UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
AUGUSTANA CAMPUS
ALUMNI MAGAZINE

CIRCLE
SPRING 2019

Concept drawings of Augustana’s Hesje Observatory. The observatory was funded by alumnus Brian Hesje and construction will begin at the Augustana Miquelon Lake Research Station this summer. See page 23 for more details.

Turn the page to read about the Dr. Garry & Dorothy Gibson Ski Library that was launched this February.
AUGUSTANA CAMPUS LAUNCHES SKI LENDING LIBRARY

By Junelle Mah

The University of Alberta Augustana and Camrose community came together on Wednesday, February 13 to dedicate their new Nordic ski library, named in honour of Garry (Gibber) and Dorothy Gibson. The dedication was celebrated as a “Tea and Ski,” where, in true Gibson fashion, stories and beverages warmed up the crowd while a hearty handful of students, staff and faculty took to the trails post-ceremony for a brisk -17 C loop in honour of the day.

The cross-country ski lending program is the first of its kind in Canada, according to Augustana Interim Head Librarian Katherine Koch, and is a multi-department collaboration between Campus Recreation, Student Life and the Library. The Dr. Garry & Dorothy Gibson Nordic Ski Library allows Augustana students, staff and faculty the opportunity to borrow classic cross-country skis, boots and poles in the same manner as they would check out a library book.

The initial concept of a winter gear lending library began a few years ago. The dean of Augustana Campus, Allen Berger, sought an opportunity to encourage the community to take part in a more active winter lifestyle, which married well with Augustana’s rich Nordic ski history and prime location on the edge of 16 km of groomed ski trails. Funds were raised to purchase 20 full sets of equipment, plus an additional 10 sets of poles and 10 pairs of boots. The capital was made possible through a grant provided by the U of A Dean of Students office, multiple donors through Augustana’s November 2018 “Giving Tuesday” event and the generous matching donation from U of A Protective Services Sergeant Tony Thomsen.

In his speech to the Gibsons, Berger spoke of the passion and dedication to recreation and lifelong fitness Gibber and Dorothy have given the Augustana and Camrose community for over 40 years. In 1973, Gibber helped develop Augustana’s biathlon and cross-country programs, and in 1978 he developed the outdoor education program based on his research to complete his PhD in physical education. Behind the scenes, Dorothy worked hard to manage and support athletes and teams in every capacity one could imagine. This dedicated duo’s hard work and generosity continues to extend to the students of Augustana through student awards, recreation and athletics, chaplaincy and outdoor education, just to name a few.

As the program is in its initial season, this lending library is currently only available to Augustana students, staff and faculty. All participants must attend a short, one-time only orientation session with Campus Recreation staff to size their gear and learn the basics of trail safety and etiquette. Campus Recreation and the Vikings Nordic Ski Team also provide opportunities to learn or brush up on their cross-country skills through their weekly learn-to-ski programs and their informal ski meetups.

To learn more about the Augustana Ski Library, please visit aug.ualberta.ca/skilibrary
2019 ALUMNI WEEKEND

REGISTER TODAY!
SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2019

EVENTS FOR ALL

Friday, Sept. 20
- Kick-Off Cabaret
- Alumni Night @ the Volleyball Game

Saturday, Sept. 21
- Aga Khan Garden Tour
- “Kids on Campus” Activities
- Famous Cafeteria Brunch
- Class & Cohort Reunions
- Beading with Brittany
- Campus Tours
- Oktoberfest
- Chemistry Show

Sunday, Sept. 22
- Continental Breakfast & Coffee
- Alumni Worship Service
- Vikings Women’s Soccer Game
- Vikings Men’s Soccer Game

To register for events and see more Alumni Weekend details, visit: aug.ualberta.ca/alumniweekend2019

REUNION GATHERINGS

Class of 1959
Myrna Simonson simonsonmyrna@gmail.com

Class of 1969
Gordon Myrehaug gord50@outlook.com
Yvonne Myrehaug ymyrehaugl@gmail.com

Class of 1974
Ron Hendrickson rhend123@telus.net
Ron Flamand roninnerjourney@gmail.com

Indigenous Alumni
Megan Caldwell mcaldwel@ualberta.ca

Residence Life Alumni
Rob Ford rford@ualberta.ca

There’s still time to bring your group together! Contact the Alumni Office at 780-679-1626 or augalum@ualberta.ca