



Reflecting on Thomas Tredway's 39 years as professor, dean and president, and what they've meant for Augustana.

Story by Debbie Blaylock | Portrait by Jon Van Allen

Steady as he goes

WHEN DR. THOMAS TREDWAY WALKS AROUND CAMPUS for the last time this spring as president of Augustana College, it will be a dramatically different place than when he took office 28 years ago. A new library, college center and two academic buildings, complemented by hundreds of new trees and shrubs, will certainly be part of the Tredway legacy. But what is equally remarkable is what has not changed. With Tredway at the helm, the mission and identity of Augustana as a liberal arts institution have remained clear and steadfast in often uncertain times. ¶ “Tom always had a vision of the school as a place where students learn how to think critically and act responsibly,” says the Rev. Richard “Swanie” Swanson ’54, former College chaplain and a longtime friend. “He looks for people who can help students achieve that, and he sees the buildings and the grounds as the environment where that can take place. That’s always been at the top of his agenda.” ¶ In a sense, Tredway helped define Augustana as what a liberal arts college is and should always be. And he did so in a difficult period. In the 1960s, ’70s and ’80s, small colleges across the country struggled over whether to become more specialized at the expense of their liberal arts programs, according to Dr. Nils Hasselmo ’57, president of the Association of American Universities in Washington, D.C. ¶ “Augustana stayed with its liberal arts program, and today is in a stronger position,” Hasselmo says. “Specialization diffuses a school’s mission and diverts resources. Other colleges lost their focus, but Augustana resisted the trend—and very wisely so.” ¶ In fact, when Tredway became president, Augustana offered six degrees, including two master’s degrees. He’s pleased to point out that Augustana now awards only one degree, a bachelor of arts degree. >

"I felt we ought to be good at one thing and stake the College's life on being a strong residential, undergraduate liberal arts college—and we've done that," Tredway says. "Now we've undergone a revision of the core curriculum, and we have a strong commitment of the faculty to this new program. I think it's a reaffirmation of the fact that you don't have to be a trendy boutique. We're single purpose. We offer a strong liberal arts undergraduate education to everybody, whether you go on to med school or become an accountant or teach English. And that works for us."

'Genius of sorts'

Originally from North Tonawanda, N.Y., near Buffalo, Tredway came to Augustana in 1955 to study history, transferring from North Park College in Chicago, Ill. One of his classmates there, Dr. Timothy Johnson '58, transferred to Augustana the following year.

"Right from the get-go, it was blindingly obvious that Tom was no bumpkin from Buffalo, but rather a seminal genius of sorts," says Johnson, the network medical editor for ABC News. "He absorbed knowledge and life in huge gulps and digested it in thorough and thoughtful fashion—but always with a unique 'Tredway Twist.' It was obvious to me from day one he would wind up in academia—and Augie has been remarkably lucky that he landed there."

After graduating Phi Beta Kappa from Augustana in 1957, Tredway earned a master's degree in history at the University of Illinois, a bachelor of divinity degree at Garrett Theological Seminary, and a doctor of philosophy degree at Northwestern University. In 1964, he found himself back in Rock Island teaching history at Augustana.

Tredway's specialty was Western Civilization and modern European history with an emphasis on intellectual currents during and since the Reformation. In 1969, he was named the winner of the Senior Recognition Day Speaker Award by members of the senior class. The award recognizes a professor's teaching effectiveness, his contribution to college life, his scholarship and his helpfulness to students. One of his former

students, Nancy Rohkohl '70 Sims, still vividly remembers Tredway's "sweeping dramatic moves, his passion and knowledge for his subject matter and his way of involving students in his lectures."

"It was the winter of 1968, when the U.S. was awash in foreign and civil wars in Vietnam and on the streets of its own cities," Sims recalls. "Within the confines of a second-floor classroom in Old Main, another war was played out before my eyes. The cunning and crafty Medicis in Florence were undermining rivals, the Pope and neighboring states. Tredway made those wintry days come alive as he darted about the room, flailing arms and without notes, urging us to witness the sneaky treachery that was enveloping Florence."

On a visit to Florence years later, as Sims stood in awe of the Palazzo Vecchio, she breathed in the history of Lorenzo the Magnificent and was reminded again of Tredway's vibrant lectures, his empathy for historical figures and his dramatic flare for bringing them to life. Parts of that, she says, she has incorporated into her own teaching style.

Other Tredway attributes are in a class by themselves. His memory, for instance, has amazed more than a few students and colleagues through the years. He's well-known for his ability to take the podium and speak as eloquently as if he's reading from a prepared speech; yet he has few, if any, notes with him. During convocation talks, his recall of scriptures has sent listeners to their Bibles to check his accuracy, only to find he does know many verses word for word. In the history courses he continued to teach through most of his presidency, students were treated to a mosaic of references from classical and contemporary sources, all rendered as if the texts were in his hands.

"He has literally memorized hundreds of



Then & Now

1975		2003
113	FULL-TIME FACULTY	141
64%	PERCENTAGE HOLDING HIGHEST DEGREE	91%
18%	PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN FACULTY	38%
18 TO 1	STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO	13 TO 1
0	ENDOWED POSITIONS	12
\$4 MILLION	ENDOWMENT	\$72 MILLION
\$22.8 MILLION	REPLACEMENT VALUE OF PHYSICAL PROPERTY	\$156.2 MILLION
14%	ALUMNI PARTICIPATION RATE	38%

old hymns, and he can rattle off poems he heard as a child," Swanson says. "He never forgets anything...and sometimes I wish he would."



