Message from the Dean

It is a great pleasure to share the 2020 Report to the Community with those of you who are not only interested in our institution’s success but also work enthusiastically in supporting us in our often challenging but always rewarding efforts to sustain, improve and advance our mission to provide excellent education for our students. I commenced my tenure as Augustana’s Dean & Executive Officer on July 1, 2019 after having spent 31 years working at the Universities of Saskatchewan, Queen’s, Western, Notre Dame and Manhattan, with the last five years devoted to serving as Dean of Arts at Brandon University.

I would like to acknowledge two important objectives that are likely to mark my time here: first, Augustana’s ambition to become a leading liberal arts and science faculty and, specifically in terms of its relationship to the U of A, a living laboratory for teaching and learning innovation, to the benefit of the entire university [for the Public Good]; and second, the importance of, and the value in place, the culture of a strong town-gown affiliation. Beginning, then, in the fall of 2019, I expect “80 days of thinking” to engage the community (both the campus and the wider Camrose community) who took the time to write to me; and I also met, in a process of many brief visits, supporters, donors and men and women “Critics” of this wonderful institution. I have, therefore, to develop a genuine enthusiasm for Augustana, to appreciate the meaningful connection that students, alumni and community members feel for this institution and to feel a great sense of pride and excitement in the University of Alberta, under whose leadership the U of A continues to be one of the best Universities not only in Canada but worldwide to support more growth and an enhancing of our entire community’s world reputation.

Sincerely,

Demetres P. Tryphonopoulos
Dean & Executive Officer

Table of Contents

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN 03
PROGRAMMING UPDATE 04
THREE-WEEK COURSES 06
AUGUSTANA TREE RING LAB 08
ALUMNI AWARDS 09
AUGUSTANA ACHIEVEMENTS 10
FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS 13
AUGUSTANA (R A) GLANCE 14
AUGUSTANA GIVING 15
LIFE @ AUGUSTANA 18
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT 20
EXPERT CORNER 23

Augustana and COVID-19

We know that things look different this year than they did last year, which is why we’ve incorporated a special COVID-19 section in the 2020 Report to the Community. This section gives a much-deserved shout out to just a few of our many frontline and essential alumni who have continued working, helping and providing guidance through this crisis, including Augustana and University of Alberta graduate/focal celebrity Dr. Deena Hinshaw, Alberta’s Chief Medical Officer of Health. We also included one example of the work some of our faculty and academic staff are doing to spread helpful tips and information about the pandemic. If you’d like to see more, you can visit ualberta.ca/augustana. We hope that this year’s Report to the Community will give you some good news to hold on to, and a chance to remember that though much has changed in our community, the spirit and wherewithal of Augustana remains the same. Stay well.

Statement of Acknowledgement of the Traditional Territory

We acknowledge the land on which we live, traditionally known as the Siksika, Upper Kainai and Piikani people of the Treaty 7 territory; and in solidarity with our indigenous relatives, their spiritual and practical relationships to the land create a rich heritage for our learning and life as a community.
Augustana responds to the needs of students with curricular changes and program innovation

Starting in Fall 2020, students at the University of Alberta’s Augustana Campus will have the opportunity to pursue three unique multidisciplinary majors and a new core developed around project-based learning, followed by an updated music program in Fall 2021. "We want to offer a distinct learning experience," said Brandon Alakas, English professor and member of the initial curricular reform committee that led these changes, "while maintaining the spirit of Augustana as a liberal arts institution, and a campus that is built on teaching and learning innovation."

A curriculum to address student need

Following a change to Augustana’s academic calendar where students now have the chance to take an immersive and experiential three-week course (3-11) and embark on university studies by starting with an interdisciplinary seminar based on an interesting and timely topic (First Year Seminar), the campus arrived at three new programs, a new project-based core and substantial changes to the music program.

These majors include Ethics & Global Studies, Creativity and Culture; and Law, Crime & Justice Studies. Each includes a blend of more traditional disciplines—for example, Law, Crime & Justice Studies will include elements of sociology, history, political studies and psychology, but these majors are much more than that.

"What excites me about these programs is that they will allow students to tailor their degree to their own interests," said professor Purc-Stephenson. "They’re also designed with marketability and work after graduation in mind. Students who take these programs will foster a nimble set of critical thinking skills and a number of other tools that have a broader application in the real world."

Augustana’s approach to internships and co-ops

The project-based core will also equip students with a set of skills—critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity—that will help them excel in any industry. Students will benefit from working on real-world issues, or “wicked problems”, with local businesses and organizations.

"The project-based core is kind of our approach to internships and co-op placements," said professor Purc-Stephenson. "By the time they graduate, our students will have worked with community stakeholders and will have applied what they’ve learned in class to complex, real-world problems."

Listening to our students’ futures

Even the changes to the music program have career in mind.

"Our program will now provide students with really clear pathways," explained Ardelle Ries, vocal professor and director of music at Augustana. "Whether students want to open their own private studio, become a choral conductor, teach music or practice music therapy after graduation, it will no longer be a case of ‘study music, and then what?’"
Three-Week Courses

A look at our 3-11 calendar

Step inside (or outside, as is often the case) the classroom with a look at some of the photos taken in three-week block courses this past year. Students explored everything from app design to luge and learned how to work in small groups and engage in class experiences, honing communication and critical thinking skills along the way.

