

## Augustana College

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## From the President

As the exterior renovation of Old Main is completed, we view a renewed Old Main in new light—literally. Environmentally friendly lights have been installed that reveal the architectural beauty of this campus icon in the evening hours. The copper dome and fine stonework proudly gleam on this 123-year-old academic center and Quad-Cities historic landmark.

As we move into the home stretch of the *Authentically Augustana: A Call to Action* comprehensive campaign, I ask you to join me in this final push to reach the final campaign goals. The interior of Old Main, a new student center, investment in academic programs and faculty, and student scholarships all benefit from our shared personal support. To help us complete the Old Main renovation and achieve our capital goal, the members of our Board of Trustees have issued a special challenge to all alumni, friends and college parents. [Every gift to Old Main or capital projects made from April 1 through December 31, 2011, will be matched dollar-for-dollar by Board members, up to a total of \\$1 million.](#)

All this work, on campus and in our classrooms, will keep Augustana strong and vibrant for current and future generations of students; will strengthen the power of every Augustana diploma; and will ensure the college continues to be a place where transformation takes place each and every day.

Steven C. Bahls  
President, Augustana College



Class of 2011 graduate Tayler Mathews will attend graduate school at Clark Atlanta University.

## Trustees' philanthropic leadership 'truly inspiring'

The success of the current *Authentically Augustana: A Call to Action* comprehensive campaign hinges upon the investment of thousands of generous alumni, friends and Augustana parents. Leading the way are members of the college's own Board of Trustees.

The members of the Board of Trustees who have served during the campaign, have to date given or pledged a total of \$43.5 million toward the campaign's three major goals—annual operations, endowment and capital projects.

"The philanthropic leadership we see in Augustana's Board of Trustees is truly inspiring," says President Steve Bahls. "In addition to all the other many ways they lead the college and set the stage for future growth, these individuals and their families have invested heavily in the financial resources that Augustana needs to compete well both now and in the future. They take their leadership role very seriously, and have made their marks on Augustana in significant and life-changing ways."

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Karen Petersen teaches in Emmy Carlsson Evald Hall

Completion of the four major campaign capital projects—construction of Swanson Commons, renovation of Emmy Carlsson Evald Hall, the current renovation of Old Main and the future construction of a new student center—remains a centerpiece of the campaign and a goal in which the Board continues to invest time and resources.

Board giving also benefits the college endowment; it's a way to support the college in perpetuity through named scholarships, departmental and program support, and unrestricted general endowment purposes. All endowment gifts are held and invested by the college in perpetuity, with a portion of the investment earnings being drawn each year to support the college. In this way, these funds will continue to impact the college for generations to come.

Leadership philanthropy extends from the Board of Trustees to other groups at Augustana, including faculty, staff and also Alumni Board members. Alumni Board members have generously given and pledged hundreds of thousands of dollars to the campaign goals.

"We all know our gifts to Augustana make an impact on the college," says Vice President of Advancement Lynn Jackson. "We want today's students and the generations to come to have the same transformative experiences all our graduates had as students at Augustana, but with the best state-of-the-art technology and resources so they can compete well in today's job market."

The trustees' gifts include \$1.7 million in gifts and pledges to The Augustana Fund, the college's unrestricted annual fund.

"The value to the college of unrestricted assets is kept at the forefront of our development efforts," says Board Chair Kim Brunner '71. "Gifts to The Augustana Fund position the college to be responsive to immediate needs as they arise throughout the year, as well as provide student scholarship assistance and various teaching and learning opportunities. So, for example, when a faculty member has the opportunity to take students to a national conference to present research, we want to be able to say 'yes' to that special circumstance. With The Augustana Fund, we can do just that."



# Supporting Augustana is part of Johnstons' 'life plan'

Nancy and Bruce Johnston '51 feel they have a commitment to serve, to be useful in the world, personally and socially. Bruce was a longtime parish pastor mainly in the Chicago area, and Nancy had a career in public health nursing. During their life together, they raised four children, cared for many foster children—some of whom were abandoned, and sheltered refugees from Vietnam and other countries.