President Tredway meeting with students in the mid-1970s.

Beyond the classroom

Without a doubt, teaching has always been Tredway's first love. Dealing directly with students and helping them discover the world—and themselves—have given him great satisfaction through the years. His move into administration simply came out of his desire to elevate those ideals.

"I had an office in Old Main," Tredway says, "and I used to look out the window and see the lights on in Founders and think 'I wonder what those guys are doing. I sure would like to be in on the decision-making.' The tradition of this College was not one of a strong faculty governing the institution. And I really felt it was important for the faculty perspective to be heard."

In 1970 Tredway joined Augustana's administrative ranks as vice president of academic affairs and dean. Five years later, he was elected the seventh president of Augustana from among 109 candidates for the job. At age 39, Tredway was one of the youngest chief executives in College history: Dr. Gustav Andreen was 37 when he became president in 1901, and Dr. Conrad Bergendoff was 39 when elected to the office in 1935.

Tredway's inauguration on the lawn, just south of Old Main, was fairly simple

compared to traditional inaugurations. At the time, it was described as understated, a reflection of the man himself. The *Observer* student newspaper had predicted the atmosphere would be scarcely more formal than an all-school picnic. The ceremony was, in fact, followed by a lawn picnic.

In some respects, that inauguration set the tone for a presidency where more people have a voice in decisions and where as much business gets done "on the sidewalk" as in an office. Augustana's tradition of patriarchal leadership was near its end because Tredway knew from the beginning that was not his style.

"I've gotten away with not doing that, and have probably disappointed some people," he says. "But one of my deepest convictions is that leadership is a matter of working together with other people and listening to them. Many, many times by getting a sense of what the faculty, administrative leaders and trustees wanted, we've made better decisions than if I had done what I thought we ought to do from the beginning."

Then, with a laugh, he suggests that perhaps his commitment to a collegial style of management was essentially a virtue of necessity.

"I really wanted this job but I was so scared when I got it," Tredway says. "I knew I didn't have the gifts or the smarts to do it by myself. I felt really blessed that there were these other good people here, and they and I could work together."

During Tredway's presidency, a system of collective governance was developed. Most crucial decisions are made by people who represent the whole campus community, not simply administrators. That's true of personnel decisions, revisions in curriculum and the development of campus. And he feels good about that.

"That isn't to say that there are times when something happens, and I don't like it, that I call up and try to get it fixed in a hurry," he says. "But for the most part, those are usually incidental and peripheral. On the bigger issues, it's always a better decision when you talk to other people."

Tredway believes that one of the most important changes during his years as president has been the wider and deeper involvement of the Board of Trustees in planning for and supporting the school's future. "I've never been so confident that the Board is ready to take the College to higher ground as I am now," he says.

From the Board's perspective, Brenda Czajka '75 Barnes, who chairs the Trustees, applauds Tredway for his leadership on the Board and his passion for Augustana.

"Tom has always been a step ahead of what the next challenge or opportunity is that we should be focusing on," Barnes says. "He's very open to ideas and to new ways of doing things, and he has pushed us to think of our school in bigger ways. He has always been committed to attracting and retaining a great faculty, in developing programs that distinguish the school and in fostering the relationship with our Lutheran heritage. I'll miss working with him."

'A pastoral heart'

According to Augustana's constitution, the president is responsible for the spiritual life of the College. The years since Tredway became president have seen dramatic changes both in the church, highlighted by the 1987 merger which created the Evangelical

1975 Thomas Tredway elected 7th president of Augustana College

1976 King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden visits campus

1977 \$11.7 million Agenda for Leadership announced; will raise \$18 million by 1982

1979 College Center opens

1980 WVIK-FM signs on the air as Augustana College Public Radio

1981 Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center established

1982 Football team loses to West Georgia in national championship; won't lose again until 1987, four NCAA titles later

1986 Foundations honors program in humanities begins; Logos honors program in sciences follows in 1997 • Seventh Avenue reduced to two lanes and reconfigured to better link both sides of campus

1988 Queen Silvia of Sweden visits campus • \$4.6 million gift from Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust launches \$45 million Campaign for Augustana; by 1993, more than \$47.5 million committed • Augustana chosen to participate in Pew Science Program • Exchange program with China's Huazhong Normal University begins

1990 Augustana College Library dedicated in celebrations which include Chicago Symphony Orchestra performance in Centennial Hall

1991 Dr. William Hammer discovers first Antarctic dinosaur

1994 Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust makes \$75 million grant toward scholarships and new science facilities

1995 PepsiCo Student Recreation Center opens

1996 King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden make first joint visit to campus • F.W. Olin Foundation announces plans to build \$75 million educational technology center for Augustana College

1997 Tradition & Promise \$80 million campaign launched; ends January 1, 2001 with \$87 million committed • Three new buildings added to campus: Betsey Brodahl Student Services Building, Doris & Victor Day Broadcast Center and Studio Art Building

1998 Science Building and F.W. Olin Educational Technology Center dedicated

1999 Augustana ends the 1990s with more Academic All-American athletes than any school in the nation except Nebraska and MIT

2001 Multimedia "smart" classrooms installed in all academic buildings

2002 New General Education plan adopted by Faculty Senate • Lilly Foundation announces \$2 million grant to fund Augustana's "Called to Serve" church vocations initiative



The young professor, 1965

pastoral needs of students and the entire campus community.

