells, but there are many who deplore the fact that there are not more of them. Naturally, we desire more cheers and melodies...Augie never rejects a good yell or snappy song..." (November 23, 1922)

In January of 1923, the *Observer* again called for new songs, noting that one existing song was "set to too hard a score for the musically impoverished," another was "not original," and a third "savors of Civil War days and is therefore offensive to the south."

Albert Olsson's "Victory Song" was published in the fall of 1923, with the *Observer* exclaiming "Augustana will at last have a song which it can really call its own" (November 2, 1923). Not all were in agreement a year later, though, when the *Observer* reported that the Student's Union was set to choose the official college song, deliberating between Olsson's "Victory Song" and the "Blue and Gold." One week later, the paper reported that the Student's Union failed to designate an official song, leaving the decision "until both songs had been tried on the football field with band accompaniment." The same issue carried an editorial imploring the student body to learn all the Augustana songs, stating that they "are as essential a part of college life and education as are the daily lessons" (September 25, 1924).

An appeal was again made in January 1927 to compose a song “which will have an especial appeal to the student generations and be expressive of the spirit of Augustana.” A contest was announced to solicit original songs with a Viking theme, and award \$25 to the winner. The *Observer* stated that this was “the first contest of its kind ever held at Augustana,” apparently unaware of the 1894 contest for a school song. Front page articles about the song contest ran for three months until Regina Holmen ('22) was named as the winner in April 1927, for her composition “The Song of the Vikings.”

“The Song of the Vikings” must not have caught on, however, because only six months later the *Observer*

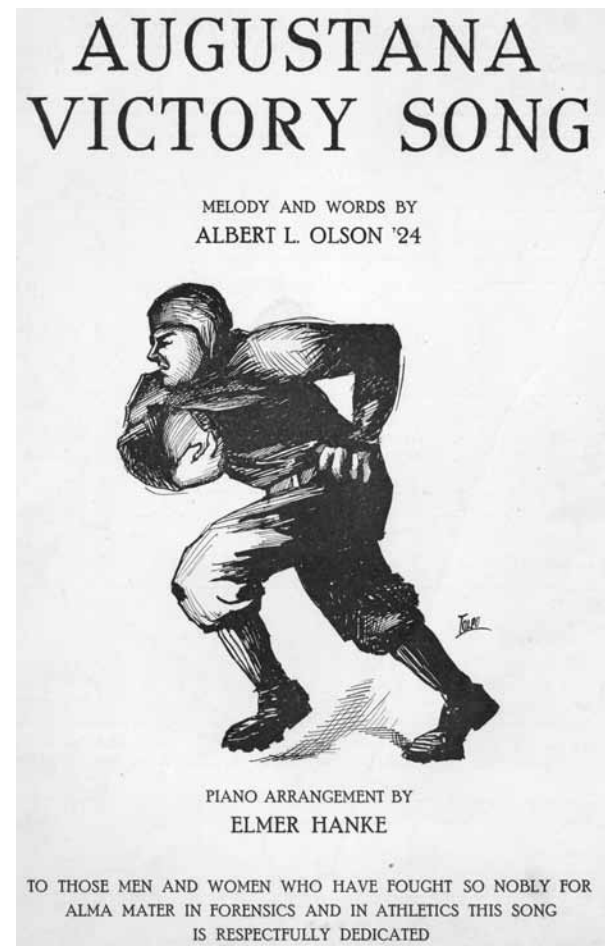
editorial stated that “Augustana students have a good assortment of school and pep songs and yet there seems to be some question as to which one shall be considered the official school song...The suggestion has been made that either the Viking or the Victory Song be selected as an official school song” (October 13, 1927).

January 1929 saw another contest for the school song, with another \$25 prize to be awarded, noting that a similar contest was held “several” years ago—though that contest was a mere two years prior. In late March 1929, \$15 was awarded to Alfield Johnson for the best pep song, without a title or lyrics mentioned in the article.

Curiously enough, the *Observer* reported in May 1934 that the “Victory Song has been the official college song at Augustana since 1923 at which time it was published in sheet music form.” However, 1936 saw another plea for a school song, this time an “Alma Mater” song. Paul Finnman’s “Alma Mater” was first printed in the *Observer* in May 1937, with a call to make it the official Alma Mater Song of Augustana, which it remains to this day.

Yet the most enduring and popular Augustana song was the result of a contest other than the *Observer*’s repeated badgering. In the 1940s, members of the Beta Omega Sigma fraternity altered the Rock Island High School song, “By the Mighty Mississippi” for their entry in the Augustana Homecoming Sing competition. “By the Mighty Mississippi” was written by Jack Rasley, a Rock Island high school student, who graduated from Rocky in 1930. Augustana’s version has endured as the official school song partly because of the choir’s tradition of singing the song after each performance. The locally-beloved song was altered once again in 1995 when the City of Rock Island passed a resolution to make it the official song of the city.

JAMIE L. NELSON



“Augustana Victory Song,” with melody and words by Albert L. Olson '24 was published in 1923.

Augustana College Prize Song E.W. Olson, 1894

Shall old acquaintance be forgot,
And Mem'ry's garland fade?
Nay, deck anew the hallowed spot,
Where hearts their homage paid!

Chorus

Let carols ring from hall to hall,
Nor let their ardor fail!
Sing Augustana's praises all!
Shout Augustana's Hail!

She stands, a lofty beacon bright,
Firm founded on the hill;
How far we sail, her glorious light
Shall guide the sailors still.

Chorus

A mighty fortress 'mid the trees,
She towers bold and true,
Unfolding proudly to the breeze
Her colors, gold and blue.

Chorus

A College Song C.J. Södergren, 1904

Melody, “Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching.”

Augustana on the hill!
Sing her praises with a will!
Let her never want for loyal hearts and true.
Hoist her banner to the breeze,
Float her colors on the seas,
Let the earth salute the yellow and the blue!

Chorus

Hip, hip, hip, hurrah for yellow!
Hip, hip, hip, hurrah for blue!
They're the colors of the sky,
Of the sun and stars on high,
They're the colors that are dear to me and you.

College life is passing by,
And the time is drawing nigh
When we bid farewell to our dear college home;
But the scenes around the hill
And the memories, lingering still,
Shall be with us in our hearts where'er we roam.

Chorus

When our locks are turning gray,
And the labors of the day
Shall be over, and the shadows growing long,
Still we'll lift our failing eyes
To the banner in the skies
And with brow uncovered sing the College Song

Chorus

[Thy name, Augustana, in cheers we extol]
E.W. Olson, 1905

Melody, “Du gamla, du friska.”

Thy name, Augustana, in cheers we extol,
And bright burn the fires of our devotion.
The sound of our homage in echoes shall roll
O'er hills and plains from ocean unto ocean.

Thy sons and thy daughters, wherever they roam,
Shall turn from thy loving guidance never,
But walk in the light of thy radiant dome,
And cherish thee in loyal hearts forever.

Blue and Gold, 1921

Hail Augustana, your praises we sing,
You'll always lead the way.
Hail Augustana, homage we bring,
You're in our hearts to stay.
Hail Alma Mater, we pledge heart and hand
To your colors to-day as of old.
We'll back you to stand 'gainst the best in the land,
All hail to the Blue and Gold.

Football Chorus

Augie, old Augie, smash through that line,
We've got to win to-day.

Augie, old Augie, touchdown this time,
 Show them we know the way.
 Augie, old Augie, we pledge heart and hand
 To your colors to-day as of old.
 We'll back you to stand 'gainst the best in the land;
 So fight for the Blue and Gold.

Basketball Chorus

Augie, old Augie, pass th' ball down the floor
 We've got to win to-day.
 Augie, old Augie, pile up the score,
 Show them we know the way.
 Augie, old Augie, we pledge heart and hand
 To your colors to-day as of old.
 We'll back you to stand 'gainst the best in the land,
 So fight for the Blue and Gold.

On, Dear Augie, 1921

On, dear Augie, on, dear Augie,
 March right down that line.
 Roll the ball around those fellows,
 Touchdown every time.
 Rah, rah, rah,
 On, dear Augie, on, dear Augie,
 We must keep our name,
 Fight, fellows, fight, fight, fight,
 We'll win this game.

[Augie Will Shine], 1921

Augie will shine to-night,
 Augie will shine,
 Augie will shine to-night,
 Augie will shine;
 Augie will shine to-night,
 Augie will shine,
 When the sun goes down,
 When the moon comes up,
 Augie will shine.

**[Tramp, Tramp, Tramp]/
 Augustana Marching Song, 1921**

Tramp, tramp, tramp, we march along,
 With voices strong, we'll sing a song:
 For Augie dear, boys,
 The team that never fails,
 That never fails,
 With all our strength and all our might
 We're going to more than fight,
 We're going to win for Augie,
 Win for Augie, win for Augie dear.

[Rah, Rah, Rah], 1921

Rah, rah, rah, for Augustana,
 Rah, rah, rah, for Blue and Gold,
 They're the colors of the sky,
 And the sun and stars on high,
 They're the colors that are dear to you and me.

Augie, On the Hill, 1923

(May be referring to "A College Song" by C.J.
 Södergren?)

**Victory Song
 Albert L. Olson, 1923**

All hail to you, Augustana
 All hail to the Gold and Blue,
 Our heroes we cheer to victory
 As they fight for our colours true.
 To our strength we know our foes will yield
 As the team charges down the field,
 For the grand old school upon the hill,
 A-fighting for the Gold and Blue.

We're strong for you, Augustana
 Your sons and your daughters too,
 Your spirit will guide us on our way
 Alma Mater our beacon ray.
 As freemen for the right we'll always stand
 For the best college in the land,
 For the grand old school upon the hill,
 Augustana and the Gold and Blue.

Augie Pep Song, 1925

No lyrics; mentioned in 1925 Observer.

**Song of the Vikings,
 Augustana Concert Band, 1927**

*Sung to tune of "Song of the Vagabonds," from "The
 Vagabond King."*
 Sons of Augustana.
 Fight for Augustana!
 Fight every foe of Blue and Gold!
 Fight for Augustana!
 Win for Augustana!
 Win for your colors, Blue and Gold.
 Blue and Gold must fly above the rest.
 Augustana will always be the best.
 Fight for Augustana!
 Good old Augustana!
 Die, if you must, for Blue and Gold!

**The Song of the Vikings/Viking Song
 Regina Holmen, 1927**

Here's to the Vikings, Sons of Augustana!
 Here's to their courage, strength to dare and do!
 Here's to the zeal that wins, tho' the foe be mighty!
 Here's to the love that binds their hearts to Gold
 and Blue!
 Vikings! On, then, to the fight with all might, and
 you'll conquer,
 You are Vikings true!

**Augie Pep Song
 Alfied Johnson, 1929**

Contest winner; no lyrics printed in Observer.

**Alma Mater
 Paul Finnman, 1937**

Oh, dear old Alma Mater,
 The Gold and Blue we love,
 For halls revered.
 And friends secured,
 We thank our God above.

We'll win for Augustana,
 To her we'll e'er be true.
 Her name we'll praise,
 Through all our days.
 Old Augie, we love you!

**By the Mighty Mississippi
 Jack Rasley, ca. 1930s, BOS 1940s**

By the Mighty Mississippi, on a rocky shore—
 Stands the school we love so dearly, now and
 evermore.

Chorus

Augustana, Augustana, we thy children as of old
 Sing thy praise in song unending to old Augie's blue
 and gold.

Tho' the future years may part us, still together
 now—
 Faith and love to Augustana evermore we vow.

Chorus

Henry Veld

Professor of Music, 1929–1966



Henry Veld demonstrating singing technique, 1961

under voice instructors William Brady and Oscar Seagle. Veld earned a bachelor's degree in music education from Augustana. He married Alice van Zanten on August 15, 1935, in Holland, Michigan; the couple had two children.

In 1929, Veld was offered a job at Augustana College. His first duty was to conduct the women's choir, first called the Oriole Choir and then known as the Jenny Lind Chorus, but he was soon asked to help reorganize the men's glee club, the Wennerberg Chorus, which had disbanded. In 1931, Veld joined the men's and women's choirs into one during a concert and established the Augustana Choir. Also in 1931, Veld began conducting the Handel Oratorio Society, a choral society comprised of Quad City community members and local college students. During Veld's tenure, the Oratorio Society chorus grew from 125 members to 350, the maximum number that would fit on the stage in Centennial Hall.

Henry Veld was born in South Holland, Illinois, on July 20, 1895. His father played clarinet in the village band, and Veld began studying the organ at six. Following his interest in music, Veld studied theory and composition at Chicago Music College, now Roosevelt College. He went on to train in New York

During his tenure at Augustana, Veld took the choir on annual tours during which they sang in 33 of the United States, three Canadian provinces, and five European countries. In 1955, the choir appeared on *Ed Sullivan's Toast of the Town* television program where they sang "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning," from the musical *Oklahoma!*, in Swedish. The Augustana Choir also made several recordings for RCA during Veld's years as conductor. Veld remained on the faculty at Augustana College for 37 years and was known as one of the leading conductors in the United States.

In addition to the Augustana College choirs, Veld conducted many other choirs during his career, including Chicago's prestigious Apollo Chorus; two choruses at the American University in Shrivenham, England, during World War II; and a 2000 voice choir for the opening session of the World Council of Churches Assembly in Soldier's Field in Chicago. In 1948 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by Bethany College.

Veld retired from Augustana in 1966, but continued conducting at various posts including as visiting professor-conductor at Bethany College in Kansas, Carthage College in Wisconsin, Hamline University in Minnesota, and Fresno State in California. He died, after a brief illness, on June 15, 1976, in Muskegon, Michigan. In 1980, the Henry Veld Chair in Music was created in his honor. This endowed chair was only the third in the history of Augustana College.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

“Beyond the Pages of the Textbooks”

Augustana’s Natural History Museum

In 1878 Augustana College and Theological Seminary made a fortunate choice, of lasting consequence, when it hired Josua Lindahl to found the college’s natural science department. Lindahl was well-known and widely-respected at the time as a scholar and museum curator, and Augustana’s twenty-first-century strength in the sciences is traceable in many ways to his early efforts to create a strong foundation.

Lindahl brought the college experience and expertise, an outstanding reputation, and a recognition of the growing importance of science to education in the late 19th century.

