

# REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

2016-17 STEVEN C. BAHLS

September 2017

## THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE NUMBERS

In August, we were pleased to welcome 800+ new students to campus—the college's largest incoming class, including 89 degree-seeking international students—and 60 transfer students. This excellent indicator of the inherent value of an Augustana College education is encouraging and marks another year of growth on campus. Highlights include:

- completed three-year renovation of Westerlin Residence Center
- opened the Brunner Theatre Center
- raised \$13 million to improve facilities, enrich academic programs and support athletics, the arts and other important co-curricular activities
- reversed a downward trend in number of alumni donors felt by many in higher education, with a 3 percent increase in alumni who gave to Augustana in the last year
- received gifts from more than 1,000 donors during the annual spring 24-hour fund-raising event called A Day of Giving (watch for our next A Day of Giving on April 11, 2018).

In the face of challenging economic times in the State of Illinois and an evolving higher education landscape, we know our strength comes from the people behind these numbers—the students who are inspired to study here and the families that support them, the faculty who dedicate themselves to teaching and research along with the staff who create a welcoming campus environment, and the donors who value what our graduates will accomplish in the world.

Thank you for your support and for the gifts that shape the outstanding liberal arts and sciences experience at Augustana. This report shares more news from the 2016-17 academic year.

#### **DIVERSITY ON CAMPUS**

At the beginning of the 21st century, 7.5 percent of Augustana's enrollment was what we would today describe as diverse. Put another way, 12 of every 13 students were white, in a nation that continues to grow dramatically less so. When the college adopted its *Authentically Augustana* strategic plan in 2005, it accepted a bold challenge: to develop a student body that more closely reflects America's diversity. Diversity within our enrollment now stands at 23 percent, a threefold increase. Today we attract students from across the country and around the globe in no small part because they and their families appreciate that the ability to thrive in a diverse world requires meaningful engagement with people, experiences, attitudes and ideas other than their own. Retention of first-year students of color from fall 2016 to fall 2017 was an impressive 89.8 percent, compared to 78.4 percent four years ago. We can be proud of the Augustana community for the steps taken to embrace diversity and inclusion, though we still have much work ahead of us.

# GIVING BY THE NUMBERS

#### In 2016-17:

- Total # of President's Society individuals and corporate members (annual gifts of \$1,000+): 874
- Total \$ from President's Society individuals and corporate members: \$9.9 million
- Total # of donors who made their first gift (ever): 546

Total # of individuals, couples, corporations and foundations that have given (or committed to give) \$1 million or more to the college: **74** 

Total # of Augustana Founders members who have recognized Augustana in their estate plans: 1,352 (including 532 in memoriam)

#### OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT LEADERSHIP

In March, Kent Barnds, executive vice president and vice president of enrollment, communication and planning, was appointed executive vice president of external relations. Kent is one of the most talented professionals I've worked with in my 25 years in higher education administration. With this change comes the added responsibility for advancement and alumni relations. The college will not appoint a new vice president of advancement, but instead use the savings from this position to strengthen fund-raising efforts and support the hiring of a chief diversity officer. During much of 2016-17, Barnds worked with Nancy Albrecht '83 Johnson, interim vice president of advancement, to assess how to strengthen our fund-raising and alumni relations. Johnson currently is taking a sabbatical; she is returning to the college as a senior consultant in December. Notable additions to the office include Kyle Ekberg '09, athletics gift officer (new position); Judy Scarpinato, director of donor relations and stewardship; and Sam Schlouch '10, major gift officer.