Of the 28 ELCA universities and colleges across the country, Augustana is the only one to have three people devoted exclusively to pastoral duties. "And the only reason it has happened here is because of Dr. Tredway's intervention, and his efforts to make Campus Ministries a strong and vibrant part of life at Augustana," Priggie says.

Swanson, who worked at the College from 1966 to 1999, echoes his successor's praise of Tredway's advocacy. "He's deeply ecumenical and has a pastoral heart for the people of the College. I was a pastor serving under a pastor, and it doesn't get any better than that."

On the sidewalk

Unless it's 10:30 on a Tuesday morning when one can be certain Tredway is at chapel, it's often difficult to find him because he's usually not in his office.

"My wife has an MBA, and she says I have an MWA—Management by Walking Around," Tredway says. "But I've learned that when someone is in your office, you often can't get them out. My style is to go to the other guy's office because you can leave. I've heard that people say 'He's always coming down to Old Main'...well, guess why."

Tredway also keeps his own schedule, carrying a small appointment book in his pocket. When he has a "formal" appointment, he writes it down. For other conversations about College business, he records it with a "PH" or "SW" after the name. "PH" indicates a phone call, and "SW" stands for sidewalk, which literally means a chance meeting on the sidewalk, or an impromptu conversation in the cafeteria or Old Main. He estimates two-thirds of the entries in his book are followed by a "PH" or "SW."

Crafting the campus

Part of a college president's job involves speaking to various groups about the school. Tredway appreciates the fact that whether he's talking to a high school senior and her parents on the walkway outside Founders or to a room full of businesspeople in Chicago, he doesn't have to change his mes-

Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and in the varying church identities of the ELCA's colleges and universities. And with Lutheran students now in the minority within Augustana's enrollment, some have wondered whether there's been a weakening in its church relationship.

"On the contrary," says the Rev. Richard Priggie '74, College chaplain since 1999. "Dr. Tredway truly understands and endorses the church-relatedness that is Augustana."

The Augustana Lutheran Church, the national church body out of which the College was founded in 1860, was ecumenical in its outlook, which was a rarity at the time. The College has never seen its mission as something for Lutherans only, Priggie says. Rather, it is a gift to the wider society, and because of this awareness of what it means to be a college of the church, all segments of church and society are welcomed at the College.

In addition to his understanding of the founding principles of the College, Priggie says Tredway's academic background, specifically his knowledge of the Lutheran Reformation, has become a part of him—his faith and his view of life. "The realistic outlook that Lutheranism has, and the reliance upon God's grace...that characterizes Dr. Tredway," Priggie says.

In the three years Priggie has served at Augustana, the office of Campus Ministries has doubled in size. Besides Priggie and Sister Marilyn Ring, two others—Larry Peterson, director of music, and Associate Chaplain April Johnson—now serve the

A quiet shaded grove

Dr. Thomas Tredway was installed as Augustana's seventh president in October of 1975. After being introduced by Judge John Telleen, chair of the Board of Directors, he offered what has to be one of the shortest inaugural addresses in the College's history:



To be one of the people who belong to Augustana is a source of happiness and gratitude to me.

the Christian Church, in America as surely as it had for a thousand years in Europe. ¶ And we must think of the people who are happy because it is Saturday, and they are free from grade school for the weekend. They will come here after some of us are gone, to study and play, to worship and grow. ¶ Mr. Telleen, I am pleased to assume the responsibilities now assigned to me. To be one of the people who belong to Augustana is a source of happiness and gratitude to me. I promise to do the best I can. ☮

Cardinal Newman reminds us that when the ancient Athenians began the world's first university, they sought a quiet shaded grove with a stream flowing through it. To think carefully and clearly, they believed one must be in pleasant, tranquil surroundings. Shaded lawns were ideal for reason and reflection. ¶ This lawn has seen its share of Frisbees and touch football. But I suppose that what the trees and bricks around us know best are students and faculty hurrying to class in Old Main or Wallberg or Founders Hall. As lovely as college campuses like this one may be, especially in the fall, it is the men and women who populate them who give them their true meaning. When persons of intelligence and honesty and discipline are committed to learning and teaching, lawns have a way of turning green and oaks of turning red and yellow around them. ¶ The people who come and go here are the truest loveliness of the place: students, janitors, administrators, secretaries and teachers. There are people, too, not always here, who deepen the colors of the campus: ¶ Parents, who after they have unloaded their children and their trunks at the dormitories, drink coffee and nervously meet the faculty on the Union lawn each fall. ¶ Alumni, who cross the sidewalks caught in memory, hearing voices in their minds which they thought they had forgotten. ¶ Neighbors, who bring their out-of-town company to look around the campus when the red-buds blossom. ¶ Today one thinks especially of people who will never come here again. They built this school because they believed that immigrants were as ready as anybody to seek liberal learning. They held that higher education belonged in the midst of

sage. Augustana's straightforward identity as a church-affiliated, undergraduate liberal arts college allows him to "say the same thing about Augustana to everybody."

The vindication of having such a clear purpose and a single mission, he says, was the \$7.5 million grant from the F.W. Olin Foundation to build a state-of-the-art educational technology center.

The award followed a series of meetings involving Augustana representatives at the Olin Foundation's offices in Manhattan and Minneapolis, and a three-day visit to

in 1990, is significant because it links the sciences and the humanities, symbolizing Augustana's mission as a liberal arts college. The College Center, located at the north end of campus, opened in 1979.