Just as importantly, he was also an excellent teacher, who knew that the most successful professor would not just impart knowledge but also inspire.

In an 1886 letter to his former student, J. A. Udden (’81)—then a faculty member at Bethany College—Lindahl wrote:

It is a well-known fact, that students, who recite well and make it a matter of overwhelming or sole importance to do so, will rarely make their mark in the world as great men, and institutions, where the class drill is most excellent but no opportunities are given for waking up the boys to observing or thinking beyond the pages of the textbooks, will invariably fail to turn out men of great ability, whereas other institutions, provided with rich museums, libraries, laboratories, etc., but where the class drill is not even as highly developed as in some one-horse-power institutions, will hatch out prominent men in all lines of intellectual work.

Lindahl advised Udden that “the very best way, in which both you and I can be useful to our respective schools, is just in making good museums.”

Lindahl heeded that advice in his own work at Augustana. He found a small museum already in existence when he arrived at the college in 1878, but he expanded it considerably with contributions from his own research and expeditions.

When Udden replaced Lindahl at Augustana in 1888, Udden inherited a rich zoological, botanical, mineralogical, and numismatic collection, which he moved to the brand-new Memorial Hall (now Old Main).

During Udden’s tenure the museum became much stronger in the area of geology, which was Udden’s primary interest. The herbarium, established in 1894, did not survive, and neither did the coin and stamp collections. Yet the museum, in content and design, maintained its teaching function throughout. In a brief study of Udden’s tenure at Augustana, William B. Hansen (in *Geologists and Ideas: A History of North American Geology* [1985]) quotes a student of Udden who once declared that the museum’s specimens and labels “made up a very good textbook in elementary geology.”

The museum moved again in 1911, when Udden, shortly before his departure for a new position in Texas, transferred its contents to the new Denkmann Memorial Library. There—as they had been in Old Main—the scientific and historical artifacts were housed along with the college’s collection of rare books and manuscripts. The marriage

of museum and library in their own dedicated building seemed perfect, and yet use of the museum decreased. In Old Main, the museum collection had been in close proximity to the science classrooms, while in Denkmann it was not. The science faculty preferred the collections to be contiguous to their classrooms and laboratories.

Thus, by the time Fritiof M. Fryxell ('22) returned to Augustana as a faculty member in 1924, the original museum, the one Lindahl and Udden had cherished and developed, was virtually defunct. Fryxell, who taught geology and founded the college's geology department in 1929, removed some of the original museum's geological and mineralogical specimens, contributed substantially more such specimens of his own, and established a geology museum in Cable Hall of Old Main, where classroom, laboratory, and museum shared the same space. In 1935, the geology

department and museum moved to Wallberg Hall, the new science building. In 1968, department and museum moved a final time, to their present home in what is now the Swenson Hall of Geoscience.

Today's Fryxell Geology Museum is not the same museum that Lindahl and Udden developed; the first museum closed and the present one opened, in effect, during the 1920s. Yet a common sense of purpose links the Fryxell Museum to its predecessor. Augustana students, faculty, and staff, as well as local schoolchildren, can and do marvel at the ancient fossils, the fluorescent minerals, and the dinosaur skeleton towering in the front window. The Fryxell Museum "wak[es] up [students] to observing or thinking beyond the pages of the textbooks," just as Lindahl and Udden's museum did for students of the late 19th century.

STEFANIE R. BLUEMLE



Fritiof Fryxell shows specimens to two students in the museum in Wallberg Hall, January 1971.



Museum in Denkmann Memorial Library, ca. 1922.

Fritiof Melvin Fryxell

Professor of Geology, 1929–1973

Fritiof Melvin Fryxell was born April 27, 1900, in Moline, Illinois. The youngest son of John and Sophia Olson Fryxell, he had three older siblings: Ester, Hjalmar, and Carl. Fryxell's father worked for the Moline Cabinet Pipe Organ Company and was a great advocate of education for his children, all of whom graduated from Augustana College. Fritiof Fryxell graduated from Augustana in 1922, where he majored in biology and English.



Fritiof Fryxell sitting on a rock in the Grand Tetons, 1929

After his graduation from Augustana, Fryxell received a master's in English from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He then returned to Augustana as a teaching assistant, where he taught courses in biology and English. It was during this time that Fryxell decided to focus on science rather than literature and began his doctoral study in geology. He took a leave of absence from Augustana in 1927 and 1928 to complete his dissertation, and earned his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1928. Fryxell married his Augustana classmate Regina Christina Holmen on June 22, 1928; the couple had three children: John Birger, Roald Hilding, and Thomas Walcott, known as Redwood. Fryxell returned to Augustana in the fall of 1929, when he became the founder and chair of the department of geology, making Augustana the first Lutheran school in the country and one of the first small colleges in the Midwest to have such a department.

At Augustana, Fryxell chaired the sciences division from 1946 to 1951, was the curator for many years of the geology museum, now named the Fryxell Geology Museum in his honor, and inspired many students, of whom over 50 received doctoral degrees and over 150 received master's degrees in geology. As a teacher, Fryxell was well-known for his hands-on approach, including his use of museum specimens and field trips. Fryxell was the first recipient, in 1953, of the Neil Miner Award for excellence in teaching geology from the National Association of Geology Teachers (NAGT). He had been a charter member of the organization and was named its first president after NAGT's formation on the Augustana campus

in 1938. Fryxell was also interested in and a collector of the visual arts and was among the founders of the Augustana Art Association in 1927.

In addition to his work at Augustana, Fryxell was extremely active in geology outside the college and the classroom. He made his first trip to the Grand Tetons in 1924 as a graduate student and would continue to work and visit there for the rest of his life. Fryxell was the first to scale many features in the Tetons, and his work there was instrumental in its designation as a national park. Fryxell was asked by the Board of Geographic Names to suggest names for features in the Tetons when the park was being organized. Fryxell worked as a naturalist at Grand Teton National Park from 1929–1934, a job he enjoyed because he could work there in the summers when Augustana was on break. His nature talks and hikes were widely remembered by visitors. Fryxell's most famous book is *The Tetons: Interpretations of a Mountain Landscape*, which was first published in 1938 and went through six printings in his lifetime; it is still available for sale at Grand Teton National Park. Fellow geologist David Love said of Fryxell's connection to the Tetons that "all who study them walk in his footsteps."

In addition to his work in the Tetons, Fryxell was active in many other areas. He was a geologist for the museum planning staff of the National Park

Service from 1935 to 1937. During World War II, Fryxell served as assistant chief of the U.S. Military Geology Unit, which analyzed terrain of projected battle sites; he was assigned the position based on his work as Senior Geologist of the Commonwealth of the Philippines from 1939 to 1940. From 1942 to 1946 Fryxell was a member of the United States Geological Survey (USGS). He was the author of over 20 publications, including *The Incomparable Valley: A Geological Interpretation of the Yosemite* (1950) and *Sequoia National Park* (1950), biographical essays on many geologists, and his Tetons book; he was known as an excellent writer.

Fryxell received honorary doctorates from Wittenberg University and Upsala College, and in 1979 he received the University of Wyoming's highest honor, the doctor of laws degree, in honor of the work he did leading to the founding of Grand Teton National Park. In 1985, Augustana created the Fryxell Chair in Geology, the second endowed chair in the history of the college. The Fryxell Geology Museum was renamed in his honor in 1969. Fryxell officially retired and was named professor emeritus in 1968, but he continued to teach part-time at Augustana until 1973. He died on December 19, 1986, at his home in Rock Island.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

Anchors Aweigh

The SS Augustana Victory

Anchors aweigh, my boys, anchors away. . .

This Navy march might have been echoing across the Augustana campus on June 9, 1945, as the SS *Augustana Victory* was christened in San Francisco. One of 534 Victory cargo ships built in 1944–1945, the SS *Augustana Victory* weighed in at 7,607 tons. The 455 foot, 600 horsepower ship was built in just eight weeks to deliver supplies and equipment for the U.S. Merchant Marine. The Victory line of cargo ships was redesigned from the Liberty line to achieve higher speeds of 15–17 knots, stronger, more flexible hulls, and a longer range, all factors in making them less vulnerable to U-boat attacks.

The SS *Augustana Victory* owes its naming to an Augustana graduate, William Freistat '40, who was employed at the Henry J. Kaiser shipyards in Richmond, California, at the time. After selecting ship names honoring Allied nations and 218 American cities, Kaiser and the Navy department decided the next 150 ships would be named to honor American colleges. Freistat, according to an article in the *Augustana College Magazine* in 1995, says the name was chosen “at random.” However, once it was chosen, Freistat gathered local Augustana alumni to attend the launching. Speaking at the christening, Augustana graduate Lieutenant Victory Pearson '40

Deffenbaugh presented a check for \$200 from the Alumni Association to establish a shipboard library.

In 1948, the SS *Augustana Victory* was decommissioned by the U.S. War Shipping Administration and transferred to the United States Lines shipping company. It was renamed the SS *American Lawyer* and served as a cargo ship in their fleet until 1956. At that time it was purchased by American Union Transport Inc. and renamed the SS *Transcaribbean*.

Where is the SS *Augustana Victory* today? Accounts of Merchant Marine activities during the Vietnam War mention the SS *Transcaribbean* being used as a transport ship in 1965. It was one of many cargo vessels responsible for the delivery of bulldozers, cranes, steel, and cement for use by Navy Seebies in Vietnam. A conflicting report states the SS *Transcaribbean* sunk off the coast of San Juan, Puerto Rico, in January 1963. Because this wreck wasn't in navigation lanes, it was left to deteriorate. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) navigational charts for the San Juan port area show wrecks but they are unnamed.

Could exploration of the possible SS *Augustana Victory/Transcaribbean* wreck be a scuba adventure for you?

CONNIE GHINAZZI



The SS Augustana Victory

O. Fritiof Ander

Professor of History, 1930–1968

Oscar Fritiof Ander was born June 6, 1903, in Gendalen, Sweden. He immigrated to the United States in 1921 and became a citizen in 1927. He received his bachelor's degree from Augustana College in 1926 and his master's and doctorate from the University of Illinois in 1927 and 1930, respectively. Ander joined the history department at Augustana College in 1930 and became its chair in 1935. His research focused on intellectual and immi-



O. Fritiof Ander lecturing in 1959

gration history, and he was the author of numerous articles and books on these subjects.

Outside Augustana, Ander was an active member of various historical and educational organizations, including the Mississippi Valley Historical Association. He was instrumental in the planning of that society's meeting held in Rock Island in April 1948. Ander was on the board of editors of the Augustana Historical Society. In 1947, Ander co-founded the journals *Junior Historian of Illinois* and *American Heritage*; he also served on their editorial boards.

Ander was given honorary doctorates by California Lutheran College and the University of Uppsala in Sweden. In 1961 he was made a Knight of the Order of the North Star by the King of Sweden in honor of his achievements as a Swedish historian. After his retirement from Augustana, Ander and his wife, Ruth E. Johnson, moved to Sweden. Ander died March 5, 1978, in Laguna Hills, California, where he had been spending the winter.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

Augustana College and the GI Bill

In the 1945–1946 school year, the student population of Augustana College and Theological Seminary nearly doubled: 773 students enrolled in the liberal arts college, in contrast with 430 the year before. In the 1946–1947 school year, the population nearly doubled again, reaching a total of 1304 students enrolled in the liberal arts college.

The cause of these leaps in enrollment was, of course, the Serviceman’s Readjustment Act of 1944, more commonly known as the “GI Bill.” Among other benefits, the bill provided up to four years’ tuition and books, plus a monthly stipend, for veterans who wished to pursue an education upon returning to their civilian lives at the end of World War II. Some who participated in the early stages of proposing the GI Bill had suggested limiting education benefits, with only the most qualified applicants’ receiving a full four years of paid schooling. The final bill, however, which was prepared by the American Legion, extended such benefits to all: only length of service, not any other perceived qualifications, would determine how many years of support a veteran received.

Still, the offer of a free education proved vastly more popular than expected. Augustana President Conrad Bergendoff admitted this freely, writing in his 1946–1947 president’s report that “no one, even in the Veterans’ Administration, guessed the extent of the veteran enrollment.” Already in the previous year’s report, Bergendoff had declared, “we are swamped by the number of returning vets.” The college wrestled with questions of housing and

admissions: where would the veterans live, and what would happen to the women on campus? Should admissions requirements be adjusted to accommodate the incoming veterans, or to ensure that enrollment did not exceed capacity?

Statistics in the college catalog show that, in the late 1940s through the early 1950s, a large percentage of enrolled Augustana students were veterans: in one year, nearly fifty percent of students attended under the GI Bill. Because a vast majority of veterans were men, the male-to-female ratio increased as well, at one point reaching nearly two-to-one. Students who had begun at Augustana during the war celebrated this latter development as a welcome change and a sign of returning peace. Of the 1945–1946 freshman class, the *Rockety-I* rejoiced, “believe it or not, the boys outnumber the girls. Normal times are here again.”

World War II veterans who wished to attend college under the GI Bill were required to begin their schooling by 1951 in order to receive government funding. So, predictably, both enrollment and the male-to-female ratio decreased again in the early 1950s.

But the GI Bill ultimately had much more far-reaching implications for life at Augustana. For one thing, the newly enrolled veterans brought a unique and worldly sensibility to an admittedly insular campus. As former Augustana President Thomas Tredway writes in his college history, *Coming of Age* (2010), “the veterans had seen, done, and

thought things that would never have been if they had entered college at eighteen, directly from high school.” Indeed, a number of veterans seem to have found the campus atmosphere somewhat stifling after their experiences in the military. The infamous Augustana “panty raid” of 1949 was conducted by a group of veterans, whose late-night antics in the Woman’s Building (now Evald Hall) made a mockery of both the protective shield behind which the college placed its female students and the genteel standards to which it held the men.

But the veterans did not just bring a broader range of experience to the Augustana campus: their arrival meant greater ethnic diversity in the student body as well. The generous federal funding that the GI Bill offered led to a flood of new students seeking higher education, and Augustana joined institutions across the country in striving to accommodate those veterans; for a number of years after World War II, the college catalog contained a section that summarized veterans’ benefits and detailed Augustana policies in connection with their education.

