

AGENDA



FACULTY RETREAT TUESDAY

26 AUGUST 2025
MORNING SESSIONS
GÄVLE ROOMS

PHOTO SESSION FOR FACULTY - FIREPLACE OUTSIDE GÄVLE ROOMS (OPTIONAL)

7:45 AM

A professional photographer will take faculty portraits for the college website, media releases, faculty personal use.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST - GÄVLE 3 (OPTIONAL)

8 AM

WELCOME AND THE YEAR AHEAD

9 AM

Dr. Dianna Shandy, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

FROM FUTURE TENSE TO FUTURE READY: WHY CONNECTING LEARNING, COMMUNITY, AND CAREER MATTERS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

[Dr. Ashley Finley](#), Vice President of Research and Senior Advisor to the President, American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U)

10 AM

This keynote will invite participants to consider how faculty can guide students' success amid rapidly evolving workforce expectations and social contexts by leveraging much of what already exists - including mission, outcomes, and effective experiences, including community engagement. Even during difficult times, there is opportunity to center new students' sense of purpose, their broad and applied learning, and innovative technology in ways that empower students to articulate their story of learning and accomplishments for years to come.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW FACULTY COLLEAGUES

11:30 AM

Dr. Erin Kempker, Director, Center for Engaged Learning, Teaching, and Scholarship

LUNCH – GERBER DINING CENTER

NOON

Reconnect with colleagues and meet some of our new community members over lunch



AFTERNOON SESSIONS GÄVLE ROOMS

FACULTY RETREAT

A NEW LOOK AT OUR GEN ED CURRICULUM

Dr. Umme Al-Wazedi, Dr. Robert Elflin, Dr. Brian Leech, and Dr. Carolyn Yaschur

Thanks to the generosity of the Teagle Foundation, we had resources to support a group of elected and appointed faculty to take a fresh look at our General Education program in light of the new strategic plan. At this session we'll update the community on the progress the working group made this summer in developing curricular models for faculty to consider, discuss, and refine in preparation for a vote.

1 PM

TEACHING WITH WRITING AND RESPONDING TO STUDENT DIVERSITY

[Dr. Carol Severino](#), Professor and Director of the Writing Center, University of Iowa

Dr. Carol Severino will join us as the inaugural speaker in the Writing the Future Series. Since 1991, she has directed the Writing Center and the Writing Fellows Program at the University of Iowa and teaches courses that explore the relationships between writing, language background, culture, and pedagogy, which is also the focus of her research. She will bring to our campus a wealth of experience in writing, writing instruction, and EAL/ESL tutoring. As a specialist in supporting multilingual students, she will explore in this talk ideas and strategies to support diverse undergraduate student writing across the curriculum in the age of AI.

2 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

SESSION 1 WRITING WORKSHOP

Dr. Carol Severino, Professor and Director of the Writing Center, University of Iowa

Working in small groups, Dr. Severino will lead instructors through assessing and providing feedback on writing assignments completed by multilingual students. This is an opportunity for faculty to work in community and create priorities for how to approach feedback and constructive criticism of student writing. Participants must [RSVP](#) for this workshop. Space is limited.

3 - 4 PM



AFTERNOON SESSIONS GÄVLE ROOMS

FACULTY RETREAT

BREAKOUT SESSIONS CONTINUED

SESSION 2 BUILD YOUR REPUTATION: A FACULTY GUIDE TO ENGAGING MEDIA

Irene Karedis Borys, Assistant Vice President of Marketing and Brand Communication

Explore how engaging with media as a public scholar can inform community understanding, reinforce your academic profile, and strengthen Augustana's reputation —with guidance every step of the way.

3 - 4 PM

BREAKOUT 3: LAUNCHING THE STEM/Q CENTER

Dr. Greg Domski, Associate Dean for Strategic Academic Priorities, Dr. Kristin Douglas, Associate Vice President for Retention and Student Success, and Karen Lindebrekke, Coordinator of the STEM/Q Center

Born from decades of vision, a year of collaborative planning and execution, and the generosity of a private donor, the STEM/Q Center is a vibrant new space for innovation and discovery. Learn how you can be part of this exciting new chapter.