What's next

"If somebody asked me, what standards, principles or criteria have you lived by or done this job by, it wouldn't be a very clever or original list," Tredway says. "I believe in the glories of youth, the potential and possibilities. I love being around kids. That's why I got into teaching in the first place. I believe in the disciplined life of the mind, and that's true for a chemist, or for a person in English lit or philosophy. I believe in reading

books, and exploring new ideas and new places."

Does he have any advice for his successor? Yes, to take a greater interest in tooting the College's horn. His biggest failing as president, Tredway says, is that he wasn't concerned enough about marketing the College.

"I've always believed that if a place is a good place, then people will find out," he explains. "But we

probably could have been more aggressive in letting the world know about our achievements and virtues. It isn't true the world will always beat a path to your door. Sometimes you've got to advertise that you've got the better mousetrap."

And while the College has seen a near twenty-fold increase in its endowment, Tredway predicts another challenge for the next president will be the continued building of the school's financial base. "The school is an overachiever given its finances," he says. "If you look at our school's academic record—in terms of students going to med school, graduate fellowships, graduation rates, admissions standards—it's amazing what the school has accomplished on its financial base."

Life after Augustana, for Tredway, will probably include a move to Galena, Ill., where he and his wife Kate (Catherine Craft

'83) have been fixing up a 160-year-old home. The form that this post-presidential life takes will be slightly different than anticipated, because of a December accident in which Tredway was struck by a vehicle while bicycling. With physical therapy for his injured knee, it's hoped he will soon be back to biking, hiking and canoeing. All three activities have long been passions of Tredway's, but none more so than biking: it wasn't uncommon for him to put in 30 miles before arriving at his office in the morning.

Tredway has tried to stay current in his own academic field of Reformation history and European history. He's been offered a couple of short-term teaching positions at other institutions. He's also thinking about writing a book, but not one most people would expect.

"I'm toying with the idea of writing a short novel about academic life," Tredway says. "It's the most wonderful life in the world, and part of its delight is that it's so comical sometimes. It would have a serious storyline, and I hope it would obtain moments of genuine satire. I don't presume I'm capable of it, but if I were...."

That may sound like Tredway is ready for a new challenge, consistent with the ideals of the perpetual student, one who is always exploring and challenging oneself. It is a faithful trait that has helped guide Augustana to a leading role among small colleges nationwide. It's a consistency that, no doubt, Tredway will take into his retirement.

For as his good friend, Swanson, says today, "He's the same guy I met in a canoe 36 years ago."

Come this spring, Tredway will spend his last days as Augustana's president, walking down the green and storied pathways of the campus, perhaps passing some of the trees and shrubs he bought and planted himself. He'll log more "SW" encounters in his appointment book than space will probably permit. Friends and colleagues will celebrate the end of a memorable chapter in Augustana's history in both its growth and vision for the future. Then, at the age of 67, Dr. Thomas Tredway will be back in his canoe, guiding his vessel toward new and uncharted waters.



campus by the foundation's officers. "They met with faculty, students, trustees and administrators, and then they gave us the money because we seemed to be what we said we were," Tredway says.

It was one of his most gratifying accomplishments. "To get that endorsement and to do it in such a competitive environment meant a lot to me," Tredway says. "I can tell you 10 other college presidents who called me the day it was announced and asked, 'How did you guys do it?'"

Tredway downplays his personal role, but Augustana's Vice President of Development Al DeSimone says Tredway's leadership was key to obtaining the grant. "Two things made it possible for us," DeSimone says. "The institution itself and Tom Tredway. For the most part, the Olin people deal with a school's president, and Tom connected with them. He was able to communicate what we're all about."

The Olin Center is one pillar in a colonnade of new buildings completed under Tredway's tenure. During the 1990s alone, Augustana invested more than \$50 million in new construction and building renovations. The Olin Center and the \$23 million science building were dedicated in 1998. The buildings' proximity to the library, completed

Tredway says this saying, which friends Bruce Carlson and Art Mampel had carved into wood for him, has taken on special meaning as he began contemplating retirement.

Signing off

Don Wooten retires as general manager of Augustana Public Radio

On a wintry day near the end of 1976—when both Augustana College and the Illinois General Assembly were on breaks—Don Wooten paid a visit to the home of Thomas Tredway. The state senator and college president talked about a dream, and how it might come to fruition. Almost 26 years to the day after that meeting, Wooten took a step away from the reality which grew out of their reverie, retiring last December as general manager of Augustana Public Radio.

Wooten pitched a plan to convert Augustana's ten-watt student station into a professionally-staffed, regionally-focused broadcast source for serious music and serious news. On August 25, 1980, WVIK-FM signed on the air with a 6:00 a.m. broadcast of "Morning Edition" from National Public Radio, followed by the station's first music show, which opened with the *Academic Festival Overture* of Johannes Brahms.

Much has changed since Diane Witte '78, an inaugural staff member, dropped the needle on that recording. For one thing, nobody drops needles any more, since LPs have largely been replaced by compact discs. WVIK's original digs—retrofit into meeting rooms and *Observer* offices in the former Student Union—gave way in 1995 to the Doris and Victor Day Broadcast Center, in which computers and digital technology are involved in virtually every aspect of production. And thanks to webcasting the station can now be heard around the world on the Internet.