Rosanna Heise taught a three-week computing science course in the Winter 2020 term. In this course, students worked with local organizations to develop phone apps. The group worked with the Camrose Open Door to develop an app for visitors to the Open Door offices to check-in, including a mental health check so that teenage visitors would be comfortable sharing the information privately. Pictured (from left to right): Benjamin Wilson, Alvee Hassan, Akash, Jessica Hutton (Executive Director, Camrose Open Door), Wayne Wilson (Program Director, Camrose Open Door), Alexander Taylor and Arnold Ghoba.

Augustana’s innovative “Science Laboratory Experience” class allows non-science majors to get experience with biology, chemistry and physics in a lab setting. For their chemistry project, students created solar cells using pigments from various berries and tested them to determine which berries worked best, all the while learning about the scientific method and how to properly conduct a lab experiment.

Students had the opportunity to take a three-week luge course that began with classroom learning (technique, history) and ended…where else? On the luge track! The group learned the ins and outs of the sport, and included a beginner and senior level class so that the senior students could serve as mentors and support the one-hundred level students.

Students in Andrea Korda’s “Horizons of Landscape” First Year Seminar examined varying representations of historical and contemporary landscapes. For Alyssia Mattman’s final project, she decided to draw the Burrad Inlet in Vancouver (far right) showing to ensure the freignter ships that have become part of the landscape though they are not part of nature. In her final paper she wrote: “In my final paper I aimed to illustrate the ‘unseen’ aspect of the picture activates a counter-visibility, and thereby refines the geographical imagination of those that regard it.”

Students in Keith Harder’s painting class got more than what they may have bargained for when they signed up for a beginners art class. It included theory, essays, group projects and of course, painting. A lot of painting. Students in this course painted several pieces over the course of only three weeks, and although each admitted to the course being a bit of work, everyone attested that they loved the immersive experience.
In the summer of 2019, professor Greg King wanted to use his research in dendrochronology—the scientific method of dating tree rings—to begin a project in Camrose. Four months, three research assistants, 16 city blocks and over 2,800 trees later, the Augustana Tree Ring Lab was in full swing.

“I started thinking about how we interact with nature, and realized that a lot of it is through the city,” said professor King. “But the trees in our backyards and on our streets are there for more than just aesthetics. What do we know about them? What kind of benefits do they provide? Those are the questions we wanted to address.”

Professor King, along with his research assistants Julia Kappler, Wei Hua and Carter Rolston, spent the summer measuring every single tree in the Augustana neighbourhood. They recorded things like height, canopy width and trunk dimension to perform health assessments. From these numbers, they calculated reports and handed them out to homeowners up and down each street, from 44th to 50th. These reports included the benefits of having a tree in your yard, including estimates on air pollution removal (of which the trees in one backyard averaged $1,200 in savings per year), as well as notes on the species of the tree, wildlife habitat and even the impact the tree could have on the energy bill.

“This project was a very rare opportunity for a foreign student who wanted to have an in-depth understanding of the local ecological environment,” said Wei, who had the opportunity to supplement her studies in geographic information science at Southwest University of Chongqing in China with work at the Augustana Tree Ring Lab. “It’s been great to bring my expertise to the community,” says Wei. “But even more, we’ve discovered how the university and our research assistants can learn about what the community, and it was nice to engage with individuals and share our expertise...both with kids through the workshop and homeowners through the reports we provided.”

Besides sharing valuable information with individual homeowners, professor King sees this data as being useful to the City of Camrose, who helped fund the lab.

“We can use this data for future city planning,” said King. “Tree rings allow you to see how well certain species of trees are growing with changes to weather, temperature and soil.”

Kingshopstocontinue torunthelabastolongaspersonalbenefittingfromtheknowledgetheirancestorsaccumulated.

“It’s been great to bring my expertise to the community,” says King, “but even more, we’ve discovered how the university and our research assistants can learn about what the neighbourhood needs as well.”

Along with investigating the trees, the research assistants also had the opportunity to pursue side projects. Julia looked at pollinator diversity in the area by setting up pollinator traps at fruit trees, while Wei looked at something called the “Urban Heat Island Effect” and discovered that areas with a mature urban forest were cooler in temperature than those that did not have them. Carter had always been interested in working with children, so he set out to lead a presentation and workshop with the Discovery Kids Summer Camp, which became one of his favourite parts of the research.

“The summer camp included kids from eight to 12-years old, and I created some activities to introduce them to the idea of an urban forest,” said Carter. “Camrose is such a tight-knit community, and it was nice to engage with individuals and share our expertise...both with kids through the workshop and homeowners through the reports we provided.”

Besides sharing valuable information with individual homeowners, professor King sees this data as being useful to the City of Camrose, who helped fund the lab.

“We can use this data for future city planning,” said King. “Tree rings allow you to see how well certain species of trees are growing with changes to weather, temperature and soil.”