Bruce says the financial aspect of the couple's commitment to serve grew out of tithing. In the beginning, this was directed to the congregation with "extras" for mission and emerging needs. Now the Johnstons are continuing their benevolence with an endowed scholarship at Augustana and the renovation of Old Main as their top priorities.

"The money gifts are rewarding—it is more blessed to give than receive, so as we read in scripture—but the direct people contact is more fun," Bruce says.

But why choose Augustana?

"The college's vision statement shows that this school is still committed to Christian values with particular attention to vocation," Bruce explains. "Young people may not have vocational clarity early on; thus, it is good to be in a place where learning to make good decisions is valued even more than learning to make good money."

Bruce and Nancy have supported the college for many years in many ways.

In addition to the endowed scholarship and plans to support the renovation of Old Main, the Johnstons have given generously to The Augustana Fund and have included Augustana in their estate plans.

"The goals of Augustana's strategic plan are achievable because of alumni and friends like the Johnstons," says Augustana Vice

President of Advancement Lynn Jackson. "They clearly see how their giving has real and tangible impacts on our campus and our students."

The Johnston name has been part of the Augustana tradition since 1926. In fact, no fewer than 17 Johnston descendants have graduated from Augustana. "Early on I quickly got the idea that I might miss something if I didn't study at Augie," Bruce notes.

Two of Bruce and Nancy's children, Stephanie '84 and Noel '91, are the most recent of the Johnston legacy to graduate from Augustana. Stephanie is editor-in-chief of *Public Works* magazine in Chicago, and Noel teaches English at Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire, Ill.

The Johnstons take pleasure in helping today's students take advantage of the many opportunities enjoyed by their own children. "We are delighted that our gifts help Augustana students to enrich their lives; their thank-you notes to us are treasured and serve as positive reinforcement to our life plan," Bruce says.



Nancy and Bruce Johnston '51

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Vice President of Advancement Lynn Jackson



The goal of the ongoing restoration of Old Main is to enhance the learning and teaching environment for students and faculty and keep the iconic building relevant for the next 100 years. The exterior work, completed this spring, included repairing and lighting the dome, replacing the roof, stone repair, tuckpointing and replacing windows. The restoration continues, with the attention now on the building's interior.

Modern Woodmen of America, a fraternal benefit society, has granted \$100,000 toward the restoration of Augustana's landmark. Modern Woodmen provides life insurance, annuity, investment and banking products to its more than 75,000 members. It was established in Rock Island in 1897 and has since become a valuable corporate citizen, donating millions of dollars back to the community each year. To honor its generosity, Old Main's first floor commons area will be named for Modern Woodmen.

"Augustana is a wonderful college with a long history of benefiting the Quad-Cities community," says W. Kenny Massey, president and CEO of Modern Woodmen of America. "Our financial support of the Old Main project is yet another way Modern Woodmen strives to improve the quality of life in the community and show its commitment to the Quad Cities and its educational institutions."

Old Main's interior renovation includes modernizing classrooms, adding computer kiosks, creating a two-floor forum space in front of the original stained-glass chapel window and updating faculty office and seminar rooms. It's anticipated that all classrooms will have smartboards, new and brighter projection capabilities, Blu-ray DVD playback and wireless networking. Also being considered are technologies for laptop or tablet-enabled collaboration spaces for group work, in addition to integration of receivers for student response systems into classroom consoles. Access to multimedia will promote more engaged learning—both professor and student initiated. Students will be able to remain in Old Main to do research and be close to peers and faculty.

In addition, structural renovations and furnishings will transform Old Main into a space that invites collaboration and open discussion. Lecture rooms with chairs and tables on wheels will encourage small group discussions/problem-solving activities. Adequate office space will allow for the one-on-one teacher/student interaction integral to the Augustana experience and required for capstone research.

"The public common spaces that are included in the remodeling of Old Main will provide opportunities to expand learning beyond the traditional classroom," says Dr. Ellen Hay, interim dean of the college and professor of communication studies. "Students will be able to work collaboratively in these areas on class projects. In the evenings, there will be guest speakers, and occasions for informal interactions and receptions to further broaden what we offer to our students. We are excited about the possibilities for the future."