## NEW PROVOST: DR. GAIL SUMMER

Dr. Gail Summer arrived as the new provost and vice president of academic affairs in July, replacing Dr. Pareena Lawrence, who resigned to become president of Hollins University in Roanoke, Va. During her six years at Augustana, Dr. Lawrence was instrumental in the crafting and implementation of *Augustana 2020*, the college's strategic plan, and also developed an innovative set of student services, pioneered new career development initiatives, and was a successful fund-raiser and external ambassador for the college. Dr. Summer says she is excited to return to a Lutheran college environment. Among the important projects she is taking on are the conversion of the college's academic calendar from trimesters to semesters, and the continued implementation of *Augustana 2020*.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS ACROSS CAMPUS

- Augustana received a \$2.5 million grant from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust and a \$1 million gift from 1960 graduates Paul and Pat Guehler toward the expansion of the college's science building, the Robert A. and Patricia K. Hanson Hall of Science. The \$8.5 million expansion will support cross-disciplinary teaching, active learning and collaborative research in the sciences, and build on Augustana's strength in the sciences.
- With the opening of the Brunner Theatre Center, the college now is focusing on Bergendoff Hall of Fine Arts in establishing a "corner for the arts" at 38th Street and Seventh Avenue. Bergendoff was built in 1955. This \$8 million to \$10 million investment will create new and renovated spaces, including a music education suite, multimedia music laboratory, small recital hall, and student and faculty common areas to support collaboration. This reinvention of Bergendoff will accommodate the past decades' innovations in music technology and instruction and enable faculty to better prepare students for careers in the 21st century.
- Plans are underway for a \$1.5 million expansion and renovation of the Betsey Brodahl Building, home of Augustana's communication sciences and disorders (CSD) department. The expansion/renovation is necessary to accommodate the accelerated CSD master's program, which is likely to launch in 2020 but depends on the accreditation timeline.

### NEW DATA ANALYTICS ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Augustana received a \$1.5 million grant from the John Deere Foundation to establish the Robert A. Hanson Endowed Chair in Data Analytics. This endowed chair is a critical step in creating a data analytics academic program. Faculty are working toward introducing a minor and major in 2018 and 2020, respectively. Augustana will be part of a small group of liberal arts colleges offering an undergraduate degree in data analytics, a fast-growing field. The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts employment in data analytics will grow by 30 percent by 2024.

# BRUNNER THEATRE CENTER'S FIRST SEASON

The Brunner Theatre Center opened in August 2016 and has made a difference in just one year. More students (majors and non-majors) are involved in the theatre arts program; in fact, the 2017-18 academic year began with nearly 40 theatre arts majors/minors. Activity in the first season included four full-scale productions, one full-scale opera and one children's opera on the Main Stage (*Titanic: the Musical* sold out). Three full-scale, student-produced works; two student-produced, class-based projects; and the annual Quad City Playwrights Festival were presented in the Honkamp Myhre Black Box. The Mississippi Bend Players, a new regional theatre company led by Producing Artistic Director Philip Wm. McKinley '73, joined forces with Augustana to produce a successful three-show summer season in the Brunner Theatre Center.

#### ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN STATUS

Augustana continues to recruit and support studentathletes who can successfully manage the demands of a rigorous academic program while participating at a competitive varsity level. Twenty-one of the 23 Vikings varsity teams had a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above, and seven more student-athletes were named Academic All-Americans in 2016-17. Augustana's ranking for number of Academic All-Americans is:

No. 1 CCIW
No. 1 State of Illinois
No. 3 Division III
No. 7 All NCAA divisions

#### 50TH REUNION CLASSES' RECORD GIVING

Fiftieth reunion classes have banded together to give millions to the college and, as a result, reunion giving has grown significantly during the past five years. Through annual and endowed gifts with cash and legacy provisions, members of the Class of 1966 raised a remarkable \$3,665,595 in time for their 50th reunion in 2016. Not to be outdone, members of the Class of 1967 set a \$5 million goal for their 50th reunion giving based upon a few exceptional legacy provisions already in place. They have exceeded their goal and will share their gift total during Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 13-15.

## OLD MAIN SOCIETY RECOGNITION WALL

Augustana established the Old Main Society to honor special leadership donors whose lifetime philanthropic gifts to the college have reached or exceeded \$1 million. A special donor recognition wall for this influential group was unveiled in Founders Hall.