Kingshopstocontinue torunthelabastolongaspersonalbenefittingfromtheknowledgetheirancestorsaccumulated.

“It’s been great to bring my expertise to the community,” says King, “but even more, we’ve discovered how the university and our research assistants can learn about what the neighbourhood needs as well.”

2004 was a milestone year in Augustana’s history. Previous years saw the merger of financial structures that touched every area of campus operation, with little reason to believe the situation would improve. It was clear to many that things could not be left the way they were. Something needed to happen. In response, Augustana University College President Richard Husfloen task the Board of Regents with finding a solution.

Many options were debated and discussed, but there was one group that had returned to a merger with the University of Alberta.

Following the decision, the Board of Regents worked closely with officials from the U of A, the Alberta Government, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, the Camrose community and many, many more people along the way. These individuals dedicated hundreds of hours to ensure the merger’s fiscal success while preserving Augustana’s traditions and values as a liberal arts and science institution.

It would be fair to say that, together, this group helped shape what the life of Augustana Campus has become today. This is why the 2004 Board of Regents are more than deserving of the 2019 Lois Aspens Award.

The Lois Aspens Award recognizes the contributions of an alumnus/a to the life of Augustana.

2004 Board of Regents recipients accepted the 2019 Lois Aspens Award of Augustana’s Annual Commencement Banquet on Friday, May 31 (left to right): Cardal Letter; Kevin Bonner (Secretary); Ralph Truall; Berta Briggs; Jackie Dojack; Verlyn Olson; Tryphonopoulos.

2004 Board of Regents:

Sandra Anderson  Margaret Balsman  Andrew Church  Linda Davis

Jackie Dojack  Stanley God (chair)  Susan Johnson  Zong Li

Veryl Dixon  Kevin Bonner (secretary)  Ralph Truall  Laune Tyrell

Alumni Awards

2009 Alumni Citation Award

In 2008, Augustana Campus’ commitment to sustainability was significantly strengthened by Berta Briggs, the 2009 Alumni Citation Award Recipient. Given her growing interest in sustainable food practices, Berta decided to establish the Sustainable Food Endowment in order to support practical research and educational programming around food choices and sources at the campus.

Since its creation, the Sustainable Food Endowment has transformed Augustana’s approach to sustainable food initiatives—from sourcing a portion of cafeteria food from local suppliers to funding various faculty-led research projects and community presentations, to creating opportunities for undergraduate research and Community Service-Learning courses. This past year, the fund supported faculty research on local organic forests and ecology and bi analyzing the demand for organic and locally sourced food in Camrose.

Berta’s generosity has allowed Augustana to deepen its commitment to sustainability in ways that affect both the campus and Camrose community. It is her commitment to how we can live and learn sustainably that has made her the deserving recipient of the Alumni Citation Award.

‘With student wellness at the forefront of the goals we have set in terms of enhancing student experience at Augustana, the lasting impact of Ms. Briggs’s generosity is significant, meaningful and beneficial,'” said Dean Tryphonopoulos.
Augustana Achievements

Teaching Awards

Last year, Kim Misfeldt was named Augustana’s first Vargo Teaching Chair. Named after professor Jim Vargo, a University of Alberta alumnus and former professor in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Vargo Teaching Chairs are innovative, excellent teachers who have shown leadership and mentorship of colleagues. This program is committed to supporting individuals who have a history of educational leadership, teaching innovation and commitment to enhancing learning experience of students at all levels. Vargo Chair recipients receive $20,000 per year for three years, with potential for two more years for a teaching research project. Kim’s project will focus on enhancing study abroad learning. If you’d like to read more about professor Misfeldt from our Teacher of the Term feature, visit https://www.alberta.ca/augustana.

Neil Haave also became Augustana’s second recipient of the Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. (Kim Misfeldt was the first). Instituted in 1992, the Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching is the University’s premier teaching award. Its purpose is to recognize teaching excellence publicly, to encourage the pursuit of such excellence and to promote informed discussion of teaching and its improvement at the University of Alberta.

Congratulations to both Kim and Neil!

The 2019 Mark Chytracek Leadership Award, which was created in 2016 in honour of Mark Chytracek, former director of student and resident services and dear, lifelong friend of Augustana, was given to Melissa Wilk. This award pays homage to Mark’s long service to Augustana and unwavering support for students, and is awarded based on demonstrated leadership, service and overall involvement in the life of Augustana and/or the broader civic community, as well as academic standing.

The Student Award for Library Research was awarded to Carmen Tessier, based on library research conducted for her paper “It’s Time to Have a Tick Talk. A Study Exploring Knowledge and the Diagnose Process of Lyme Disease,” written for a directed reading course with Augustana psychology professor Rebecca Purtch-Stephenson. Carmen also won the Fall 2018 Most Promising Undergraduate Research Award for her work on this project. Congratulations, Carmen!

Thao Nguyen received this year’s Rutherford Honourable Don Mazankowski Entrance Citation Scholarship.

Congratulations to Augustana student Omotayo (Tayo) Segun-Umohin who received a 2019 University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine Undergraduate Research and Inclusion award for her work with the Augustana Diversity Working Group.