In many ways, however, there's been a constancy at WVIK which contrasts sharply with all of the changes. Programming is still an eclectic mix of music, news and views that can be hard to find from any single source.

Wooten, who managed the station full-time after leaving the Illinois Senate in 1980, grew up in Memphis during the Radio Days of the 1940s. Saturdays meant magical trips to the Metropolitan Opera, with Sunday seats at the New York Philharmonic—both broadcasts sandwiched between Old-Timey music and variety shows.

"That was *broadcasting*," he says. "What you find now is mostly 'narrowcasting.'"

"One of the ways a society holds together is through common experiences and common knowledge. In the early days, we all heard pretty much the same stuff. Now you can lock yourself into one of hundreds of channels which will feed your interests and your prejudices. Choice, ironically, has narrowed and fragmented us."



Countering that trend has been among Wooten's aims since WVIK signed on the air. Today, a week's listening to the station would include—along with daily doses of classical music and NPR news—lectures from the Chautauqua Society, Garrison Keillor's *Prairie Home Companion*, opera broadcasts, shows featuring jazz and folk music, and programs on science, art, literature and public affairs. A significant portion of the programs are local, including broadcasts of the annual *Messiah* production by Augustana's Handel Oratorio Society.

Through its promotion of concerts, lectures and other campus events, the station serves as a bridge between college and community. And it's an active partnership: listeners around the region contribute \$300,000 annually to offset WVIK's operating costs.

In addition, a cadre of some 200 volunteers pay regular visits to the studios in order to sustain the Augustana Public Radio Information Service (APRIS)—a reading service launched in 1989. Volunteers transmit on a signal which can be picked up by special receivers issued to people who are unable to read or hold a book or newspaper due to physical impairment. "APRIS is a major social service which extends the reach of the College far into its region," Wooten says.

Looking back, Wooten says WVIK has "pretty well fleshed-out" the dream he shared with Tredway a quarter-century ago. "We do for the community—in a less direct way—what Augustana does for its students: we educate, we enrich lives, we open new vistas."

EDITOR'S NOTE *In January, Station Manager Lowell Dorman was named WVIK's new general manager. Wooten plans to continue hosting his signature programs at the station—Saturday Morning Live, Matinée and Jazz After Hours. In addition to 90.3FM in an 80-mile radius around the Quad Cities, you can dial up streaming audio at www.wvik.org.*



Each faculty member came home with plenty of pictures (one prof filled a dozen compact discs with digital images) which are noteworthy not just for their record of contemporary life in China, but also for what they say about their respective photographers. These pages sample the work of Mike Wolf, geology; Steven Hager, biology, and Jon Hurty, music.

Snapshots say a lot



A musician goes to China, and learns science can take your breath away. A geologist comes away from the same trip with the conclusion that people are pretty much the same no matter where you find them. As part of a major grant from the Freeman Foundation to support Asian studies at the College, 14 Augustana faculty spent part of the summer in China, preparing study experiences in biology, business administration, geology, music and theatre.



“I was able to scratch the surface, and now I’m anxious to learn more about Asian music,” says Margaret Ellis, an instructor and administrator in the music department. “I’m excited to share with students not just what we learned, but what we felt—a real cultural awakening.”



Ellis says interaction with faculty from across campus added a remarkable dimension to the trip. “We experienced an earthquake in Tokyo, and Mike Wolf [geology] was right there to explain what was happening. We’d see an unusual bug and Steve Hager [biology] would be able to tell us all about it and why it was where we’d found it. All of this taught me we aren’t isolated in our disciplines. It’s not about music or geology or biology or any single field; it’s about Asia in as many facets as we can explore with students.”

One highlight for Ellis was a boat trip on the Li River that floated past the feet of immense tower karst rock features—dramatically steep mountains cascading down to the river’s edge. Dr. Wolf says he was “thrilled” to offer a pick-up lecture on the geologic processes of dissolution and precipitation in limestone formation.

“I find it interesting that the same fundamentals are at work in the Guilin tower karst as in the Maquoketa Caves [some 40 miles from campus in eastern Iowa], even if their expressions are so wonderfully different,” says Wolf, who found the phenomenon of similar-processes/nuanced-outcomes to be as evident in sociology as geology.

“Throughout the trip, I was struck not so much by how different people were, but how similar we all are, in our basic wants and needs. We all want a safe place to raise our kids, good food, clean air and water.” That, says Wolf, led him to conclude that the barriers between China and the U.S., though considerable, are far more political than personal.

During the course of the school year, faculty who took part in the trip will be preparing curricula for the students they’ll accompany to China next summer. But according to Ellis, those won’t be the only students who benefit from the experiences faculty had last summer. “Going on a geological field trip in China might not seem to make me a better musician, but it makes me a better teacher at a place like Augustana.”



I now know what wildebeest meat smells like. This lion stayed right in front of us for almost 20 minutes before she dragged the carcass into some bushes where other lions were waiting to share the feast.