# ENDOWMENT STRONGER THAN EVER

Each year alumni and friends of the college give gifts to create endowed funds that support student learning and provide the measure of excellence for which Augustana is known. This year 12 named scholarships, two endowed chairs and two program funds increased the strength of the endowment. This new funding is part of the college's \$166 million in endowed funds that provide essential financial support of the college in perpetuity.

Challenge funds from Susan Nelson '76 Abrams and Kenny Abrams to encourage the creation of endowed scholarships made a huge impact this year, doubling the number of new scholarships seen in a typical year. Kenny Abrams is beginning his eighth year of service on the Board of Trustees.

#### NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS

Don '77 and Fran Berg Scholarship

Carl 1917 and Tressa Holmen Family Scholarship

Terry '63 and Carol Forse '62 Hudson Scholarship

Donald A. '53 and Frances Slaymaker '56 Johnson Scholarship

Connie R. Jones '81 Scholarship

Looser-Flake Foundation Scholarship

Dr. Wendell Luther Lund '27 Memorial Scholarship

Rick '72 and Anitra Lindquist '74 O'Connor Family Scholarship

Richard '72 and Ruth Shemitis Family Scholarship

Marilyn Smilie '67 Scholarship

David W. Swanson '53 Scholarship

Thomas and Carole Tingle Family Scholarship

Benedict '47 and Donna Anderson '48 Zobrist Scholarship

#### **ENDOWED CHAIRS**

Dr. Bohdan Dziadyk Distinguished Chair in Environmental Science and Conservation

Robert A. Hanson Endowed Chair in Data Analytics

#### **PROGRAM FUNDS**

Augustana Phi Beta Kappa Fund

Kathleen Stumpf '64 Jongsma and Eugene Jongsma International Experiential Learning Fund

# FISCAL YEAR 2016-17



# DONORS MAKE IT HAPPEN

# ALUMNI \$8.2 million 63% Alumni believe in the strength of their alma mater and recognize the

important role Augustana played in their lives. This year they stepped up to give \$1.6 million more than in fiscal year 2015-16.

# FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATIONS **\$3** million **23**%

Two major grants from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust and John Deere Foundation helped nearly double the support in this category from fiscal year 2015-16.

#### PARENTS AND FRIENDS

#### \$1.8 million 14%

Parents and friends give to support a transformative student experience.

## TOTAL: \$13 million



# YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

# \$5 million 39% As state funding and other outside economic forces fluctuate, endowed funds are an increasingly

important steady revenue source for the college.

#### **CAPITAL PROJECTS**

#### \$2.9 million 22%

Gifts for capital projects as well as commitments paid for past building projects help keep our facilities equal to the excellent student experiences happening within.

# AUGUSTANA FUND-ANNUAL UNRESTRICTED **\$2.6 million 20%**

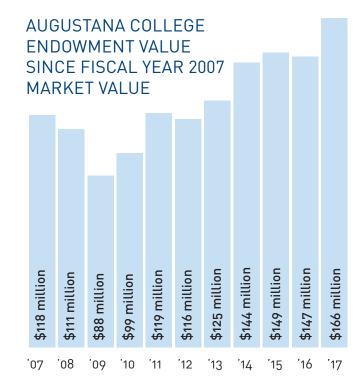
Gifts to the Augustana Fund bolster strategic initiatives and strengthen programs. These dollars are the most flexible, allowing us to respond to unexpected challenges and new opportunities.

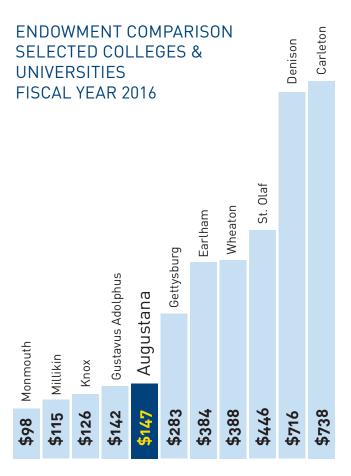
# ANNUAL RESTRICTED

# \$2.4 million 19%

Donors support specific purposes, including academic programs, athletics, the arts and other student experiences.

TOTAL: \$13 million





IN MILLIONS