Mark Fulton and Hutch the Library Dog received two awards this year! Both were recognized with Augustana’s Betty Osterud Award, which celebrates those “who have given tirelessly and selflessly to the benefit of students and the University, as a whole.” Both also named University of Alberta Wellness Champions (people, or dogs, I suppose!) “who make the U of A an amazing place to learn, work and grow.” When congratulated for the awards, Mark Fulton “Hutch and I are very glad to be part of the Augustana community and are pleased that our presence has meant so much to so many. Thank you!” Augustana biochemistry professor and science communications chair Rosanna Heise also received the Betty Osterud Award!

The 2019 Mark Chytracek Leadership Award, which was created in 2016 in honour of Mark Chytracek, former director of student and resident services and dear, lifelong friend of Augustana, was given to Melissa Wilk. This award pays homage to Mark’s long service to Augustana and unwavering support for students, and is awarded based on demonstrated leadership, service and overall involvement in the life of Augustana and/or the broader civic community, as well as academic standing.

The Student Award for Library Research was awarded to Carmen Tessier, based on library research conducted for her paper “It’s Time to Have a Tick Talk. A Study Exploring Knowledge and the Diagnose Process of Lyme Disease,” written for a directed reading course with Augustana psychology professor Rebecca Purtch-Stephenson. Carmen also won the Fall 2018 Most Promising Undergraduate Research Award for her work on this project. Congratulations, Carmen!

Thao Nguyen received this year’s Rutherford Honourable Don Mazankowski Entrance Citation Scholarship.

Congratulations to Augustana student Omotayo (Tayo) Segun-Umohin who received a 2019 University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine Undergraduate Research and Inclusion award for her work with the Augustana Diversity Working Group.

Mark Fulton and Hutch the Library Dog received two awards this year! Both were recognized with Augustana’s Betty Osterud Award, which celebrates those “who have given tirelessly and selflessly to the benefit of students and the University, as a whole.” Both also named University of Alberta Wellness Champions (people, or dogs, I suppose!) “who make the U of A an amazing place to learn, work and grow.” When congratulated for the awards, Mark Fulton “Hutch and I are very glad to be part of the Augustana community and are pleased that our presence has meant so much to so many. Thank you!” Augustana biochemistry professor and science communications chair Rosanna Heise also received the Betty Osterud Award!

245 Augustana students in 125 classes qualified for 302 Community Service Learning (CSL) opportunities in 55 different classes, including on-campus projects, community and local organizations and the regional business community. With eight new partners this year, our students completed 6,970 hours of service. CSL encourages students to get out of the traditional university classroom and engage with the world in order to make connections between the two.

On March 11, 2020, three Augustana students were awarded for outstanding communication in poster presentations as part of the Alberta College of Art and Design Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Conference (ACAC). Students Harshil Vyas, Jack Martin and Jared Mireault created a poster in professor Rosanna Heise’s three-week Software Development course to help with sustainability efforts at Augustana. The app, called ‘URecycle’ incoporates a sorting game to allow students to get competitive and have fun while sharing valuable and useful information about what belongs in the landfill, in organics and in recycling. Congratulations on the project and the award!

In December 2019, the men’s and women’s soccer teams created Christmas Shoeboxes to send gifts to children in developing countries. Last year, they put together 79 boxes.

Stephenson. Carmen also won the Fall 2018 Most Promising Undergraduate Research Award for her work on this project. Congratulations, Carmen!

Thao Nguyen received this year’s Rutherford Honourable Don Mazankowski Entrance Citation Scholarship.

Congratulations to Augustana student Omotayo (Tayo) Segun-Umohin who received a 2019 University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine Undergraduate Research and Inclusion award for her work with the Augustana Diversity Working Group.

Mark Fulton and Hutch the Library Dog received two awards this year! Both were recognized with Augustana’s Betty Osterud Award, which celebrates those “who have given tirelessly and selflessly to the benefit of students and the University, as a whole.” Both also named University of Alberta Wellness Champions (people, or dogs, I suppose!) “who make the U of A an amazing place to learn, work and grow.” When congratulated for the awards, Mark Fulton “Hutch and I are very glad to be part of the Augustana community and are pleased that our presence has meant so much to so many. Thank you!” Augustana biochemistry professor and science communications chair Rosanna Heise also received the Betty Osterud Award!

Over the 2018/19 academic year, 64 Augustana student-athletes achieved a GPA of 3.5 or higher, meeting Augustana’s standards, which required them either to have a member of the Alberta Athletic Association (CAA) National Scholar Award, or an Alberta Colleges Athletic Association (ACAA) Academic Athletic Conference (ACAC) Academic Award (and in most cases, both). Augustana again had the most scholar-athletes in the entirety of the ACAC.

In June 2019, Augustana along with the Camrose Association for Community Living was awarded a provincial Innovation Award from the Alberta Council of Disability Services for our work in creating our multidisciplinary inclusion club. Pictured from left to right: Excellent! Microsoft Excel and Donald from the Camrose Farm for Community Living, with Augustana professor and director of media, Ardiele Ries.