Not surprisingly, Augustana found itself inundated with applications from would-be students who were neither Swedish nor Lutheran. Tredway observes in *Coming of Age* that then-President Bergendoff, recognizing ongoing changes in the college and the country, sought to preserve Augustana’s Lutheran-ness more so than its Swedish-ness. Before and

after World War II, Tredway writes, “the [college’s] ties to Sweden became increasingly a matter of historical loyalty and respect for tradition rather than an ongoing determining factor in the growth and character of the school.” The increased ethnic diversity brought by the GI Bill contributed substantially to that trend. At the same time, the number of Lutherans on campus decreased: Tredway reports that 60% of Augustana students were Lutheran in the late 1930s, 50% in the late 1940s, and 40% in the late 1950s. But, committed to the college’s Lutheranism, Bergendoff continued to strive for an Augustana where all facets of education were informed and enriched by religious faith.

In the early twenty-first century, Augustana defines itself explicitly as a liberal arts college, “committed,” in the words of its mission statement, “to offering a challenging education that develops qualities of mind, spirit, and body necessary for a rewarding life of leadership and service in a diverse and changing world.” Though it remains rooted in the Lutheran faith, Augustana enrolls students and employs faculty and staff from a wide variety of faiths. Though it acknowledges its Swedish heritage, its present population comes from a diverse ethnic background. In terms of sheer diversity, the influx of veterans nearly sixty years ago was a precursor to the Augustana our current students know today.

STEFANIE R. BLUEMLE



Students outside the Woman’s Building (now Carlsson Evald Hall), in 1946

Arthur Wald

Professor of Swedish and Dean of the College, 1931–1958



Arthur Wald in 1965

Arthur Wald was born in a Swedish-speaking home to F.G. and Johanna Nilsson Anderson on November 15, 1882, in Orion, Illinois. He graduated from Augustana College in 1905 with a major in German and a minor in Spanish.

Upon graduation, Wald began a teaching career

that spanned over 50 years. He taught for three years at Trinity College, then studied at the University of Uppsala in Sweden and the University of Göttingen in Germany from 1909 to 1911. Wald returned to the United States and taught briefly at Fairmount College and Gustavus Adolphus College. During World War I, German teachers were not in demand, so Wald began teaching Spanish. In 1919, Wald earned his doctorate from the University of Chicago. For the next 12 years, Wald taught at Millikin University, Drake University, and Drury College. In 1922, Wald returned to Europe and studied in Paris and Madrid. He married May Ellen Muir in 1923.

Upon his return to the United States in 1931, Augustana College hired Wald as Dean of the College and professor of Swedish. He served as dean from 1931 until 1947, and recalled the depression years as especially difficult. Most of his duties during this time involved finding scholarships and jobs for struggling students. Wald also served in other administrative capacities at Augustana, includ-

ing Vice-President, Registrar, and Director of the Augustana Summer School.

Wald also taught Swedish and was the chair of the Swedish department. He took a special interest in foreign exchange students, and developed a foreign exchange program. Wald worked hard to promote Scandinavian studies at Augustana. He also founded and was director of the Augustana Swedish Institute, and in 1945 he founded the Augustana Swedish Workshop.

Not only was Wald involved in promoting Scandinavian studies at Augustana, but he also worked hard to promote such studies on a national level. From 1939–1940, Wald spent a year in Stockholm as a fellow of the American Scandinavian Foundation. He was part of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, edited a Swedish-American handbook, and was a member of the Swedish Pioneer Historical Society. In 1942, Wald was awarded the Order of the North Star, First Class by King Gustav V of Sweden in recognition of his efforts to promote understanding and cultural exchange between Sweden and the United States.

Wald retired in 1958 as a professor emeritus of Swedish language and literature. Augustana awarded him two honors: the meritorious service award from the Augustana Alumni Association in 1959, and the naming of a wing of the new men's residence center as Arthur Wald Hall in 1966. Wald was remembered as a dedicated teacher and a lover of chess. He died on January 11, 1970.

LESLIE NELLIS

Martin J. Holcomb

Professor of Speech and Debate, 1932–1969

Martin J. Holcomb was born on April 27, 1895, in Clay Center, Kansas, to Reverend John and Hannah Holcomb. He graduated from Bethany College in 1916. Holcomb taught at several schools between the years 1916 and 1920, and also served in the United States Navy in 1918–1919. Bethany College hired Holcomb as a professor of English and speech, and he taught at his alma mater from 1920 to 1930. During Holcomb's years as a teacher, he was continually doing graduate work at summer schools around the Midwest. In 1931, he earned his master's from Northwestern University and was then appointed chair of the speech department at Bethany College.

In 1932, Augustana College hired Holcomb as a professor of speech and debate. He was also appointed chair of the speech department, a position he held until 1966. The year 1935 was eventful for Holcomb, as he was named director of the speech clinic, and married Sigrid E. Veberg on December 21. Holcomb introduced Augustana's first course in speech correction in 1933 and organized the Speech and Hearing Center in 1941. He devoted the majority of his career to this center, acting as the director from its creation until his retirement in 1969. Because of his active speech correction and clinical work with children, Holcomb was a sought-after lecturer.

Most notably, Holcomb is remembered for coaching Augustana's debate team from 1932 to 1968. Under his coaching, the Augustana debate team won well

over 70% of their debates, including qualifying for 17 out of 20 West Point tournaments (now the National Debate Tournament), more than any other school in the country. The team won several championships in major tournaments, including the national championship in 1957.

Holcomb was honored for his achievements by the American Forensic Association for 25 years of active service in intercollegiate forensics. Bethany College awarded him an honorary degree in 1948.

Holcomb also contributed to the community by playing violin in the annual Messiah program. At a dinner honoring Holcomb for 50 years of teaching and 35 years of service to Augustana College, 250 students, colleagues, and friends paid tribute to Holcomb's dedication to his work and his belief in a complete liberal arts education. On January 22, 1988, Holcomb passed away, leaving his wife Sirgid, his son John, his daughter Janice, and a grandson.



Martin Holcomb in the 1960s

LESLIE NELLIS

“Help! Police! Isn’t This Wonderful?” *The Augustana Panty Raid*

More than two decades before a fateful night in February of 1949, Emmy Evald knew there would be trouble. She was so convinced that the all-male board of Augustana College had erred in selecting the site for the building she and the Augustana Women’s Missionary Society had worked so hard to make possible that she (and every other WMS member) pointedly refused to attend the building’s dedication in the fall of 1928.

Evald, whose name has graced the hall originally known as the Woman’s Building (or WB) since 2008, was concerned that the building’s location across 7th Avenue from Denkmann Library and Old Main would not provide its residents enough of a buffer from the thrum of a male-dominated campus, with all of the meaner entailments thereto appertaining. And, boy, was she right.

From the moment it opened, the WB’s status as a consecrated bastion of vestal womanhood made it more alluring to Augustana’s male students than Golden Fleece to your average Argonaut. Stories abound of daring incursions during the building’s first 20 years, usually involving a lone perpetrator. And the traffic, it must be noted, was two-way: with a sparkle in her eye Dr. Dorothy Parkander, professor emerita of English and 1946 graduate of the college, tells of her popularity among the WB’s residents given her first-floor room’s ideal location as a portal for many a young woman heading to or returning from a late-night rendezvous with one of the dashing young Navy officer-candidates who found themselves at Augustana during World War II.

But such quaint violations weren’t good enough for the Greatest Generation, once it laid down its arms and invaded colleges like Augustana through the GI Bill. Everything they did was bigger, louder, more intense...and usually more violent. By late 1948, the temptation of the WB was too great to resist. According to Don Peterson, throughout the fall term groups of male students were talking about something bigger, louder, and more intense involving the WB.

Peterson, who graduated in 1951 and would go on to become a professor of education at Augustana, was pledging the Phi Omega Phi fraternity during his sophomore year. Like many of those who’d begun planning an assault on the fortress of femininity, Peterson was an Army veteran. These men were more than ready to apply the organizational and tactical lessons they’d learned in military service to cracking the defenses of the WB. Their communications discipline, however, was a little lax. “A lot of women knew what was coming,” Peterson says. “I remember there were quite a few gathered that night by the Stu-U [the student union in those days was in a house located near the site of present-day Ericson Field’s scoreboard] to see what would happen.”

According to the *Rock Island Argus*, police were called at 12:39 a.m. on Friday, February 25, 1949, six minutes before the raid was to begin. Apparently, neighbors were concerned about a large group of men gathering in the shadows behind the WB. Although the *Argus* reported 250 men took part in the ensuing 10-minute incursion, Peterson recalls

the actual figure was closer to 120, many of whom were members of various fraternities, each assigned a corridor to assault.

Two women were key allies in the raid’s success. Verna “Ma” Ayers, housemother of Andreen Hall, had quietly told some of her “boys” to be sure and double-lock the apartment of WB housemother Alma E. Johnson, since she had a habit of keeping the key for only one of the door’s two locks with her. The second ally was Dorothy “Dot” Bratlie, a junior who had a thing for one of the raid’s organizers, John “Cousin” Anderson. It was she who made sure that the raiders found the rear door to the WB’s cafeteria unlocked.

The raid was quick and chaotic. Lights and phones were cut, and men streamed through the halls on all of the WB’s three residential floors. Although some women reported being thrown in showers, the only casualties reported were one man “hit on the head with a chair,” and a pair of men who emerged with cuts and scratches. Another line of defense by the women residents was to spray copious amounts of perfume on the invaders, which they hoped would make later identification easier. Although thievery was not the apparent aim of the raid, some of the women reported missing items, including several articles of ladies’ undergarments.



Janet Blaser of Moline in her room after the raid; this photo was published in the February 25, 1949 *Rock Island Argus*. Photo courtesy of the *Rock Island Argus*.

The story hit the *Chicago Tribune* the next day, with a front page headline blaring: “Students Don Masks, Invade Rooms of Sleeping Co-Eds.” Although the story alleges some of the residents “became hysterical” (a charge later emphatically disputed by college administrators), it notes, “others were heard calling out windows, ‘Help! Police! Isn’t this Wonderful?’”

That same Saturday, a deeply disappointed Conrad Bergendoff met with fraternity members. Augustana’s fifth president always remembered the raid as one of the low points of his 27-year administration. As it happened, 1949 was the same year Augustana learned it would be awarded a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, and Bergendoff was ever after chagrined by circumstances that allowed America to learn about Augustana due to pilfered panties rather than academic prowess. (The raid showed up in *Time* magazine on March 7, 1949, with a quote attributed to Lois Taylor saying, “It was more fun than anything else. In fact, we had an inkling they were coming.”)

Media coverage continued sporadically, with the event first described as a “riot,” then later as a “raid.” It’s believed a reporter for the *Daily Dispatch* newspaper of Moline was the first to add the momentous modifier “panty” that would set off a fad on American campuses throughout the 1950s.

Despite Bergendoff’s mortification, the legacy of the Panty Raid is powerful. Cousin Anderson married his co-conspirator, Dot Bratlie, and two generations of progeny have graduated from the college. Among the alleged participants that night were not only several future members of Augustana’s Presidents Society, but future chairs of the education, geology, and religion departments, and even a future dean of the college.

KAI S. SWANSON

Teapot Dome

On Monday morning, November 14, 1955, the Augustana community awoke to a strange apparition: overnight, an enormous handle and spout had materialized on the dome of Old Main. “Teapot Dome” was an instant sensation. A few days after the incident, the *Augustana Observer* reported, tongue-in-cheek, that “no one was exactly sure how Old Main’s dome turned into a teakettle Monday, but there were some who speculated that the Pugs and Osos were having a tea that afternoon. The cardboard and wood framework was soon removed.” The *Rock Island Argus*, too, attributed the prank to Augustana’s Pi Upsilon Gamma and Omicron Sigma Omicron fraternities. But Augustana campus and Rock Island community members were not the only ones to notice Teapot Dome. The spout and handle were large enough to be visible for miles, and the incident received media attention as far away as Chicago.

Teapot Dome was but one particularly notable feat in a long tradition of pranks known as Augustana “phrigs,” a term that may have arisen from a slang expression for quickly fixing or adjusting a thing to work in a particular way. Old Main, the most easily-recognizable symbol of Augustana, was always a popular target. In November 1950, for example, a group of students set up “Crazy Connie’s Used Car Lot” overnight on the lawn in front of Old Main; seven cars sported humorous for-sale signs the following morning. On another occasion, students managed to hoist an entire small car to the top of the steps at Old Main’s 7th Avenue entrance.

But no Augustana phrig impressed onlookers and made news stories quite like Teapot Dome. The mastermind of this spectacular prank was PUG Roald Fryxell (’56), the second-oldest son of Augustana geology professor Fritiof M. Fryxell. Having been raised by an experienced mountain-climber (the elder Fryxell wrote his dissertation on the geology of the Grand Tetons and ascended every major peak in that range), Roald had participated in numerous climbs in the Rock Island area. In the middle of the night of Sunday, November 13, he gathered a group of his peers to scale Old Main, then hoist the spout and handle to the top of the building and attach them to the dome. The giant teapot was meant to advertise—of course—a tea.

In the long story of Roald Fryxell’s life, Teapot Dome was a minor, if diverting, accomplishment. In the mid-1960s, as a geologist in the anthropology department at Washington State University, he helped found an interdisciplinary program in quaternary studies. In 1965, while excavating a rockshelter above the Palouse River in Washington, he discovered the bones of an ancient figure who became known as the “Marmes Man”: radiocarbon-dated to over 10,000 years old, these were the oldest human remains found in North America up to that time. In 1969, Fryxell was one of the first scientists to examine the rock samples brought back from the moon landing; three years later, he organized a Seminar on Space Exploration at Augustana, which Neil Armstrong attended. He received his doctorate from the University of Idaho in 1971 and an

honorary doctorate from Augustana in 1972. Fryxell died in 1974 at age 40, when his car went off the road near Othello, Washington. He is remembered for his contributions to both Augustana and the broader scientific community.