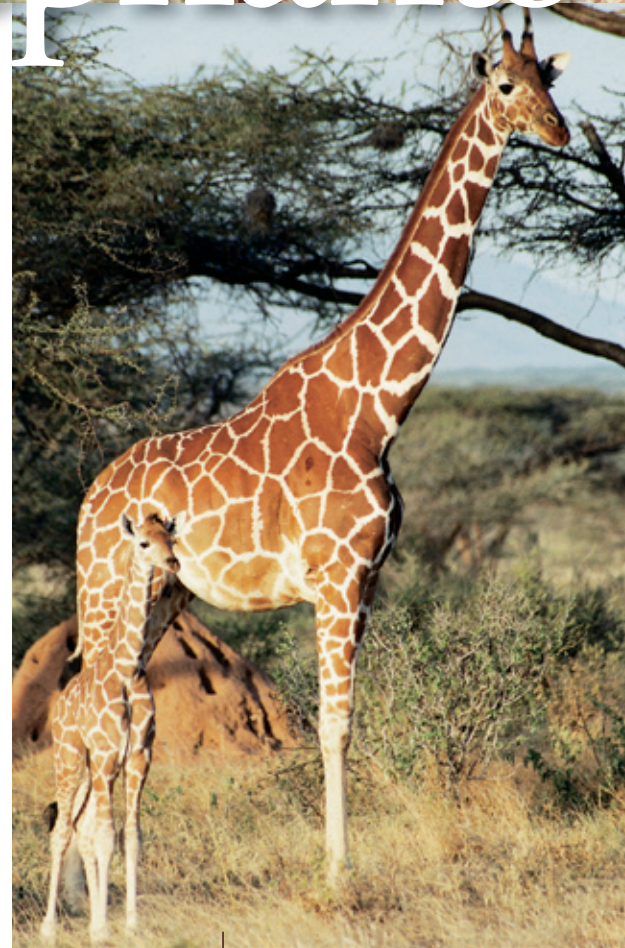
Lions, elephants

We had a running competition among ourselves to spot and identify birds. This kingfisher was one of my favorites because it was so tiny.



W

hile serving an internship with Chicago's Brookfield Zoo during the summer of 2001, Jill Youngblood '03 had the opportunity to study such exotic creatures as meerkats, aardwolves, fennec foxes and naked mole rats. The last of these became the subject of a behavioral study she conducted, which she completed back on campus with help from Dr. Shirley Fenwick in the psychology department and her biology advisor, Dr. Stephen Hager. 🍷 Her work on naked mole rats—which she presented both at an Illinois State Academy of Sciences conference and Augustana's own annual Celebration of Learning—certainly spiffed-up her application to take part in an animal behavior fieldcourse offered by Georgia Tech and Zoo Atlanta, which she learned about from Hager. 🍷 Last summer, after an intense week of preparation in Atlanta, she and 11 other students from around the country found themselves on a 16-hour flight to Johannesburg, South Africa. After visiting a cheetah refuge there, the group headed for Kenya, where Youngblood visited the Amboseli, Samburu and Masai Mara national parks. They took part in twice-daily "game drives" and became acquainted with the culture of the Masai people, who have long co-existed with the animals the students were learning about. 🍷 "Throughout the whole trip, I kept taking rolls upon rolls of film," Youngblood says. "But I figured, how many times does a person get to go to Africa?" Included here are some of Youngblood's favorites. 🍷

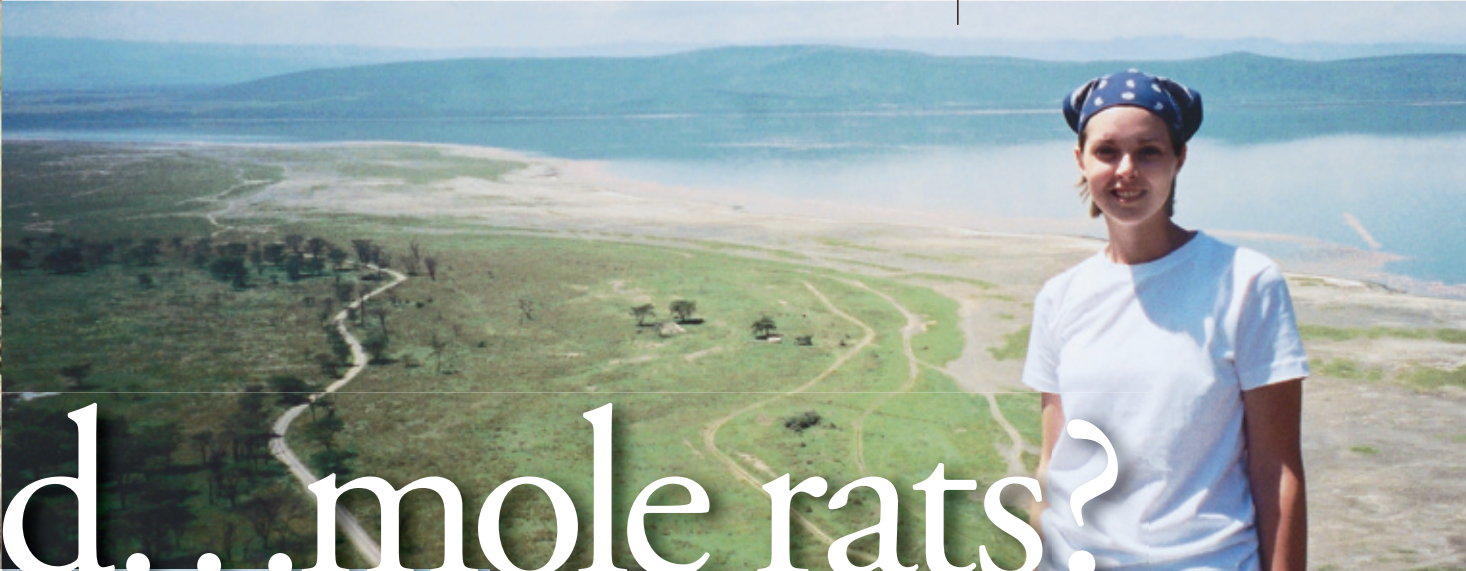


We were coming home one day while in the Masai Mara and we happened upon this giraffe. Her baby blends in so well we almost didn't see it.