In the 2019/2020 school year, Reese Bendiksen was the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC) cross-country rookie of the year. She is pictured here with Augustana’s soccer coach and mentor Dan Jensen, who is a previous ACAC All Conference and All Alberta Colleges Academic Athletic Association (CAA) National All Canadians. Also pictured: Gerhard Heusinkveld, Cross Country coach and Augustana and chemistry professor. Bendiksen was awarded a provincial ACAC award and in most cases, both. Augustana again had the most scholar-athletes in the entirety of the ACAC.

In late March, Augustana planned to celebrate our annual Student Life Awards Celebration. While we were not able to hold the celebration in person (our plan on hosting it at a later date), you can still check out the names of the many award winners—in leadership, in academics and in athletics—by visiting aug.ualberta.ca/studentlifewards.

Celebration. While we were not able to hold the celebration in person (our plan on hosting it at a later date), you can still check out the names of the many award winners—in leadership, in academics and in athletics—by visiting aug.ualberta.ca/studentlifewards.

In June 2019, Augustana along with the Camrose Association for Community Living was awarded a provincial Innovation Award from the Alberta Council of Disability Services for our work in creating our multidisciplinary inclusion club. Pictured from left to right: Excellent! Microsoft Excel and Donald from the Camrose Farm for Community Living, with Augustana professor and director of media, Ardiele Ries.

In the 2019/2020 school year, Reese Bendiksen was the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC) cross-country rookie of the year. She is pictured here with Augustana’s soccer coach and mentor Dan Jensen, who is a previous ACAC All Conference and All Alberta Colleges Academic Athletic Association (CAA) National All Canadians. Also pictured: Gerhard Heusinkveld, Cross Country coach and Augustana and chemistry professor. Bendiksen was awarded a provincial ACAC award and in most cases, both. Augustana again had the most scholar-athletes in the entirety of the ACAC.

In late March, Augustana planned to celebrate our annual Student Life Awards Celebration. While we were not able to hold the celebration in person (our plan on hosting it at a later date), you can still check out the names of the many award winners—in leadership, in academics and in athletics—by visiting aug.ualberta.ca/studentlifewards.

Augustana Achievements

Alberta Centre for Sustainable Communities

The Alberta Centre for Sustainable Communities has been busy this past year celebrating our 10th anniversary! Our 10-year achievement report is available in print and online at aug.ualberta.ca/ acscc. As always, the Centre is very glad to be part of the Augustana family and to be working on active research projects with partnerships across the country. Of these projects, two are complete and seven are in progress. Some of these projects include:

- Emerging Technologies Economic Impact Assessment
- Non-wage household workers on Alberta farms: Risks, attitudes and impacts of digital technologies
- Building Inclusive Communities in Rural Alberta
- Building Mental Health Resiliency for a Sustainable Campus Community
- The ECHO Network (Environment, Community, Health Observatory): Strengthening Intersectoral Capacity to Understand and Respond to Health Impacts of Resource Development
Another student, Lauren Van Dyke (‘20), was inspired by the success of naturalization seen in the City of Edmonton and developed the research question, “How does tree abundance in residents’ yards relate to their views on naturalization?” in Camrose. For her integrative project, Lauren conducted a preliminary study that included a literature review and consultations with community members. Moving forward, Lauren says, “My biggest hope for the project is for there to be a full circle effect inspiring participants to tune into city initiatives with regards to naturalization and to become more mindful of what they can do in their own yards.”

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS

MAYA ENDICOTT
The Difference

MELANIE MÉTHOT
Canada’s Legal Past: Looking Forward, Looking Back

JOURNAL ARTICLES, OTHER WRITTEN WORK AND PRESTIGIOUS PERFORMANCES OR EXHIBITIONS

BRANDON ALAKAS
postmedieval: A Journal of Medieval Cultural Studies (with former research assistant and Augustana student Day Bulger)

MORTEN ASFELDT
Encyclopedia of Teacher Education: Frontiers, The Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad

PETER BERG
University of Alberta Senior Research Fellowship, RWTH Aachen University, Germany; The European Physical Journal, Invited speaker, The Fields Institute, Toronto

GEOFFREY DIPPLE
Sister Reformation III

NÉLIA GAUTIER & MAGDALENE MATHER
Ilinniaqatigiingnarniq! (ISSOTL) Annual Meeting; Plus Podcast; The Keus); 63rd annual meeting of the Canadian Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning; Organizing Committee, Alberta Universities Academic Council of Canada Insight Plus Podcast; The Teaching Professor Conference (with former research assistant and Augustana student Kelly Keus); 63rd annual meeting of the Association of College and University Biology Educators IACUBE; International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (with Bruce Lenherr); Nunavut Arctic College, Iqaluit; Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

PAULA MARENTETTE
Language Learning

ANNE McINTOSH
Ecological Engineering; Functional Ecology; Ecological Indicators; MethodsX

TIM PARKER
Why Did I Start? Why Can’t I Stop? Brain Changes in Addiction” Distinguished Professorial Lecture, Augustana Campus