STEFANIE R. BLUEMLE



Old Main decorated as a teapot

Henriette C. K. Naeseth

Professor of English, 1934–1968

Henriette Christiane Koren Naeseth was born April 6, 1899, in Decorah, Iowa. Naeseth received her bachelor's degree from Grinnell College in 1922, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, her master's from the University of Minnesota, and her doctorate from the University of Chicago. Before coming to Augustana as an associate professor in 1934, she taught at Goucher College (1931–32) and Chadron State Teacher's College in Chadron, Nebraska (1932–34). Naeseth was promoted to professor and named chair of the English department at Augustana in 1935, a position she held until her retirement in 1968. Naeseth also served as chair of the humanities division from 1945 to 1968. Upon her retirement from Augustana she was named professor emeritus. Naeseth was the author of *The Swedish Theatre of Chicago, 1868–1950* and the translator of *Return to the Future* by Sigrid Undset.

Naeseth helped to establish Augustana's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa in 1949 and served as its president for ten years. She was also instrumental in having Augustana recognized by the American Association of University Women, serving as president of the Rock Island-Moline branch, and in gaining membership for Augustana in Mortar Board, a national honor society for senior college women. Naeseth was the founder of Augustana's Writer's Club and its literary magazine, *Saga*. The 30th anniversary edition of *Saga*, published in May 1967, contained a special supplement in honor of Naeseth.

Naeseth received many tributes, including an honorary doctor of letters degree from Luther College in 1961. She was awarded the St. Olaf's Medal on



Naeseth holding copy of *Moby Dick* and standing next to wooden whale in 1966

behalf of King Olaf V of Norway in 1970 for “her contributions and work in furthering the knowledge of Norway and Norwegian culture in the United States, and for furthering the relations and solidarity between Norwegian America and the old country.” She was instrumental in founding the Norwegian American Museum in Decorah and in establishing a chair in Norwegian studies at the University of Chicago.

During her time at Augustana, Naeseth was considered something of an institution. Her name was considered synonymous with Augustana's vision of quality education, along with those of Conrad Bergendoff, Henry Veld, and Fritiof Fryxell. Naeseth died November 25, 1987, at the Rock Island Convalescent Center.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

Revolution at the Altar Rail

The Augustana Campus Church, 1966–1983

What began as an experiment in alternative forms of campus ministry wound up having some lasting impacts at Augustana College. But considering the many ways in which the Augustana Campus Church rewrote the rulebook on how to do ministry on a college campus, it might be surprising to learn that it all started with a meeting of nine middle-aged white men.

The idea of forming a campus congregation with its own pastor had been raised at least twice before at Augustana, with the *Observer* reporting such initiatives both in 1906 and 1926. But not until the 1960s would the idea take root. It wasn't just the nascent movement toward student independence that prompted President C.W. Sorensen to call a meeting at his home on February 24, 1964. By this time, the recent merger creating the Lutheran Church in America (LCA) had prompted the Augustana Seminary to begin its move to Chicago, and Sorensen certainly must have understood the implications this would have for the college's identification with the new denomination.

And so the time was ripe for change when Sorensen invited the Rev. Dr. Robert Marshall, president of the LCA's Illinois Synod, to his home for a meeting which included Dr. George Arbaugh, Dr. G. Kenneth Andeen, the Rev. Earl Lusk, Dr. Ralph W. Hansen, the Rev. Emerson Miller, the Rev. John Kindschuh, and Dr. Louis Almen. Together, they drew up plans for a congregation that would be jointly funded by the college, the synod, and its student members.

After gaining initial approval from the Board, Sorensen convened a planning committee made up entirely of students. A freshman member of the committee, Peter Benson ('68), would be around to see the idea unfold. "I think the spring of 1965 saw the birthing at Augustana of the national movement toward student engagement in leadership," he says. "We thought, 'We can make something happen. We can create change, we can *do* this.'"

Benson, who was president of the Representative Assembly in 1967–68, carried that spirit throughout his years at Augustana, launching the Free University with classes at the end of the day and on weekends dealing with subjects that mattered to students, including one on the morality of war.

"It was certainly a student awakening, with students wanting in on governance. We were trying to bring our 'Big Questions' about the world into the curriculum," Benson says. What was needed in order for Campus Church to thrive in this milieu was a pastor open to letting students take the lead.

"I like to take credit for the idea that 'Swanie' had to be the guy," Benson says, referring to the students' decision to call the Rev. Richard Swanson ('54), then pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Itasca, Illinois, to lead Campus Church. "But the fact is, a lot of students knew him already because of the great things he'd been doing at Camp Augustana [the Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, summer camp of the former Augustana Synod]."

Benson says students wanted an adult on campus who understood them and took seriously their ethical, moral, and political questions. “With Swanie you could be yourself, talk Big Ideas and open up new channels of connection.”

Music provides one sign of Swanson’s suitability for the pastorate: at his “high church” installation service on January 8, 1967, a work by George Frideric Handel was used as the processional and the postlude was a piece by Dietrich Buxtehude. Two years later, the March 5, 1969, *Observer* reported that Swanson had replaced the organ with a rock band. Music professor and Campus Church collaborator Tom Robin Harris tried to assuage the *Observer’s* concerns by noting a distinct “baroque influence” in the music of Procol Harum.

The pace in those early years was dizzying. Swanson channeled students into their areas of interest, and soon Augustana Campus Church was helping sponsor Augustana’s Black Power Symposium in 1969, when 2,000 people packed Centennial Hall to hear Dick Gregory, Roy Innis, Jesse Jackson, and others (the number of Black students at Augie more than tripled in the ensuing five years). From this grew Racial Reconciliation, a dialogue that brought people together on campus, and raised funds for two Augustana students—Giovanni Medlock and Randy Middleton—to study abroad at a university in Ghana.

Augustana Voluntary Action, another Campus Church ministry, sent students to juvenile detention



A campus church rock band, from the March 5, 1969 *Observer*

centers, the East Moline State Hospital, and the Rock Island County Tuberculosis Sanatorium. Through a roundabout set of circumstances, this initiative led Campus Church into uncharted ecumenical territory. Students crafted the Cornerstone Ministry to support child development in the neighborhoods to the east of campus, and wound up bringing together St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Moline, St. John’s Lutheran in Rock Island, and First Lutheran in Moline in one of the first Catholic-Lutheran partnerships in the region.

But the change that caused the greatest stir, and one that would trouble waters across the national church, ironically had the least to do with students themselves. Swanson nonetheless found a way to rope them into a national controversy.

Since its beginnings, Campus Church had been open to faculty families, as well as some from the surrounding community. In 1970, the congregation decided it would offer Holy Communion to *all* baptized Christians, with children offered the sacrament at the discretion of their parents. In the Augustana Synod of Swanson’s youth, communion came only after confirmation; now as a pastor himself, Swanson couldn’t find a reason why any baptized person should be prevented from communing.

Speaking to an Illinois Synod convention in 1971, Swanson presented his case in a paper called “Font to Altar: A Lutheran Progression.” In laying out his case, he called the practice of withholding communion from children “objectionable”:

It is as though an infant member were to be warmly welcomed at a family reunion, only to be denied participation in the reunion because he does not yet understand the meaning of family. Stated more extremely, it is as though a woman, having endured the great pain and sacrifice which bring a child into the world, would then deny the infant milk from her breast because he does not yet understand the full meaning of her love and suffering for him.

Swanson appointed a task force of students and faculty to study the issue, even though one of the task force members, current Augustana Chaplain Richard Priggie (’73) says there wasn’t much controversy on campus. “We were rather proud of the practice,” Priggie says. Task force member Jack Hullett, then a young psych professor who would later serve as dean of admissions at Augustana, wrote a paper on the question from the perspective of child psychology, arguing that the inclusion of children benefited not just them but the entire community. But none of it changed the national church’s stance.

Although officially proscribed by the church, Swanson continued communing children. Dr. Marshall, who would go on to become the president of the LCA and remain a staunch supporter of Swanson’s throughout the latter’s ministry, apparently turned a blind eye. It wasn’t until 1997 that the successor to the LCA, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, approved a statement called *The Use and the Means of Grace* that somewhat resignedly admits, “There is no command from our Lord regarding the age at which people should be first communed.”

The Campus Church continued at Augustana until 1983, when it was replaced with a more contempo-

rary campus ministry structure. But the spirit of openness to new thinking continues: in addition to Chaplain Priggie and Catholic Chaplain Marilyn Ring, OSB, Augustana has Jewish and Muslim student advisors, and dedicated prayer space in the Tredway Library for Muslim students.

Two of the students on the original 1965 planning committee—Diane Gustafson Hill and Peter Benson—today serve on the Augustana Board of Trustees, and a third, Barbara Lundblad, presented the sermon at the sesquicentennial baccalaureate worship in May 2010. Today Lundblad, who would not have been eligible for the ministry in the 1960s because of her gender, holds the Joe R. Engle Professorship in Preaching at Union Theological Seminary in New York.

As for Swanson, he continued at Augustana until his retirement in 1999. He died in 2005, but is remembered on campus through the Richard Swanson Professorship in Social Thought, the Swanie Slough Path, an environmental advocacy fund started by faculty members, and a scholarship he and his wife, Lorian, established to assist minority students in attending Augustana College.

KAI S. SWANSON



Holy Communion in the College Chapel, 1970

Richard Swanson

Campus Pastor, Director of College Relations, Dean of Campus Ministries, 1966–1999



Richard Swanson

Richard Swanson was born November 22, 1932, in DeKalb, Illinois, and grew up in the nearby farming community of Sycamore. As a child during the Great Depression, Swanson often worked three or four jobs simultaneously—while still in grade school he swept a bank before school, worked in

DeKalb corn fields after school, and swept a department store after dinner, in addition to delivering his Swedish grandmother's bread by bicycle around DeKalb County on weekends. Swanson graduated from Augustana College in 1954. He married Lorian Sundelius, also a 1954 Augustana graduate; they had three children. After graduating from college, Swanson attended the Augustana Theological Seminary; he graduated and was ordained in 1958.

After being ordained, Swanson served as a mission pastor, starting the congregation of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Itasca, Illinois. During this time he was a member of the Augustana Alumni Association and the Augustana Board of Directors.

Swanson returned to Augustana in 1966 as pastor of the newly-formed Augustana Campus Church. In 1983 he was named Director of College Relations, a job which included Augustana's alumni relations programs and its relationship with the Lutheran Church of America (LCA). Swanson became the campus's first Dean of Ministries in 1987, overseeing all campus ministries programs and the relationship between Augustana and the then newly-formed Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Swanson retired from Augustana in 1999.

In addition to his activities on campus, Swanson was a member of the board of directors of the Rock Island County Council on Addictions and of the House of Prayer in Rock Island. He helped establish the Quad Cities Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Committee, which continues to sponsor one of the oldest interfaith Yom HaShoah observances in the nation. The committee presented Swanson with its "Hope for Humanity" Award in 1998. He was also active in the Augustana Heritage Association and was its first treasurer. Swanson was an avid long-distance walker and cyclist. In 2002 the Richard A. Swanson Chair of Social Thought was established in his honor. After his death in 2005, the path near the slough was renamed the Swanie Slough Path in his memory.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

George Arbaugh

Professor of Philosophy and Dean of the College, 1945–1974

George Arbaugh was born September 28, 1905, in Frankfort, Indiana. He graduated from Carthage College in 1926, and received his master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Iowa in 1927 and 1931, respectively. He also earned a bachelor's of divinity from the Hamma Divinity School at Wittenberg College and studied at the University of Leipzig in 1928–1929. Arbaugh was ordained in the United Lutheran Church in 1931 and would serve as a guest or interim pastor at area churches during his time at Augustana.

Arbaugh taught at Carthage College from 1936 to 1943. He was also a visiting instructor at the Chicago Lutheran Theological Seminary. In 1945, Arbaugh came to Augustana to teach in the philosophy department. Two years later, he was appointed dean of the college, a position he would hold until 1967. Arbaugh's term as dean saw several important developments at Augustana, including the establishment of chapters of the Phi Beta Kappa and Mortar Board honor societies. Arbaugh also served as vice-president of the college from 1961 to 1967. In 1967, Arbaugh relinquished his administrative roles and returned to teaching; he was named chair of the philosophy department and of the division of religion and philosophy. Arbaugh retired from Augustana in 1974.



George Arbaugh

Arbaugh wrote on a variety of topics, including Eastern philosophy, Kierkegaard, Mormonism, church history, and the psychology of religion. He spent his summers as a fisherman and amateur geologist in Ely, Minnesota. Arbaugh married Catherine Romaine Evans in 1927; they moved to Tacoma, Washington, after his retirement. Arbaugh died January 25, 1988.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

Harry Nelson

Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy, 1946–1988



Harry Nelson with model planets in the 1950s

Harry E. Nelson was born September 21, 1913, in Rockford, Illinois, to John and Alma Nelson. He graduated from Rockford High School in 1929 and received his bachelor's degree from Augustana College in 1935. In 1940, he received his master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and later earned a doctorate in mathematics from the University of Iowa. In 1941 he married Lillian Nelson in Princeton, Illinois.

Nelson taught mathematics at Cambridge High School, Luther College (Wahoo, Nebraska),

and Gustavus Adolphus College. He began his Augustana teaching career as a professor of mathematics in 1946. Nelson, sometimes known as “Mr. Astronomy,” was an integral part of establishing a planetarium and observatory at Augustana, and was named director of the John Deere Planetarium and Gamble Observatory when they opened in 1969. Nelson presided over 1500 programs for children and adults from the community at the planetarium; the most famous of these was his “Star of Bethlehem” Christmas program. Nelson was instrumental in the planning and implementation of a three day space seminar at Augustana that included a visit from Neil Armstrong. He officially retired as professor of mathematics in 1980 but remained director of the planetarium; Nelson retired from the planetarium in 1988.

Aside from his work as a professor and his directorship of the planetarium at Augustana College, Nelson served as tour director for the Eclipse Chasers' Club by leading tours to view eclipses around the world. He also studied meteorites. Nelson died on December 30, 2003, in Davenport, Iowa, at age 90.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

The Promise of Civil Rights

Although the first African-American student graduated from Augustana in 1929, the student body as a whole remained overwhelmingly white and, largely, disinclined to political action at the start of the civil rights movement in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Civil rights activities in other parts of the United States received notice on campus but did not initially inspire an active response, either on behalf of the larger movement or in support of greater equality “at home.” It was Augustana’s participation in the nationwide “Fast for Freedom Food” of 1964 that constituted the first significant campus effort in recognition of civil rights concerns. The fast was organized by the United States National Student Association, an organization known for its liberal views and commitment to social justice. Students at colleges and universities across the United States—including 416 at Augustana—agreed not to eat dinner for one evening; the value of the uneaten food went to poor African-Americans in the southern United States. The Freedom Fast succeeded in raising awareness and promoting student engagement with issues of civil rights through economic justice: as Augustana president C.W. Sorensen told the *Observer*, the event “[gave] the students a chance to DO something—rather than act as bystanders.”