One of my favorite pictures—it captures so much about the strong relationships elephants form. This baby had just finished a lesson on how to uproot grass by twisting its trunk and kicking at the roots.

It's hard to see, but the long strand of pink that looks like a beach behind me is actually a huge flock of flamingos on the shores of Lake Nakuru.



and...mole rats?



At first we thought this young male lion was a statue or part of the sign. It was the first lion we'd seen and we were all so excited—I think I took four rolls of pictures.



We stayed overnight in this Masai village. These are the Morani—young men who become warriors when they turn 13. Younger boys followed them all over the place, mimicking everything they did.



We were on an evening drive at Samburu when this leopard casually strolled between our two vans—that's no zoom lens!



Millions of greater and lesser flamingos gather at Lake Nakuru to mate. As you walk towards them, the sound of these massive flocks builds until it whites out everything else.

The dik dik is an antelope about as big as a medium-sized dog. They're interesting because they're monogamous and very territorial. In the dark spots in front of its eyes are glands that secrete a fluid they use to mark their territory.

Alumniprofiles



Joe Schlesinger '89

Messiah A new perspective

Joe Schlesinger '89 grew up around the world, following his parents' postings as educators for the U.S. Department of Defense. Wherever they went, music-making was a chord of continuity for the Schlesingers, and although Joe's forté was the trumpet, evenings often found the family swapping instruments, and even mounting full-blown musicals.

But the trumpet helped land Schlesinger a scholarship at

Augustana, and so that was the section in which he was seated the first time he heard George Frederic Handel's *Messiah* performed with a full choir. (He still keenly recalls the awesome sensation he felt during the first chorus.) Last December, he returned both to the campus and to the oratorio, with a new vantage point on each.

After graduating with a major in finance and a minor in Asian studies, Schlesinger took part in an international development program Augustana had helped establish in Arequipa, Peru. A year later found him in Seattle, contemplating next steps. Joining a choir—Seattle Pro Musica—brought his focus back to music, and when he enrolled in graduate school at DePaul University, it wasn't in global development, but in voice.

His first voice teacher there had Schlesinger fairly well convinced his future would lie as a second tenor—good, but not quite good enough to make a run at opera's great hero-roles. Thankfully, a second teacher noticed something both distinctive and very rare about his voice. "She gave me some exercises to work on, and told me to try them one octave higher than I normally would have sung them," he says.

What the teacher identified, and what audiences in Europe, Asia and North America are now beginning to appreciate, is that Joseph Schlesinger is a formidable countertenor—able to express in the original male voice those parts in early operas, cantatas and oratorios which recent centuries have given to female altos. Handel's original *Messiah* would have included a countertenor, even though only once before in the 122-year history of Augustana's Handel Oratorio Society had such a voice been part of the production.

"After the Baroque period, countertenors began to fall out of favor, as orchestras grew larger and louder, and women began to assume a greater role in music," Schlesinger says. What's known as the "Early Music" scene—made up of those who perform on period instruments and use authentic performance techniques—is growing in this country, but it's well-established in northern Europe.

After graduating from DePaul, Schlesinger earned a Fulbright Netherlands/America fellowship to study at the Dutch Royal Conservatory of Music in The Hague, and he now makes his home in Amsterdam.

In addition to performances and competitions which take Schlesinger around the world, he's a member of the DeSwaen Ensemble, which presents Baroque music in the centuries-old





Scott Petersen '68 holding a ship's rutter issued by King Philip I of Spain in 1593.

Oudse Lutherse Kerk. He's also sung in the Pieterskerk in Leiden—the church in which the Pilgrims worshiped before departing for the New World.

During his return to campus for *Messiah*, making the switch from trumpet section to countertenor soloist wasn't the only opportunity Schlesinger had to change places. He also led a master class for music majors, in which he was able to share some of the challenges and rewards of pursuing a career in music. He offered a few secrets countertenors use for extending their range, and even shared some sage advice about getting an agent: "No one's going to work harder for your career than you can."

Paper chase

In the history of our nation, some six score men and women have served as Supreme Court justices. There are three collectors in the world who can claim to have the signatures of each and every justice who's served since the high court was established in 1789. Scott Petersen '68 is one of them.

An intellectual property partner in the Chicago law firm of Holland & Knight, Petersen has been collecting autographs since he was a child. One way he did this was to send letters to world leaders, authors and musicians requesting a signed reply. The letters would pour into his mailbox. "I would send out ten or twenty letters a day, thus generating mail that would be delivered in bundles," Petersen recalls. "Letters came from the White House, Argentina's Casa Rosada, the Vatican, the New York Philharmonic...all addressed to

the same squirt kid. Our mailman thought I was some sort of celebrity. I'd be out in the yard playing catch when he'd come by, and he'd ask if I really knew all these people. I'd shrug and say, 'Sure.'"

Another effective method was trolling for baseball players when his father would take him to Cubs games at Wrigley Field. He's come a long way since: last year he became president of the Manuscript Society, an international organization of institutions, collectors and dealers who collect and use historical manuscripts and documents. It was founded in 1948, and among its 1,500 worldwide members is Augustana College, thanks to an institutional membership Petersen provided for his alma mater.