JANE YARDOLEY
BMJ Open Diabetes Research and Care; Scientific Reports; Applied Physiology, Nutrition, and Metabolism; The Canadian Journal of Diabetes; Open Access Journal of Sports Medicine; The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism; Acta Diabetologica; Alberta New Investigator Award, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada; “Parkinson’s” Research Fundraiser, organizer, Camrose

AWARDS, EDITORSHIPS AND OTHER HONOURS

ROGER ADMIRAL
Living Treasure of Battle River Country Award, Association of Lifewide Living in Alberta

DIEGO CORIOLA
AMLE Outstanding Reviewer Award from the Academy of Management Learning and Education; Citation, Business Ethics; Management Learning; Strategic Management Journal

BIL CARSTEN

LARS HALLSTRÖM
BRAED Grant, Government of Alberta Anti-Racism Community Grant; Alberta School Councils Conference, speaker, Edmonton; Alberta Rural Education Symposium, speaker, Edmonton; Elk Island Public Schools Board of Trustees, speaker, Sherwood Park; Journal of Rural and Community Development, Department of Management; Challenges Special Edition: “Oppressor A social determinant of health

ROSANNE HARDE
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Insight Development Grant; Winner of the International Research for Studies in Children’s Literature Edited Book Award for The Embodied Child [2019], Outstanding Mentorship in Undergraduate Research Faculty Award, University of Alberta; Appointed Senior Editor of International Research in Children’s Literature, funding for Support for Scholarly Editing Fund, University of Alberta; Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Culture; Beyond the Blockbusters: Themes and Tendencies in Contemporary Young Adult Literature

GLEN HYVENSÄARV
Appointed Associate Editor of the Humans Dimensions of Wildlife, Beaver Hills Biosphere Reserve, Accelerate grant; University of Alberta UARE Internship grant; Applied Environmental Education & Communication, Journal of Rural and Community Development; Human Dimensions of Wildlife, Journal of Park and Recreation Administration; Journal of Rural and Community Development; Bluebird, Nature Alberta

FEISAL KIRUMIRA
Appointed to Anti-Racism Advisory Council, City of Edmonton

ANDREA KORDA
University of Alberta Killam Cornerstone Grant, Open

Educational Resources

Award, University of Alberta; Maritime Oliver Bodies of Data Exhibit, organizer, Augustana Campus; Victorian Network; Journal of Victorian Culture

Students exploring the Riches of Data Exhibit at the Augustana Library

Ardelle Ries
Living Treasure of Battle River Country Award, Association of Lifewide Living in Alberta; Individual Champion Award, Camrose Association for Community Living

John Weise
Richard S. Eaton Award for Distinguished Service to Choral Music in the Province of Alberta
For generations, Augustana donors have supported our campus and students for different reasons. We hope you will enjoy learning about two of our valued community members and what inspires their generosity to Augustana.

**MARION WANDIO**

Marion Wандio is no stranger to adventure. From biking over 1,000 kilometres across Europe in her early 20s to living in Germany to winning contests with her crochet angels, Marion has seen, done and accomplished many things.

Today, Marion’s still looking for adventure. And now she’s also helping others on their way. Marion has recently decided to create a legacy for the campus through a bequest in her will. However, her support of the campus’ students began eight years ago when she established the Michael Wandio Augustana Bursary in memory of her late husband. A matching pair, education was equally as important to Mike. Even so, he had to start working immediately after finishing the eighth grade: “He was never able to get as much education as he wanted,” said Marion. “There are so many intelligent and motivated people who want to continue their education but who don’t have the resources.”

Through her bursary, Marion is able to support students in situations like Mike. With her planned gift, Marion will further support Augustana students, helping their education and opportunities for adventure flourish, even after she’s gone. “I’m fortunate that I am able to help people, and it makes me feel especially good to support students in need of a helping hand,” said Marion. “Education gives you everything. It opens the world to you.”

Read Marion’s full story at aug.ualberta.ca/marion

**DARRYL SCHULTZ**

For Darryl Schulz it’s all about the team. As a child, Darryl’s father became his first teammate, asking questions that would keep Darryl focused on his goals of a career in health and what he wanted to achieve. When the time came for Darryl to pursue these goals through a post-secondary education, Darryl knew this support would continue. Unfortunately, shortly before coming to Augustana his father’s health took a turn for the worse, and this support was no longer possible.

Now needing to put himself through school, Darryl would attend class during the day before leaving to drive a taxi at night and completing his schoolwork between customers. In spite of financing his own education, Darryl still views his education as a team effort. “I am who I am today because of Augustana professors,” said Darryl. When Darryl later began his practice at the Camrose Dental Health Centre, he decided to lend his support to the centre’s existing scholarship, joining a team to help ensure fewer students would have to study in a taxi like he did.

What is clear to Darryl is that his accomplishments were not achieved alone. His academic success was part of a team effort with his professors, and his support of Augustana students was not a solitary act—he was one of many dentists who supported one of many Augustana awards. And that’s what matters.

Read Darryl’s full story at aug.ualberta.ca/darryl
$1,272,857 RAISED

RESEARCH
$116,446

FACILITIES
$281,197

PROGRAMS
$525,310

AWARDS
$349,904

This past year, 1,046 donors gave a gift to Augustana

with 281 giving for the first time!