The Freedom Fast was ultimately an expression of empathy for the beneficiaries of the fast, not an attempt to change conditions for minority students at Augustana: more vigorous on-campus efforts in support of civil rights only began later in the 1960s and 1970s. These efforts came largely at the

initiation of Augustana’s small population of black students, who formed the Afro-American Society (AAS) in spring of 1968. The AAS constitution opened with the society’s intent to “give outward expression to the common, inward feelings of brotherhood, love and pride which unite us” and went on to list its purposes, which included developing the sense of solidarity among black students on campus as well as improving relationships between African-Americans and the rest of the Augustana community. Soon, the AAS began to conduct talks with Augustana’s administration, pushing for a full-time black faculty member; black counseling and admissions staff; better recruitment of black students, followed by better orientation services when those students enrolled; and increased attention to black history and culture in the Augustana curriculum.

Among the Afro-American Society’s first highly visible accomplishments was its participation in the Black Power Symposium of February 1969. Black Power, a movement that sought self-determination and political efficacy for African-Americans through prizing black culture and community, was viewed with fear and suspicion by many whites in the 1960s. At Augustana, a number of alumni, parents, and members of the surrounding community expressed concern that the college’s very agreement to hold the symposium was a sign not only of its endorsement of Black Power but also of a change in its fundamental character. Such responses prompted President Sorensen to hold a press conference at which he read a statement in support of the symposium.



BSU sit-in in President Sorensen's office, February 5, 1972

Organizing such an event did not imply official approval of the views expressed, he argued. Rather, students have the right to free inquiry about pressing questions and the obligation to investigate those questions responsibly. “The students sense the urgent importance of the topic, Black Power,” he said. “They wish to see, in person, some of the key personalities in that field. They want to hear what these men have to say. And then, independently, the students will have their own opinions about things.”

The symposium itself proved popular and drew large audiences: the first evening, in Centennial Hall, saw an attendance of more than 2,000, including hundreds of students from other colleges and universities in Illinois and surrounding states. Over the course of the weekend, Dick Gregory, Andrew Hatcher, Roy Innis, Jesse Jackson, Roy Morrison, and C.S. Smith spoke about the political, economic, and social situation of African-Americans.

As important as the Black Power Symposium was for the fledgling Afro-American Society, equally great strides in the situation of black students on campus did not follow. The AAS did argue successfully for a Black Culture House, which the college officially established in 1970. But racial inequalities persisted on campus. In an essay for the AAS orientation booklet of 1969–1970, AAS President Kenneth Mason ('72) not only shared the goals of the AAS and pointed out the success of the recent Black Power Symposium, but also included a word

of caution: “you must remember,” he told the incoming black students of 1969, “that Augustana is a small college, Rock Island a small city, and our Afro-American Society even smaller . . . If you're looking for a good thing in a small package, if you can accept a challenge and not be easily discouraged, then I say to you come and ‘Check us out,’ because you're just what we need.”

What remained to “discourage” black students at Augustana? Put simply, many felt that racial inequalities, even discrimination, remained unaddressed at an institutional level; these students desired a firm campus-wide policy on race and racism, a policy arising from the highest levels of college governance. In fact, President Sorensen began preparing a statement on racism in 1971, and he sought its approval by the Board of Trustees. But the college's progress was not fast enough for the Black Student Union (or BSU: the new name for the Afro-American Society). In February 1972, a number of black students held a sit-in in President Sorensen's office while Sorensen met with three BSU leaders, who demanded the college release an official written statement on racism and how racist actions should be addressed on campus. More than 30 of Augustana's 54 black students waited in the outer room of Sorensen's office as the three student leaders made their case. Although Sorensen had recently issued his own statement on racism, the students argued that his effort fell short: the BSU had not been consulted on Sorensen's statement, which was not specific enough about how the college would address racist actions.

This meeting and its attendant sit-in made the local newspapers, and it resulted in another meeting between Sorensen and the BSU, in conjunction with Augustana's Human Relations Committee, the following week. The parties to that meeting wrote and issued a new statement, which promised expulsion from the Augustana community of anyone found guilty, after due process, of racist actions. “Due process” would be determined by the Human Relations

Committee, which represented students, faculty, and administration and included six African-Americans among its 14 members. The committee would investigate any infractions and make a recommendation for action to the college president, who would respond within a month.

The new statement met the demands the Black Student Union had brought to its sit-in. Further assessments of civil rights on the Augustana campus varied, however. In April 1972, for example, Joe Looney ('73)—one of the three BSU members who had met with President Sorensen during the sit-in—wrote a lengthy editorial-type piece for the *Observer*, arguing that racism remained a major concern on campus. Black students, he contended, continued to experience distrust, suspicion, and overtly racist actions at the hands of faculty and fellow students. The *Rock Island Argus*, on the other hand, in an editorial responding to Augustana's new official statement on racism, argued that the BSU's concerns were understandable given the country's history, but their demands of the college had been “overzealous.” Augustana's “record in this respect [i.e., its treatment of race and race relations] has been exemplary,” the editors wrote.

Such disparate assessments as those offered by Looney and the *Argus* editorial board point not only to the potential for divergence among perspectives on and off campus, but also to the effects of increased diversity at a small school historically associated with white Protestants of European descent. Indeed, the new official statement on race and racism did not make the on-campus situation perfect in the eyes of most African-American students at Augustana. Led by the BSU, they continued their efforts toward racial equality throughout the 1970s and 1980s. Because institution-level efforts to address racism cannot account for the perspective of each individual on campus, incidents of racism or, perhaps more frequently, insensitivity did not disappear overnight. However, BSU members and others in the Augustana community acknowledged over time



Roy Morrison, a teacher in inner-city Chicago, speaking at the Black Power Symposium, February 1969

the substantial progress that had been made since the founding of the Afro-American Society.

Today, that progress continues, albeit with vastly different motivations and aims than those that inspired the Afro-American Society beginning in the 1960s. Augustana's population remains mainly white, Christian, and midwestern, but it actively recruits students from outside those demographics in an attempt to increase all forms of diversity on campus. Support systems for students who might, in the past, have felt outnumbered on campus have strengthened substantially, providing the groundwork for an increasingly diverse campus environment. Curricular changes—developed over the past decades—provide all Augustana students with expanded opportunities to study diversity and global concerns. In such efforts toward an Augustana education that both reflects and illuminates ongoing changes in United States society and culture, the college continues with projects championed by earlier students who sought to bring home the promise of the civil rights movement.

STEFANIE R. BLUEMLE

Stanley Erikson

Professor of Political Science, 1948–1974

Stanley Erickson was born August 17, 1906, in Chicago, the son of Charles and Selma Dahlstrom Erikson. Erickson graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1929 and earned a law degree and a doctorate from Northwestern University in 1933 and 1939, respectively. After completing his doctorate, Erikson taught at Rockford College for several years. From 1942 to 1944 he served as director of war records and research for the Illinois War Council, a state civilian defense agency.

Erikson came to Augustana in 1948, where he became the founder of the political science department and its chair, a position he would hold until his retirement in 1974. Erikson also served for ten years as chair of the social sciences division. Erikson's research interests were wide-ranging and included civil war history, the history of inter-urban railways, and the relationship between political theory and theology. He co-edited *Political Science: Introductory Essays and Readings* and co-authored *People and Politics: An Introduction to Political Science*. He also prepared a position paper on "Mechanics of Constitutional Revision" for a committee of the Illinois Constitutional Convention in 1970.

Erikson married Lila Ellstrom on June 12, 1937, in Chicago; they had two sons. In addition to his work at Augustana, Erikson was a member of the Rock Island City Council and ran for mayor of Rock Island in 1960. Erikson died October 24, 1983.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ



Stanley Erikson

Theodore Celms

Professor of Philosophy, 1949–1963; 1967–1975

Theodore Celms was born June 14, 1893, in Latvia. Celms studied political economy and then philosophy at the University of Moscow. In 1923 he received his doctorate summa cum laude from the University of Freiburg in Germany, where he studied with Edmund Husserl. From 1927 to 1944, Celms taught at the University of Latvia, which awarded him a second doctorate in 1936.

Celms and his family returned to Germany in 1944, fleeing the Soviet invasion of Latvia. Celms taught at the University of Göttingen until 1949, when he and his family were placed in a displaced persons camp. He was brought to Augustana College later that year with assistance from the Lutheran World Federation. At Augustana Celms taught many philosophy courses, but his favorite course was philosophy of culture. Celms retired from full-time teaching in 1963, but taught part-time from 1967 to 1975.

Celms was the author of almost 90 publications, including five books, on a variety of philosophical issues. He married Vera Vichrovs in 1920; they had three children. Celms died February 14, 1989, in Austin, Texas, where he had moved after his retirement.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ



Theodore Celms teaching a class in 1959

Swedish Royal Visits to Augustana College and Western Illinois

Because of their deep connections to Sweden and Swedish immigrants, Augustana College and the Quad Cities have enjoyed numerous visits by members of the Swedish royal family during the last 100 years. Visits by royal family members include: Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf's brief visit to the campus in 1927; Prince Bertil in 1948; King Karl Gustav XVI in April of 1976 followed by his sister Princess Désirée and her husband Count Niclas Silfvershiöld in May of 1976; a 1988 visit by Queen Silvia; and King Karl Gustav XVI and Queen Silvia in 1996.

Prince Bertil, June 21, 1948

Prince Bertil visited the Tri-City area (Moline, Rock Island, and Davenport) in conjunction with the Swedish Pioneer Centennial Celebration in 1948. The celebration marked the 100th anniversary of Swedish immigrants settling in the midwest. Augustana College President Conrad Bergendoff served as the national president for the event and spoke at the opening ceremony of the prince's one month tour of the midwest in Chicago on June 5.

After several stops, the Swedish prince and his delegation of approximately 20 members arrived in Moline on June 20th. A service was held at the Wharton Field House in Moline to welcome the Swedish guests and to honor contributions Swedish immigrants had made to the local area. Bergendoff and Professor C.G. Carlfeldt welcomed the prince and the delegation at an official reception held later that day at the LeClaire Hotel in Moline.

The prince's second day in the area began with a breakfast in Galesburg followed by a brief tour of Bishop Hill, Galva, and Andover, where the prince dedicated a historical marker in honor of the Swedish pioneers who settled there. The party arrived at Augustana College in Rock Island in time for a lunch gathering. After a brief visit at Augustana, Prince Bertil and his entourage were escorted to view a historical exhibit and have tea at "Seven Acres" (the former home of George Stephens, president of Moline Plow & Co.) in Moline. The visit culminated with a public program at the Wharton Field House where Prince Bertil and several of the Swedish delegates spoke.

King Karl Gustav XVI, April 20, 1976

As part of a 26-day tour of the United States, King Karl Gustav XVI visited Augustana College on April 20, 1976. The welcome ceremony held in the Carver Center attracted an estimated 5,000 people, the second largest crowd of the king's American tour. President Thomas Tredway gave the welcome speech and President Emeritus Conrad Bergendoff followed with a brief address on the Swedish heritage of Augustana College and the Quad Cities. The Augustana Choir concluded the program with song. The Augustana College Band performed processional and recessional pieces.

Following the ceremony the king and his official party were escorted to the Denkmann Memorial Library to meet the local planning committee and to view selected library materials related to the college's

long Swedish connection. A visit to the College Union to meet with students and listen to the jazz band concluded the visit at Augustana.

The king, his party, and a select group of journalists left Founder's Circle at 12:20 p.m. for Wayne (49) and Forbes Nelson's farm in Mercer County. At the Nelsons' home, the king enjoyed a traditional American lunch consisting of hamburgers, potato salad, and corn on the cob. Before departing for Bishop Hill and the Jenny Lind Chapel in Andover, the king was treated to a ride in the Nelsons' new John Deere dual rear wheel tractor and a tour of the farm. The day in western Illinois ended with a private dinner party at the John Deere Administrative Center in Moline, Illinois.

Queen Silvia, April 20, 1988

As part of the extensive New Sweden '88 year-long celebration, which celebrated the 350th anniversary of the founding of the New Sweden settlement on the Delaware River, Queen Silvia visited Augustana College on April 20, 1988. The queen was welcomed by Augustana College and the local community in Centennial Hall at 10:00 a.m. After a prelude by the Augustana College Band and the singing of both national anthems, President Thomas Tredway officially welcomed the queen to Augustana. In her remarks, the queen noted the close ties between Augustana College and the Swedish Royal family, which dates back to the 1860s when King Karl XV donated 5,000 books to start the Augustana College Library. During the ceremony, President Emeritus Conrad Bergendoff presented the queen with books pertaining to the college's history and its Swedish roots and the chair of the Augustana Board of Directors, Martin Carver, announced the Wallenberg Gift, which would be used to remodel parts of Denkmann Hall to include new facilities for the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center. The Augustana Choir and the Augustana Concert Band ended the program.

Following the program in Centennial Hall, the queen and her entourage proceeded to the Swenson Center in Denkmann Memorial Library to view the largest collection of materials relating to Swedish immigration to the United States. During the queen's brief walk across 7th Avenue 7-year old Angela ('02) and her 5-year old sister Katy ('05) Gano had the opportunity to give the queen a bouquet of flowers and shake her hand. Local newspapers marveled at the queen's charm and how she greeted these two young Rock Island girls.

After a luncheon, the queen left the campus for Atlanta to join His Majesty and to continue the tour of the United States. Augustana College and its own New Sweden '88 committee sponsored a host of other events including public lectures, exhibits, and a concert by the Royal Swedish Army Band. The year-long celebration ended with an exhibit on the Swedish sculptor Carl Milles in Centennial Hall.