The Supreme Court assemblage is just one part of Petersen's extensive holdings of manuscripts, many of which predate the high court, and the nation which created it, by centuries. Still, for Petersen, few of his many compilations are as intriguing as the Supreme Court collection. Begun in 1985, it includes letters, formal

documents, and even cancelled checks. Some items, signed by early justices such as William Cushing or Alfred Moore, are worth thousands of dollars. On the other hand, Theodore Roosevelt-appointed William Rufus Day was such a prolific check-writer that his autograph can be had for as little as \$35.

Perhaps the most fascinating item in the set is a letter by William Johnson, a South Carolina jurist appointed by Thomas Jefferson in 1804 who served until 1834. Petersen says it sat for ten years undiscovered in a three-inch thick file folder he'd purchased during a visit to New York. When he finally dug the letter out, its first line took on a wistful tone: "I was wondering when this letter would come into your hand," began Johnson's 1807 missal.

Another focal point of Petersen's collecting is theologian Edward Everett Hale, a grandnephew of Revolutionary War hero Nathan Hale perhaps best known for his short story "The Man Without a Country." Since setting his sights on Hale two decades ago, Petersen has amassed about 250 of his letters and inscribed first editions.

Once Petersen homes in on a target for collecting, he is indefatigable in finding and acquiring it. From back in his childhood days at the Friendly Confines, Petersen found one Cubs legend missing from his assortment of Andy Pafko's, Harry Chiti's and Bob Will's—his idol, Hank Sauer. He noted the void in an article he wrote for the Chicago Literary Club, and when a friend gave him an address for the 1952 National League MVP, Petersen sent him a copy of the article. Not long after, a photo album of clippings accompanied by a personal note from Sauer arrived in the mail.

The Sauer memorabilia takes pride of place in Petersen's law offices, located in a Monroe Street skyscraper high above Chicago's Loop. Although he's focused on intellectual property matters since

the 1980s, his first job after graduating from the Chicago-Kent College of Law was as an assistant state's attorney for Cook County; among the more-than 70 felony jury and bench trials in which he served as lead counsel was the first successful prosecution under Illinois' capital punishment statute of 1977, in the case of multiple-murderer William Roderick Hill.

Throughout his legal career, Petersen says some extracurricular lessons he learned at Augustana have served him well. "Most of the guys played cards," he says. "We played euchre, hearts, poker and pinochle—always for small stakes so no one ever lost or won much. But it taught me how to read people, to watch their eyes and their body language. As a lawyer, I've been worked on by the orchids of the trade, so that skill has come in handy," he says.

Away from the office, Petersen's pursuits are as wide-ranging as the many genres of documents he collects. In addition to being "an aspiring actor and a perspiring magician," Petersen's been taking lessons in blues guitar for several years, using both a Martin acoustic and a Fender Stratocaster. Along with the Manuscript Society—which named him a Fellow in 1998—he's a trustee of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation and a member of the National Eagle Scout Association.

Petersen's zeal for collecting historic documents will continue long after his term as president of the Manuscript Society ends next year. But of all the curlicue strands of memory laid down by thousands of hands over hundreds of years, one rivulet of ink is treasured above all else in his collection. It's the entry Petersen's great-great-grandfather made in his diary for March 15, 1913, recording the birth of Petersen's father.

Undaunted newlywed

After reading Stephen Ambrose's *Undaunted Courage*, about the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804, Craig Schmaus '99 decided he would try to retrace the route of the Corps of Discovery, and write about it for the *Quad City Times* newspaper.

He recruited two Augustana classmates, Josh Jones and Todd Schwartz, both of whom left jobs to join him for the trip, scheduled for the summer of 2002. But something entirely unexpected happened during the two years it took him to plan for the journey. Schmaus—who works for Augustana's office of residential life—met, fell in love with, and married Amy Ites, who works in the College's Career Center. "Since Todd, Josh and I had committed to the trip



Craig Schmaus, Josh Jones and Todd Schwartz, all '99, on a converted railroad bridge.

before I became engaged...and because Amy was excited about the trip, too...we decided there'd be no turning back and the trip would go on as planned," Schmaus says.

But when the three friends met in St. Louis and prepared to set out, Schmaus says he began to have second thoughts. "I started to suspect that maybe the trip wasn't as important to me as it had been before I got married." It was then that his two companions provided support, albeit in unexpected ways.

"Josh was the ideal college buddy—totally irreverent and carefree. So I was afraid he might just be flip about my homesickness and make fun of me. I was surprised to find he was my rock, encouraging me to keep going but saying he'd understand if I didn't." But Schmaus says as much as he appreciated a shoulder to lean on, he also needed a kick in the pants. And, he says, Todd was more than happy to provide the foot. The trip was completed as planned.

Before setting out, Schmaus had received a letter from best-selling travel writer Bill Bryson (*A Walk in the Woods*) in which he warned: "Missing your loved ones is the hardest part. There is nothing worse than that." When they reached Montana, he came across a quote attributed to Western artist Charlie Russell: "Good friends make the roughest trails easy." Schmaus says he found both to be true. "I'd left loved ones behind, but I'd also brought some along for the journey."

Note *If you'd like a look at Schmaus's reports from the trail, send him an e-mail at rlschmaus@augustana.edu.*