“RESEARCH
“If someone with Type 1 diabetes is afraid of low blood glucose—which is the case with 80 to 90 per cent of people with Type 1 diabetes—the research I conducted shows morning exercise might be a safer option.”

- Jane Yardley, Assistant Professor of Phys. Ed.

“FACILITIES
Thanks to the contributions of Augustana donors, Stewart Steinhauser’s Treaty Bear has a permanent home at Augustana, signifying the campus’ commitment to reconciliation.

“PROGRAMS
The Augustana Pathways Program saw three student internships this past summer. These students worked together with rural community partners to meet both their and the partner organizations’ goals. Visit aug.ualberta.ca/pathways for more information.

“AWARDS
“This award is a reminder that leadership is worth pursuing, especially in different areas of campus life.”

- Matthew Caffaro, fourth-year BSc student and student award recipient
Dean Demetres Tryphonopoulos welcomed students in their first—and his first!—opening convocation ceremony in September by ringing our centenary bell sculpture.

Over the 2019/20 year, the Augustana athletics department underwent a comprehensive review. The committee performing the review recommended a number of changes to benefit the entire student body, while also achieving savings through cuts. Administration is working through the recommendations with various stakeholders, and creating a campus-wide strategy to support student health and wellness through recreation.

This year’s science fair, during which we hosted over 200 grade seven students from Our Lady of Mount Pleasant School and École Charlie Killam in Camrose, included an up-close-and-personal look at professor Tom Terzin’s incredible insect collection.

Augustana celebrated World Mental Health Day in October by offering a variety of mental health resources to our students, including games and tea times with our Alumni Student Support and Engagement Team (ASSET).

Augustana played host to a number of speakers and special events throughout the year, including performing artist Tséma Igharas who presented Kontsej’el noheslu: An echo, I am sewing.

Starting in Fall 2020, Augustana will offer three new multidisciplinary programs and an updated core. Read more about these changes in our feature story on page 4, and/or visit aug.ualberta.ca/about-us/advantage.

The Augustana Vikings once again organized a very successful gift and giving campaign, Vikes for Tykes. In 2019, the campaign collected just over 500 toys, raised $5,500 and received a matching donation of $3,000 from the Battle River Community Foundation. To learn more, visit aug.ualberta.ca/vikesfortykes.

Augustana students, staff and faculty joined to pose for the annual Rainbow Photo to show support for members of the LGBTQ community during Pride Week.

In early March, the University of Alberta promptly switched courses to remote delivery in order to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Although we had to postpone or cancel a number of events, our community rallied together and found alternative forms of digital delivery, ending the year strong. At the time of publication, the University of Alberta and Augustana are busy working to ensure that the Fall 2020 semester, which will be delivered mostly remotely, still provides our students with the high-quality education and university experience that we always have. Be sure to keep an eye on our website, aug.ualberta.ca/augustana, for details regarding Fall 2020.

We also had the pleasure of hosting numerous events through the Chester Rooming Centre for the Study of Religion and Public Life. One of those events was an engaging talk with professor Ingrid Mattson, London and Windsor Community Chair in Islamic Studies at Huron University College at Western University. Professor Mattson presented on “Engaging with the Living Tradition of Islam.”

We’d also love to hear what you thought of the 2020 Report to the Community! Visit aug.ualberta.ca/report2020survey to take a quick survey.

Staff, faculty and students (and library dogs) got into the spooky Halloween spirit!
An Augustana alumna leading the charge

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought fear, uncertainty and anxiety to many Albertans as they try to grapple with changes to their daily lives and figure out what it means to live with this virus. Although information on the pandemic has been shared from everyone from the World Health Organization and the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention to your friends and neighbours on Facebook, there has been a shining light and reliable, calm and reassuring source from the Alberta government in the form of Alberta’s Chief Medical Officer of Health Deena Hinshaw—a graduate of Augustana (then Augustana University College)—of whom we could not be prouder.

“Dr. Hinshaw is a special example (though not the only one) of the kind of exemplary individuals and professionals that the University of Alberta continues to educate and graduate,” says Dr. Lori Koop, Dean of the Faculty of Health and Community Services. “Deena has clearly benefited from and brought back to the community what she learned at Augustana. The kind of exemplary individuals and professionals that the University of Alberta’s Chief Medical Officer of Health Deena Hinshaw—a graduate of Augustana (then Augustana University College)—of whom we could not be prouder.

Augustana was also where she started thinking about ways to keep that larger population healthy.

“As a young person, I was interested in health care in general, and thinking about prevention, alternative medicines and wellness training . . . that’s what I was always really passionate about.”

“I am mindful that not everyone comes from that background—just because I have a particular view on something, it doesn’t make it the only view. That’s been a learning experience for me as I’ve taken on this job—feeling the responsibility to care for all Albertans no matter what background they have, no matter where they come from.”

To read more about Dr. Hinshaw on the University of Alberta’s news site, folio, visit aug.ualberta.ca/deena.