King Karl Gustav XVI and Queen Silvia, September 13, 1996

The 1996 visit marked the first joint appearance of King Karl Gustav XVI and Queen Silvia at Augustana College. After a welcome at the Quad City airport by Rock Island Mayor Mark Schweibert ('72), their majesties were transported to campus to tour the newly constructed library and meet with 100-year-old President Emeritus Conrad Bergendoff. At the library, the king and queen also had the opportunity to view an exhibit on Swedish children's literature and to meet Nils Holgersson, the son of the real Nils Holgersson on whom Selma Lagerlöf based the main character in her classic work *The Wonderful Adventures of Nils*.

A public reception near the slough followed the library visit. President Thomas Tredway welcomed their majesties while Scandinavian professor Larry Scott spoke of the historic academic ties between Sweden and Augustana College and presented their majesties with a collection of books on Swedish

immigration to North America. The president and vice-president of the Student Government Association presented the king and queen with Augustana sweatshirts for the entire royal family. Lawrence Milas, president of the Olin Foundation, concluded the ceremony by officially announcing a \$75 million gift to construct the Olin Educational Technology Center. The Augustana Jazz Ensemble and the Augustana Choir entertained with music and song.

Following the ceremony, their majesties were escorted across the campus to see Wallenberg Hall and to visit the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, both in Denkmann Hall. At the Swenson Center, their majesties met Dr. Larry Scott, the staff, and the co-founder, Mrs. Lyal Swenson. Dr. Scott presented the history of the Swenson Center and its collections.

A private dinner cruise on the Moline river boat *Queen of Hearts* was the final element of the visit

to Augustana College. While the boat was cruising slowly down river with the queen and king standing outside on the second level foredeck, a 21 gun salute was fired in their honor from Arsenal Island. After an excellent meal and wine supplied by Gus and Phyllis Anderson, members of the Augustana class of 1952, Professor of Geography Norman Moline ('64) concluded the event with a lecture on the historic and economic development of the Mississippi River. Moline vividly remembers the occasion as their majesties were both present in the pilot's cabin while he was lecturing. He notes that their "enthusiasm and questions" after the lecture were impressive and that he will always remember the opportunity to deliver the address for this special event.

Augustana College has been fortunate to have had so many visits from the Swedish royal family in recognition of its Swedish roots.

CHRISTINA JOHANSSON



King Karl Gustav XVI and Queen Silvia wave to the crowd during their 1996 visit



King Karl Gustav XVI examines a tractor at the farm of Wayne ('49) and Forbes Nelson in 1976

Edward Hamming

Professor of Geography, 1949–1980



Edward Hamming in 1980

Edward Hamming was born on March 2, 1915, in Warfum, Netherlands. His parents, Anco and Maria, were farmers. Due to the depression in Europe, Hamming's parents lost their farm. His family came to the United States and relocated to Iowa when Hamming was seventeen. Hamming decided to enroll in an American high school in order to improve his English. He then attended the Iowa State Teachers College at Cedar Falls (later University of Northern Iowa) for two summers. However, as he was not a U.S. citizen, he was unable to get a job. His family then moved to California, and Hamming began working at a dairy farm. Hamming despised milking cows, so he decided to continue his education at the St. Cloud Teachers College in Minnesota. Majoring in geography and history, Hamming graduated with his bachelor's degree in 1947. During this time, Hamming was also drafted into the army and worked for the military during WWII from 1943–1946. Hamming married Maria Strating on March 6, 1946, in Pease, Minnesota. Hamming earned both his master's and doctorate in geography from the University of Chicago. He also did graduate work at the University of California at Berkeley. Hamming's interest in teaching and his devotion

to Christian mission inspired him to teach for the Dutch Christian Reformed Church for eight years in Iowa, Minnesota, and Indiana.

In 1949, Hamming began his teaching career at Augustana College as the first full-time professor of geography. He founded the Geography Department and served as its chairman until 1975. During his time at Augustana, Hamming was an active author in his field, publishing articles in the *Journal of Geography*, *Economic Geography*, *Professional Geographer*, *Science and Children*, and *The Encyclopedia Britannica*. Hamming taught three times on Augustana's European term. During his sabbatical in 1966, he toured Portugal, Spain, Tunisia, and the Holy Land. Hamming's hobbies included camping, hiking, reading, listening to music, and painting houses in the summer. As proof of Hamming's popularity with students, he was awarded the Distinguished Professor Award twice, in 1967 and in 1972. Winners were chosen based on friendliness and helpfulness, contribution to college life, contribution to life outside the college, scholarship, and teaching effectiveness. Hamming said that the most important factors of a successful teacher are discipline, enthusiasm for what you are teaching, and a liking for the students. He believed that geography was looking at man's relation to his environment.

After 31 years at Augustana, Hamming retired in 1979, though he continued to teach part-time for the next year. He was named professor emeritus of geography, and delivered the commencement speech

in 1979. In 1980, he officially ended his teaching career. Hamming passed away on March 7, 1982, at the age of 67. He was survived by his wife, who was a teacher at Rock Island's Washington Junior High School, and his two sons, Drs. Edward and Bruce Hamming, who both attended Augustana. Upon his death, Augustana established the Dr. Edward Hamming Scholarship Fund, and has since created an endowed faculty position, the Edward Hamming Chair in Geography, which is currently

held by Augustana professor Norm Moline. In 1998, Hamming's influence led 1958 Augustana graduate Perry Waughtal to create the Institute for Leadership and Service. Inspired by Dr. Hamming's willingness to meet with students in "fireside chat" settings, the Institute brings leaders from a wide range of fields to campus to engage in informal dialogues with small groups of students.

LESLIE NELLIS

Richard Anderson

Professor of Geology, 1957–1966



Richard Anderson working with a student in the 1990s

Richard “Doc” Anderson was born April 22, 1930, in Moline, Illinois. He graduated from Augustana College in 1952 after studying under Fritiof Fryxell and R.W. Edmund of the geology department. He received his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1955 under the guidance of Leland Horberg, another Augustana alumnus.

Anderson served on the faculty of Augustana from 1957 to 1996, where he profoundly influenced several generations of students and faculty members. Anderson was the first person to hold the Fritiof Fryxell Chair in Geology at Augustana. He was appointed to the chair in May 1985, having chaired the geology department since 1968. Harold

W. Sundelius, dean of the college at the time, said on the occasion, “We are particularly pleased that the first person appointed to the Fryxell Chair was one of Dr. Fryxell’s students and a person who has continued the Fryxell tradition of excellence in the geology program at Augustana.”

In 1992, Anderson received the Neil A. Miner Award of the National Association of Geology Teachers, which recognizes a college or university teacher for “exceptional contributions to the stimulation of interest in the earth sciences.” He was nominated by students and colleagues. Anderson took students out of the classroom—to quarries, mountains, canyons, and other interesting features—around the Midwest, into the Ozarks, the Florida Keys, the Grand Canyon, and Yellowstone National Park, among other places.

In addition to his teaching career at Augustana, Anderson took his knowledge to the community, speaking at clubs and museum programs, and leading scientific tours for the public. He also worked summers mapping for the Illinois State Geological Survey. Anderson wrote a geology of the Augustana campus. Anderson died on January 8, 2009.

SARAH M. HOROWITZ

The Augustana Library

A Noisy History

Picture an elegant reading room with dim lighting and lots of dark woodwork. A gray-haired woman sits at a large desk, glasses perched on her nose, a disapproving look on her face. You probably can guess where we are and what is going to happen. Whispering and shushing escalate to loud talking and fruitless threats. Soon people are laughing, shouting, even singing and dancing. The crotchety woman is defeated and banished—or, on rare occasions, she joins in the noisy fun. This is a library!

That's the television and movie version. In real life, students need to study and write papers. In 2006, a disgruntled Augustana student wrote to the *Observer*, mourning the change since his high school days, when it was "pounded into our undeveloped brains that...we not speak in the library." A library should not have "quiet floors," he wrote, but should be a "quiet building" in which the librarians (and, presumably, everyone else as well) should "lower their voices to a whisper." Two weeks later, the library director—yours truly—wrote a guest column discussing the ways in which today's "vibrant" undergraduate libraries differ from yesteryear's "austere places where strict rules applied to all behavior." Oh, how wrong I was!

The college catalogs of 1881 through 1887—which, in those days, served as both catalogs of courses and annual reports of the college—contained yearly complaints of inadequate library space. So it was with great joy that librarian C.L.E. Esbjorn announced the library's move to its "commodious new quarters" on the third floor of "Memorial Hall"

(now known as Old Main) in 1888–1889. The library contained 13,000 volumes and subscribed to 60 periodicals, including English, Swedish, French, and German magazines, Swedish-American weeklies, and Chicago dailies. The library also served as the college's museum. It seems that the library was open all day for study, but hours for checking out books were very limited (just six hours each week in 1890). There were no reports of noise in the reading room, but one would hardly expect to find those in an official college publication.

Only a few years passed before the library's quarters no longer seemed so "commodious." Then, in February 1909, the *Observer* reported that the sons and daughters of the late Mr. and Mrs. F.C.A. Denkmann had given Augustana funds for "a library to cost not less than \$100,000." President Gustav Andreen made the announcement to the campus on January 28th, noting that it was the largest single gift that the college had received to date. That evening, as noted in a previous story, in a heavy winter rainstorm, several hundred Augustana students walked three miles through Rock Island to serenade the home of each donor. The library was dedicated on May 1, 1911. In October 1911, student Sigfrid Blomgren reports that "the new library, with its magnificent reading room is now fully in use" and that "the making of a complete catalogue, giving author, title, and contents is now under way."

With the publication of the student newspaper, beginning in 1902, we move beyond the official information and comments about library space

included in the old college catalogs. All is not peaceful in that beautiful new library. The first page of the March 1, 1919, *Observer* features a full-page editorial on the escalating struggle between library staff and students concerning appropriate behavior in the reading room. Apparently a zero-tolerance “No Talking” policy in the reading room had suddenly replaced a more laissez-faire approach, and some form of strict discipline—sadly not described in the piece—was applied. This gave rise to student backlash that included full evenings of “scraping chairs, whistling, and laughing.” “We fondly imagine that in doing these things, we are hurting the Library force, while in fact we are simply spiting ourselves,” the editor writes, pointing out that the head librarian has realized his mistake and has become more lenient. “It will be our purpose in the future to give one page in each issue of the OBSERVER to the publication of interesting library news,” the writer says, presumably doing his part to improve the student-librarian relationship.

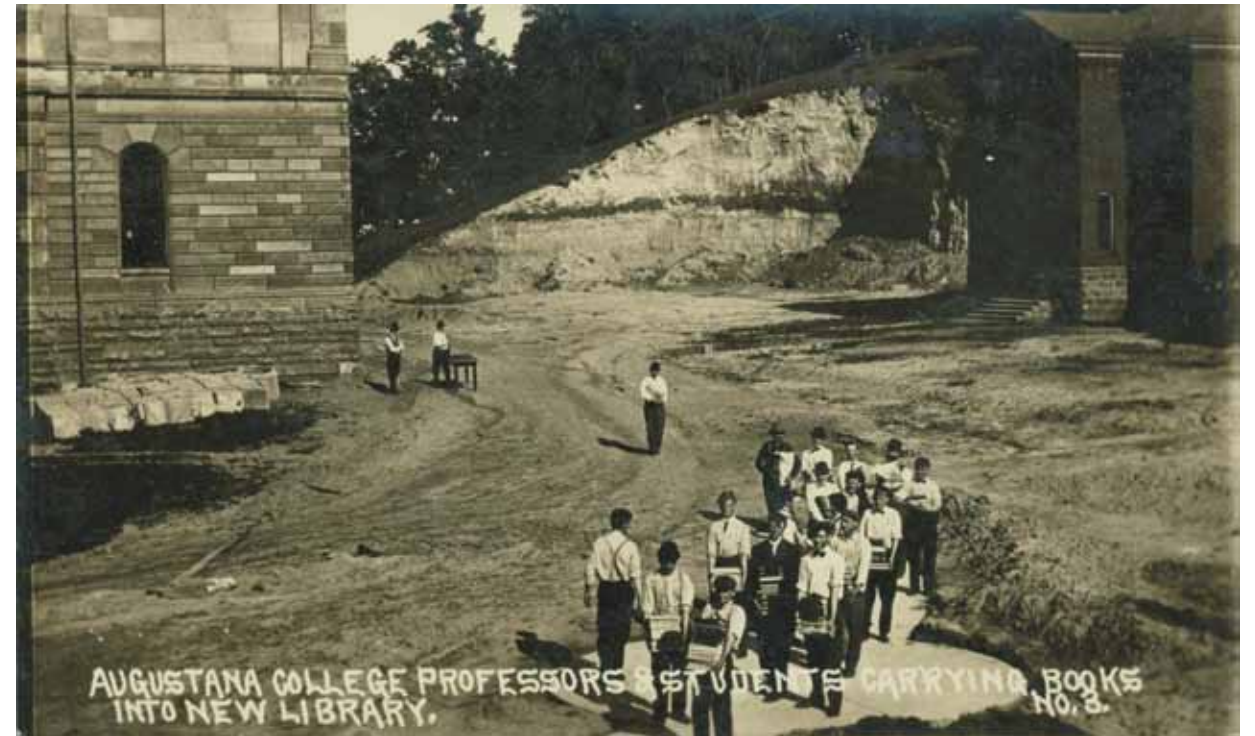
But the outcry over library noise wasn’t over. In January 1957, reporter Max Kirkeberg wrote a long piece entitled “The Decline And Fall Of The Augustana Library.” The story recounts the takeover of the library by a very large student group and its conversion to a new student union. Radios and typewriters are brought into the reading room and all but 253 books are removed because the others pose a “menace to health and safety” during freshman roller skating in the stacks. In the same issue, a short article notes that “The Decline...” is a satire, and that, in reality, the library has become quieter due to cooperation between the library staff and a student committee. “Many students have expressed their appreciation that this year it is possible to study in the reading room,” says head librarian Dr. Lucien White.

The calm was short-lived. In May 1964 “a disgusted student” wrote to the editor, stating that “the noise in the Augustana Library is unbelievable. In the reading room...students talk constantly.” They “don’t have the courtesy to whisper—they talk aloud.” The current library, opened in 1990, provided much more space and no formal reading room, both of which may have temporarily alleviated the problem. But by the year 2000, the only recurring complaint received by the staff of the Thomas Tredway Library was (and is) “noise.”

Now able to search the digitized *Observer*, I discovered that “noise in the library” is a time-honored—or time-abhorred—tradition. (Since I had seen *The Music Man*, with its frolicking library users, set circa 1910, I guess I should have known!) Of course, modern research has shown us that students learn not simply through individual, quiet study, but during discussions, presentations, and group projects as well. Much of the “noise” in today’s libraries occurs for good reason and deserves to be supported. But there is still the undeniable tendency for such interactions to turn into good old socializing and hilarity.

Perhaps a 1915 graduate’s reminiscence of his years at Augustana, written in April 1920, captures it best. He recalls an elderly, emeritus professor who presided over the library by “snoozing peacefully as a child, while in the reading room turmoil ruled. His successor, Prof. S., tried hard to have the students themselves decide to abstain from using the room as a club, but his and, I understand, consequent efforts have been in vain. Old Dr. G. never troubled himself with such reform—perhaps he had learned in his long life something of human nature.”

CARLA B. TRACY



Augustana College professors and students carrying books from Old Main to the new Denkmann Library in 1910



English professor Ann Boaden, Special Collections Librarian Judith Belan, President Emeritus Conrad Bergendoff, and President Thomas Tredway lead the procession of book-carriers from Denkmann to the new library on May 12, 1990

Sharing Memories

Scrapbooks and Albums

“Our lives are albums written through
With good or ill—with false or true—
And as the blessed angels turn,
The pages of our years,
God grant they read the good with smiles
And blot the bad with tears.”

-Your true friend and school-mate, Mary Sjoström

Have you ever stopped to wonder how people recorded activities, messaged friends, posted pictures, and shared memories before Facebook? Turns out that early social communication wasn't so different than the online networking we have today—except, of course, that it wasn't online. In the past, students and alumni of the college kept detailed scrapbooks of their years at, and beyond, Augustana. These albums featured quotes and signatures from friends, artwork, samples of beautiful penmanship, postcards, newspaper clippings, ticket stubs, invitations, even pressed flowers. Like today's Facebook, students used their books to log friends' birthdays and weddings, comment on one another's activities, and share and preserve photographs. Their books were visual representations of their lives, glimpses into what they cherished.

There are a number of these scrapbooks available in Special Collections. An album belonging to Lydia Olsson (daughter of Olof Olsson, third president of Augustana College) is simply labeled “Autographs,” but inside you'll find more than signatures. (The poem above comes from Lydia's scrapbook.) There's also “My Memory Book” by Helen Collins, an

Augustana student circa 1922. Collins's book has many paper objects from her time at the college: dance cards, valentines, her place setting at dinner events, pamphlets of rules and regulations, menus of meals she attended, and lots of goofy pictures of friends. Netta Bartholomew Anderson, one of the first women admitted to Augustana, created a sketchbook of images from Berlin, Germany.

Not all of the albums were made by students. O.N. Glim, who emigrated from Sweden in 1882 and became an ordained Lutheran minister in 1899, kept a scrapbook he called “Flora of the U.S. and Europe.” He collected one hundred samples of dried flowers and copied a literary quote about flowers onto each page. For example:

The flower that smiles today
Tomorrow dies
All that we wish to stay
Tempt and then flies (Shelley).

Nelson went on to have a vineyard and raisin farm in California. (Ever heard of Sun-Maid?) Like Helen Collins, Susanne Denkmann collected many physical items from her time at Dana Hall School and Wellesley College in her book, including a dried corsage and a ripped glove. She even preserved a note left on her door inviting her to a party: “Thanksgiving Eve in Room No. 1, Nov. 23, 1892.”

Paging through these scrapbooks is an intense, bittersweet experience. Overflowing with social artifacts, the dusty, brittle pages testify: these were

real people with interests and passions, dreams and ambitions. They loved and were loved. Friendship, travel, education, family; their lives were not so very different from our own. How, then, will we be remembered? Will future generations plumb our electronic “memory books” and digital photo

collections? Will they pore over our “status updates” and instant message exchanges? Will we leave anything for them to touch?

AMANDA Y. MAKULA



A page from Helen Collins's scrapbook, with materials from the Sigma Pi Delta dinner



A page from O.N. Glin's scrapbook

Presidents of Augustana



Lars Paul Esbjörn (1808–1870) *First President of Augustana College, 1860–1863*

Born in Delsbo in the province of Hälsingland in central Sweden, Lars Paul Esbjörn studied at Uppsala University and was ordained in

the Church of Sweden in 1832. In 1849, inspired by a pietistic revival movement in Sweden, Esbjörn led a group of Swedish emigrants to the prairies of western Illinois where he established a church in the small town of Andover, twenty miles southeast of Rock Island.

For a decade, Esbjörn struggled to minister to the Swedish Lutheran community within the German-dominated Synod of Northern Illinois. After serving two years as Scandinavian professor at the synod's school, The Illinois State University in Springfield, where he disagreed with the doctrinal looseness of many of the faculty, Esbjörn resigned and moved to Chicago where he and other Scandinavian church leaders felt that it was time to form their own synod.

In June of 1860, in Jefferson Prairie, Wisconsin, Esbjörn and his colleagues formed the Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod which immediately founded its own school, Augustana Seminary, the purpose of which was to prepare men for the ministry in the Lutheran Church and to teach in congregational schools. Esbjörn was asked to serve as president. On September 1, 1860, in a schoolhouse adjacent to Immanuel Lutheran Church on Superior Street in Chicago, the college opened its doors to 21 students.

As president of Augustana College, Esbjörn acted as administrator, professor, and parent—a heavy burden, given that his salary was continuously in arrears and that he had lost three children and two wives to disease since leaving Sweden. In 1863, exhausted and discouraged by the synod's decision to move Augustana to rural Paxton, Illinois, Esbjörn resigned his position and returned to Sweden.



Tufve Nilsson Hasselquist (1816–1891) *Second President of Augustana College, 1863–1891*

With energy and enthusiasm that was not to desert him throughout his 28-year tenure, T.N. Hasselquist assumed the presidency of

Augustana Seminary in 1863. Born in Osby in the province of Skåne in southern Sweden, educated at Lund University, and ordained in the Church of Sweden in 1839, Hasselquist immigrated to the United States in 1852. Here he distinguished himself as the president of the Augustana Synod, as the popular pastor of a church in Galesburg, and as editor of the Swedish-language newspaper *Heimlandet*.

Adding the presidency of Augustana to his other duties, Hasselquist began at once to champion the seminary's move to Paxton, Illinois—located 100 miles due south of Chicago—in response to a railway land grant of nearly 900 acres. Hasselquist tirelessly campaigned for the school's success in Paxton, managing slowly to increase the student body from ten students in 1863 to 81 a decade later, and the faculty from two to four, plus two tutors. But by 1870 it was clear to Hasselquist that the school was not thriving in Paxton, so far from the streams of Swedish immigration. In the spring of 1873, 16 acres of land were purchased in Rock Island for the new site of Augustana.

By the time of the move to Rock Island in 1875, the three departments of the school—preparatory, college, and seminary—had become more distinct from one another. That development had already been recognized by the synod when in 1870 it changed the name of the institution to Augustana College and Theological Seminary. The first bachelor of arts degree was awarded in 1877.

By the time of his death in 1891, Hasselquist had indelibly shaped Augustana College and Theological Seminary. He emphasized the importance of retaining the curriculum as it had first been conceived—which included the classics, language, religion, science, and mathematics—and he had introduced physical education, music, and a commercial course. He welcomed the presence of women on campus, witnessing the graduation of the first woman in 1885. With untiring devotion, Hasselquist had for 28 years striven to develop a school that would educate men, and now women, to lead productive lives of service in America. As Conrad Bergendoff wrote, under Hasselquist's leadership, "Augustana was not to be a Swedish institution, but it was to transplant the love of learning and the art of sound scholarship to a generation now trying to find itself in America. Hasselquist had much to do with creating the cultural character of Swedish Lutheranism in this country."



Olof Olsson (1841–1900) *Third President of Augustana College, 1891–1899*

Born in Karlskoga, Sweden, in the province of Värmland in 1841, Olof Olsson studied theology at Uppsala University and was ordained

in the Church of Sweden. In 1869, he immigrated to Kansas with a small group of pietistic Swedes. Happily ministering to his congregation, Olsson was a reluctant recruit to the faculty of the Augustana Theological Seminary in 1876. Trained also as an organist, Olsson brought an interest in music and theology to the college. One of his first acts as a faculty member was to lead the first tour of an Augustana musical organization; in 1877, Olsson took his group of musicians to visit the Kansas congregation he had left behind. Thus, two traits of Olsson's emerged early in his association with Augustana: his ability to connect to the people of the synod and his belief in music as an important element of religious experience.

To restore his fragile health, Professor Olsson took a curative leave in Europe where he visited historical Lutheran sites and attended concerts. On April 4, 1879, he heard a performance of G.F. Handel's *Messiah* in London and at that moment determined to form an oratorio society in Rock Island that would perform the same work. A little more than a year later, a small oratorio society made up of faculty, students, and community members sang portions of *Messiah*, thereby launching a tradition that continues to this day.

In 1891, three years after he resigned as professor, Olsson was called to the presidency of Augustana College. Reluctant though he may have been to assume strenuous administrative duties, Olsson faced his new assignment with optimism and determination. The problems were many: insufficient financial support, exacerbated by competition from new and growing conference schools in the synod, varying standards of teaching, and pressures to expand and liberalize the curriculum by offering electives.

Olsson addressed these challenges. He oversaw the revision of the curriculum, which, while emphasizing the original plan of teaching the classics, language, history, religion, science, and mathematics, now offered two tracks, either a classical or a scientific, plus an opportunity to choose a small number of electives. Olsson maintained close relationships with the people of the synod, welcoming the attendance of students from the local community; led the effort to strengthen athletics by building a gymnasium; introduced the first in a series of library publications; and, above all, encouraged the growth of literary societies and of music.

In 1893, at the jubilee celebration of the Diet of Uppsala, the University of Uppsala awarded honorary degrees for the first time to Swedish Americans—C.A. Swensson, president of Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas, and Olof Olsson. This distinction was a fitting tribute to Olsson, who touched the people of the Augustana Synod and promoted music for the glory of God.



Gustav Andreen (1864–1940) *Fourth President of Augustana College, 1901–1935*

Born in Baileytown, Indiana, in 1864, Gustav Andreen was the first American-born president of Augustana College and Theological

Seminary. A graduate of Augustana and of Yale University, where he earned a doctorate in Scandinavian languages and literature, Andreen was also the first president to be an alumnus and to have earned his university degree in America. Andreen was the first president to be elected to Phi Beta Kappa and the first (and only) to serve more than 30 years. He did not, however, break the chain of pastor presidents, becoming ordained in 1905.

Andreen was also the first president to mount an organized fund-raising campaign to establish a college endowment. He began the campaign in Sweden, where he was able to persuade some prominent Swedes to pledge 100,000 kronor (about \$25,000) to endow a professorship in natural sciences. At the same time, he set a goal of raising \$50,000 in America for professorships in Swedish language and literature and in church history. By 1935, the endowment amounted to well over \$1 million.

Concern about financial stability was ever present, especially in the midst of the Great Depression, but the college under Andreen continued to maintain its close ties to the Lutheran church. Although leaders of the synod considered the separation of college and seminary, for now they rejected that move; they did, however, recommend a separation of funds and management.

Despite its religious foundation, the college under Andreen was open to all academic knowledge. The Scopes "monkey trial" in 1925 accurately reflected the thinking of most religious leaders that Darwin's theory of evolution was anti-religious and should not be taught in church-related schools. A committee which included Andreen and the dean of the college responded to the issue by saying that biology classes placed no undue emphasis on evolution. Meanwhile, the field of geology, which provided much of the evidence for evolution and which was not included in the curriculum of most church-related colleges, had been taught at Augustana for decades. In 1929, under Andreen's leadership, a formal department of geology was established.

Andreen's magnetic personality won many friends both within the synod (where he was welcomed in congregations large and small as "our Andreen") and without: his presidency saw not only the gift of an extraordinary library by the family of Frederick Denkmann, but the first lasting ties to the local, non-Swedish community. The latter includes an 88-year relationship with the Quad City Symphony Orchestra, which continues today.

In the early 1930s, the science departments were struggling to teach in Ericson Hall, a converted residence. The North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools threatened to remove Augustana's accreditation if better facilities for science teaching were not provided. Thanks to a generous gift from an alumna, Marie Wallberg of Clinton, Iowa, Andreen was able to initiate the building of the Wallberg Hall of Science, which opened in 1935. With a more secure financial foundation and with a dedication to excellent teaching in appropriate facilities, Andreen propelled Augustana soundly into the 20th century.



Conrad John Immanuel Bergendoff (1895–1997) *Fifth President of Augustana College, 1935–1962*

Born in 1895 in rural Shickley, Nebraska, to Swedish-American parents, Conrad John Immanuel Bergendoff grew up in Middletown,

Connecticut. Here, two cultures shaped the boy and perhaps prepared for the man's inclusive vision. At home and in his minister father's parish, Swedish language and customs predominated. In public schools, he received an excellent American education among classmates whose diverse backgrounds he appreciated. He graduated from Augustana College at age nineteen, earned his master's degree at the University of Pennsylvania and a divinity degree from Augustana Seminary, and studied at major universities both in the United States and abroad: Chicago (where he received his doctorate in church history), Columbia, Uppsala, Lund, Oxford, and Berlin.

Like his father, Bergendoff began his career in the ministry, serving parishes in Chicago and New York City before returning to Augustana, first as dean of the seminary and then as president of both the college and seminary. Bergendoff brought with him an ecumenical ideal shaped by close association with Swedish archbishop Nathan Söderblom, pioneering architect of the World Council of Churches. Serving as Söderblom's hand-picked secretary, Bergendoff was deeply moved by the archbishop's passion for unity among various Christian denominations. Bergendoff strove, often against strong opposition, to make this ideal a reality.

Similarly, Bergendoff sought to bring together the intellectual and the spiritual in education. Conceiving knowledge as a perfect whole, he believed each academic discipline contributed its essential

part. Both science and spirituality must be studied, he asserted, or education is incomplete. Although Bergendoff saw the association of college and seminary as a natural one, the synod in 1948 voted to sever the historic ties between Augustana College and the theological seminary. Although disappointed at the decision, Bergendoff, having chosen the presidency of Augustana College, dedicated himself to building the excellence of the school.