Frontline and Essential Alumni

We have always been interested in profiling our amazing alumni who are out there doing great things in contributing to their communities and making a difference in people’s lives. Now, more than ever, work in frontline and essential services like healthcare and education are paramount. We asked our alumni to tell us why they love their jobs or why they chose their profession. Here’s what they said.

**Ariane Fielding** (’00 BA)
Physician (Anesthesiologist), Misericordia Community Hospital, Edmonton

“I do a lot of work in simulation, particularly in an Interprofessional simulation amongst practicing OR teams. When the pandemic hit, our simulation programs became the focus of much of our preparations for COVID-19. We practiced safe donning of personal protective equipment (PPE), we were able to do trial runs of patient flow through the operating rooms and worked together with ICU, recovery room, obstetrics, etc. to prepare our protocols for COVID-19 patients. Our staff were initially anxious about the risks of becoming infected but through practice and clear protocols they are now feeling confident and prepared.”

**Becky Smith** (’13 BA)
Teacher, Edmonton Public Schools

“Teaching is all about making connections with my students. I teach grade six, which is always an interesting year as they are starting to transition from kids to tiny adults! Even though I’m now teaching from my living room, I’m finding new ways to reach out and stay connected with the amazing kids in my class...like leaving giant messages in chalk on their sidewalks and roads on their birthdays. I sure am grateful to have a great team to work through this crazy time with!”

**Cara Hart** (’00 BA)
Family Support Worker, Awaysis Agency of Northern Manitoba

“I was educated as a teacher, but saw the gaps in the system and how the kids who need intervention the most are so often the ones who fall through those gaps. So, instead of teaching in a traditional setting, I chose to work in family support, providing in-home, after-school education programming to at-promise Indigenous youth through social service agencies. It is so rewarding to be able to work in smaller, more flexible environments, often one-on-one, to support kids who have been neglected and traumatized, and to give them safe, fun, customizable experiences that help them learn and grow. Being the one secure person that a marginalized child can lean on is oftentimes an intense and intimidating proposition, but always fulfilling, and it is an honour to be able to serve in that role.”

**Elizabeth Demers** (’04 BA, ’11 BScN)
and **Jacqueline Hutchison** (’86 CLC, ’90 BPE, ’04 MA)
Firefighter/Nurse and Firefighter/Primary Care Paramedic, Town of Canmore

“I think my profession chose me...I thought about being an EMT when I went to Carmrose Lutheran College but I didn’t know anyone on it at the time so I went into Outdoor Education as I had heard about the legend (Gibber) from my brother who also attended the college.”

— Jacqueline [pictured right]
Five tips on how to evaluate information during a pandemic

By Kara Blizzard

As the COVID-19 pandemic progresses, we are all receiving a stream of updates on the news, on social media and in personal conversations. The sheer amount of information can be overwhelming. How can you tell who and what to trust, especially when different sources offer conflicting views? As a librarian, I regularly teach students about finding and evaluating information, and help you to prioritize what to read or watch. These five tips are meant to add context to the deluge of new information and help you to prioritize what to read or watch.

1. Choose a few key sources that you can rely on. Facebook posts should not be your primary source of information. As the COVID-19 pandemic progresses, we are all receiving a stream of updates on the news, on social media and in personal conversations. The sheer amount of information can be overwhelming. How can you tell who and what to trust, especially when different sources offer conflicting views? As a librarian, I regularly teach students about finding and evaluating information, and help you to prioritize what to read or watch. These five tips are meant to add context to the deluge of new information and help you to prioritize what to read or watch.

2. Choose a few key sources that you can rely on. Facebook posts should not be your primary source of information. As the COVID-19 pandemic progresses, we are all receiving a stream of updates on the news, on social media and in personal conversations. The sheer amount of information can be overwhelming. How can you tell who and what to trust, especially when different sources offer conflicting views? As a librarian, I regularly teach students about finding and evaluating information, and help you to prioritize what to read or watch. These five tips are meant to add context to the deluge of new information and help you to prioritize what to read or watch.

3. Recognize that information will change. COVID-19 is new to the world, and scientists are only just beginning to study it. Information that is breaking now could change over time as more is learned about the virus and the pandemic. Information can become outdated very quickly, such as advice regarding face masks, so look for recent updates.

4. Accept uncertainty. This recommendation is particularly challenging: COVID-19 will affect all of us, and it’s normal to want to know what will happen. It is important to recognize, though, that even experts don’t know what will happen in the coming weeks, months and years. Epidemiologists, economists and others may make predictions, but these are not concrete. The information being published now only represents a small piece of the puzzle.

5. Limit your exposure to COVID-19-related information. It can be tempting to scroll through endless posts and news stories about the pandemic, but to avoid being overwhelmed, try to set limits. Maybe check the news only once a day or login to Facebook or Twitter for only 15 minutes at a time. It would be impossible to read all that is being written about COVID-19, and I don’t recommend trying!

These five tips are meant to add context to the deluge of information and help you to prioritize what to read or watch. Such skills are important at any time, but especially during the current global crisis. For more on evaluating information, consider watching the “Online Verification Skills” videos at newsliteracy.ca. At times like this, it is critical for all of us to communicate reliable and accurate information in order to protect ourselves and our communities.