World War II tested curricular resources as new technological training jostled for place beside liberal arts courses. In 1947, veterans returning under the GI Bill pushed enrollment to a then all-time high of 1,635. Classes were crowded, resources strained, and Augustana lost its homogeneity; diversity challenged and nourished the school.

By 1955, Augustana had increased its endowment from \$923,018 to \$2,500,000 and sported new facilities including a men's dormitory, library, and fine arts complex. Enrollment had grown from 511 to 1100; to serve these students, Bergendoff sought to build a roster of excellent scholar/teachers. Phi Beta Kappa granted the college a chapter in 1949, the American Chemical Society accredited Augustana in 1955, and the Augustana Choir appeared on national television in 1952.

Bergendoff was above all an ecumenicist. During his 27-year tenure, first as president of Augustana College and Theological Seminary, then as president of Augustana College alone, he worked to realize his vision of wholeness for the church and for collegiate education alike. Long after his retirement Bergendoff remained a significant presence in the Quad Cities community, retaining the discipline, dignity, and grace that had defined his presidency, as well as an energetic openness to the forces that unify life.



Clarence Woodrow Sorensen (1907–1982) *Sixth President of Augustana College, 1962–1975*

Born in 1907 on a ranch in central Nebraska, Clarence Woodrow Sorensen attended the University of Chicago,

where he earned his master's and doctorate in geography. He was a citizen of the world, even something of an adventurer, traveling through Eastern Europe, Soviet Central Asia, the Middle East, and Africa in years before such venues were readily accessible. His geographic studies in these areas produced 15 books.

With the appointment of Sorensen, Augustana broke its tradition of appointing presidents who were ordained (Andreen had been ordained while president); Sorensen was the first president of the college who would remain a lay person throughout his tenure. The Sorensen years were remarkable for change in other areas as well. Sorensen's presidency spanned the turbulent late 1960s and early 1970s, a time of conflict and change on college campuses nationwide. Yet, while meeting student (and faculty) challenges, Sorensen built Augustana in a number of ways.

Committed to increasing the college's financial security, Sorensen assembled a development office which undertook the most successful national campaign in the college's history to date. The Augustana Acceleration Program raised nearly \$3 million in private funds for capital improvements. Major donors included Roy J. Carver of Muscatine, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Lilly Endowment.

New facilities, secured by Sorensen's fund-raising, strengthened academic and athletic programs alike. The Roy J. Carver Center for Physical Education (at that time a state-of-the-art facility) and the John Deere Planetarium were built during Sorensen's tenure.

Under Sorensen's leadership, enrollment grew as well as endowment. Augustana joined the Illinois State Scholarship program, which funded tuition scholarships for Illinois students and helped to increase enrollment of in-state students. Overall, full-time enrollment increased from 1,305 in 1962–1963 to 2,187 in 1974–1975. Full-time faculty rose to 113.

Like his predecessor and successor, Sorensen understood the importance of faculty participation in the whole educational enterprise. Working with key faculty members, he established a system of governance that widened the faculty's role in administrative matters. The Faculty Senate, begun under Sorensen's leadership, continues today to involve faculty representing all ranks in the crucial decisions of the college. One of those decisions during the Sorensen years involved changing the academic calendar from semesters to quarters.

As a lay leader in the church, Sorensen followed with keen interest the merger of several ethnic synods, Augustana among them, into the Lutheran Church in America. He encouraged the formation of Augustana Campus Church, the first student-administered congregation at a Lutheran college. Sorensen's gentle and modest demeanor masked a strength and insight which shaped the Augustana of the decades to come.



J. Thomas Tredway (1935–) *Seventh President of Augustana College, 1975–2003*

Born in the working-class neighborhood of North Tonawanda, New York, in 1935, Tredway attended North Park College in Chicago before

transferring to Augustana. After graduating in 1957, he earned a master's in history from the University of Illinois, a bachelor of divinity degree from Garrett Theological Seminary, and a doctorate in history from Northwestern University. He served as a student pastor but did not take a call to the ministry. In 1964, Tredway returned to Augustana as a history instructor. He was named academic dean in 1970 and president five years later.

Tredway's presidency saw large changes for higher education. Small liberal arts colleges faced increased pressures that threatened their well-being. Prospective students were attracted by junior colleges and state universities, and by the seeming practicality of career training. State and federal aid became less certain in the 1980s and 1990s, at a time when incoming students demanded more and costs soared. Augustana faced individual challenges, including a weakening of the importance for its students of the Swedish ethnic connection and the Lutheran church.

Many other small colleges responded to such challenges by adding adult education, graduate programs, distance learning, and satellite campuses. In the Tredway years, Augustana retained its liberal arts focus for a traditional college-age student body living on or near campus. Maintaining a steady enrollment at approximately 2,100 students, the college was able to grow in ways that enhanced its educational mission.

New buildings were added to the campus, including a beautifully designed and much used library; a \$23-million, 100,000 square-foot building for biology, chemistry, and physics; a \$7.5 million center for computer science, mathematics, and computer services; as well as extensive renovations to existing buildings for geology and geography, foreign languages, and the arts. Tredway worked to create Augustana's foreign-study program, visiting European sites himself to set up the first program. The college endowment grew almost twenty-fold, from \$4- to \$72 million.

Tredway saw the faculty as the center of the college's educational life. The full-time faculty grew from 113 in 1975 to 141 in 2003, as did the percentage of faculty members with the highest degree in their field, from 63 percent to 91 percent. A former teacher, Tredway emphasized faculty input and collaboration in decision making, including two major revisions of curriculum. He expanded the faculty governance system begun by Sorensen, including the formation of committees that made recommendations for tenure and promotion, benefits, and academic policy. Tredway sought to keep faculty salaries for all academic ranks in the upper 20 percent nationally, and he strove to create teaching conditions that gave faculty time to work with students, including a reduction on teaching load in the early 1990s. He established the first fully-endowed academic chairs.

Tredway continued Augustana's tradition of Lutheran ecumenicism and openness. In the 1980s he was one of three Americans who represented U.S. Lutheranism in a dialogue with theologians of other major Christian faiths sponsored by the Lutheran World Federation. At Augustana, advocating the Lutheran theological position of "the two kingdoms," he argued against a rigid view in which religious belief trumped human knowledge. At a church-related college, faculty should be

free to pursue knowledge in ways honest to their academic disciplines. But he also asserted that the criteria of academic inquiry should be challenged by an evolving Christian gospel offered to humans by a free God.

Tredway was known for his intelligence, humor, and concern for people at Augustana. A believer in the liberating value of broad academic study, Tredway was a leader who, while remembering the college's roots, guided the institution successfully through challenging times.



Steven C. Bahls (1954–) *Eighth President of Augustana College, 2003–*

Steven C. Bahls was born in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1954. A graduate of the University of Iowa and Northwestern University School of

Law, Bahls is both a CPA and a lawyer, and a recognized scholar in business law and agricultural law. Prior to joining Augustana College, he was dean at Capital University Law School, and associate dean and professor at the University of Montana School of Law. From 1979 through 1985, he practiced corporate law with the Milwaukee law firm of Frisch, Dudek, and Slattery.

During Bahls's presidency, Augustana has developed *Authentically Augustana: A Strategic Plan for a Premier Liberal Arts College*; completed the Duane R. Swanson Commons, a residential facility which includes apartment-style housing for upper-classmen; and renovated Carlsson Evald Hall. His tenure has also seen the development of the Five Faith Commitments of Augustana College, created to articulate the ongoing relationship between Augustana and the Lutheran church, and curricular changes including the development of Senior Inquiry and Augie Choice.

Contributors to this text, originally prepared for an exhibit hosted in the Thomas Tredway Library in 2003, include Dag Blanck, Ann Boaden, Myron Fogde, Michael Nolan, Margi Rogal, and Harold Sundelius. Thanks also to Barbara Bradac, Donna Hill, Jamie Nelson, and Kai Swanson. Text revised and edited in 2010 by Sarah Horowitz.

Further Resources

Much of the information used to write the stories included in this book is housed in the Augustana College Special Collections. Please contact Special Collections for more information on a particular story. Special Collections holds archival materials on the history of Augustana College and is a good resource for historical information and documents about Augustana College and the surrounding community.

Those interested in a general history of Augustana might consult several useful books:

Conrad Bergendoff. *Augustana...A Profession of Faith: A History of Augustana College, 1860–1935*. Rock Island, Ill: Augustana College Library, 1969.

Thomas Tredway. *Coming of Age: A History of Augustana College, 1935–1975*. Rock Island, Ill: Augustana College, 2010.

Glen E. Brolander. *An Historical Survey of the Augustana Campus*. Rock Island, Ill.: Augustana Historical Society, 1992.

Dag Blanck. *The Creation of an Ethnic Identity: Being Swedish American in the Augustana Synod, 1860–1917*. Carbondale, Ill.: Southern Illinois University Press, 2006.

Most photographs included in this book are from the Augustana College Special Collections. Please contact Special Collections for more information about these photos. Exceptions are several photos used in the “Augustana Book Concern,” “Swedish Royal Visits,” “Josua Lindahl,” and “C.E. Lindberg” stories, which are courtesy of the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center. Photographs of Presidents Tredway and Bahls were provided by the Office of Communication and Marketing. To see more historical photos of Augustana, visit Special Collections on Flickr.

Contributors

Though essentially a klutz, **Ann Boaden**, Adjunct Associate Professor of English, found herself drawn into the story of women's athletics while researching for her book *Light and Leaven: Women Who Shaped Augustana's First Century*. She graduated in 1967, so several of these splendid women "shapers" were her own mentors and models. She shares the excitement of fellow contributors to the 150th site at the recovering and recording of Augustana stories, and she hopes that process will continue into the next 150 years!

Stefanie R. Bluemle ('02) is a reference librarian and library liaison to the departments of history, philosophy, and religion at Augustana. As an Augie alumna who worked in Special Collections during her student years, she is excited about the opportunity to share the college's stories—such as those about the origin of letter grades and the founding of the science program—with a broader audience of students and alumni.

Reference librarian **Anne Madura** ('01) Earel was first introduced to Augustana's rich and varied history as a student through her involvement with two well-established groups: the Augustana Choir and the Sigma Pi Delta social sorority. Her work on the sesquicentennial scavenger hunt and her explorations into the literary societies popular at Augustana near the end of the 19th century—and their gradual transition into the Greek and other social groups still around today—have deepened her understanding of her past Augustana experiences as a student and her current perspectives as a faculty member.

Connie Ghinazzi is a reference librarian at Tredway Library with liaison responsibilities to the natural sciences division. She explored Augustana's connection to the WWII navy for the sesquicentennial.

Rebecca Hopman ('11) is a Special Collections student worker. Her article was inspired by her discovery of Lydia Olsson's diaries while working in the archives during the summer of 2010. She felt a particular connection with Lydia's story and wanted to share it with the Augustana community. Her interest in the diaries has prompted her to spend a great many exciting hours researching Lydia's life, Augustana College in the 1890s, and the lives of other Augustana women.

Special collections librarian **Sarah M. Horowitz** was deeply involved with many aspects of the sesquicentennial, including writing stories, curating exhibits, and coordinating events. She was especially interested in the opportunity to make Augustana's history available to the widest possible audience, whether through exploring in more depth the stories of already well-known Augustana landmarks such as Old Main, or uncovering hidden Augustana stories such as the Prohibition League. She is particularly excited that the stories explored during the sesquicentennial will be preserved in this publication to take their place in the historical record.

As the head of the archives and library at the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, **Christina Johansson** ('88) followed the 150th website throughout the year with a keen interest. In addition to writing a few stories relating to the Swedish-American experience at Augustana, she assisted with translations and interpretation of older Swedish texts and provided photographs from the Center's archives for several stories. She is excited that the stories will be gathered and preserved as a physical publication.

Amanda Y. Makula is a reference librarian and liaison to the language and literature division. Eager to explore how past students preserved their Augustana experiences, memories, and photographs, Amanda delighted in the opportunity to pore over the "memory books" held in Special Collections. She admits she had to wipe her eyes a few times in the process, and is not sure if it was due to the dust or the emotional impact of the pages.

Leslie Nellis ('11), a student worker in Special Collections, loved the opportunity to become familiar with Augustana's diverse Special Collections materials while compiling research for faculty biographies and an exhibit highlighting Christmas traditions. She especially enjoyed using the collection of yearbooks, not only for research but also to discover lost Augustana traditions.

Jamie L. Nelson has been special collections librarian at Augustana since 2000, when she was hired with the charge to increase student use of the collection. She particularly enjoyed researching the impact of the flu of 1918 on campus, and tracking down diary entries and correspondence to add a more personal voice to the narrative. The documents she uncovered for that story have helped in instruction sessions to teach students how to find information in archival collections, how to "read" a historical document, and what clues a single piece of paper can provide about the college and society.

Reference librarian **Margaret Rogal** appreciates the opportunity to dig into the Augustana archives whenever she gets a chance; she loves helping to make college history vivid. And since most of the time she is advising others where and how to begin their research, she enjoyed the experience of doing her own. For the 150th anniversary, Margi also developed displays of Augustana souvenirs and mementos and the history of campus buildings.

Kai S. Swanson ('86) is executive assistant to the president at Augustana, and helped to coordinate several of the sesquicentennial observances. He believes stories, whether they touch on church polity or panty raids, have the power to both convey and shape an institution's mission, vision, and values.

Carla B. Tracy, Thomas Tredway Library director, is a special collections librarian "wannabe," but had to content herself with offering as much support as possible to Augustana's sesquicentennial activities and with writing one story about the library. She tended to postpone researching the story because she regarded it as having fun rather than doing her job. Her colleagues helped by reminding her of deadlines and by gently pointing out that not every delightful anecdote could be included.

Emily Hughes Dominick is the associate archivist at Providence Archives, Seattle. During the 2006-2007 school year, Emily worked as processing archivist in the Augustana College Special Collections, arranging and describing archival collections that had been in backlog for several years. Emily's work on these collections facilitated much of the research for the sesquicentennial articles.