

AUGSBURG COLLEGE

February, 2004

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Augsburg College on behalf of its faculty, staff, students and alumni!

It has been a landmark year for the College, beginning with a record Day School enrollment in the Fall, ranging ahead with the selection of alumnus Peter Agre for the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, through the unveiling of an exciting new visibility campaign focusing on the theme of "Transforming Education", and culminating in a series of campus-wide meetings (including that of the Corporation in October), to clarify and realize the key concepts of our vision — Vocation, the Dialogue of Faith and Reason, and, of course, Transforming Education. We are proud to provide access to learning opportunities that transform theory into action and unite the liberal with the practical in preparing leaders for service in our global society. Here are a few of the year's highlights:

Peter is only the third Nobel Laureate graduating from a Lutheran college and one of the few who emerged from a liberal arts institution. His outstanding achievements in chemistry and medicine exemplify the accomplishments of our alumni who bring their gifts and gratitude into the world in service to God and neighbor.

Further affirmation of Augsburg's unique educational experience includes rankings as both a top-flight liberal arts institution and as one of the nation's *201 Great Colleges for the Real World* (the third consecutive year the College has been selected for this highly regarded list). *The Princeton Review* named Augsburg among the 150 "Best for the Midwest," praising an outstanding faculty, small class sizes, and friendly environment. Kaplan Publishing's *Unbiased Guide to the 328 Most Interesting Colleges, 2004*, includes Augsburg and names it one of the top five schools that may be underrated. Augsburg's work with beginning students led to the College's being named one of 12 "founding institutions" nationally to help develop a model of excellence for the first college year. And, *U.S. News & World Report*, in addition to ranking the College as 24th in its top tier of the Midwest's "Best Universities" category, named Augsburg as one of the nation's top twenty in "Service Learning", the only Minnesota institution selected in this category, and indicating the College's effort to educate "the whole student in mind, body and spirit." Whether it be service to others through dozens of community service-learning programs, participation in daily chapel, or innovative outreach and mission service through our outstanding Campus Ministry program, Augsburg continues to provide students with growth opportunities for themselves and the world in which they live.

Among these many opportunities afforded our students are: participation in study abroad through the Center for Global Education, honored as "Experiential Education Program of the Year" by the National Society of Experiential Educators; mentoring youth through the Augsburg/Cedar Riverside Community School Partnership, selected as one of six finalists for the Carter Partnership Award recognizing exemplary collaborations; and work in Campus Kitchens, one of just six such programs in the nation that collects, prepares and delivers food to nonprofit programs. Students also are encouraged to participate in numerous extracurricular activities, including 18 intercollegiate sports, and highly recognized programs in music, theater and art. Recent tours took the Augsburg Band to the Crystal Cathedral in California and the women's hockey team to Italy and Austria.

Two ongoing efforts, "Exploring Our Gifts," and "Faith in the City", deserve special mention. "Exploring Our Gifts," funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment offers students, alumni/ae, faculty and staff opportunities to discover their own callings, and assists others in their vocational exploration. To learn more about this program, go to the Augsburg web site, www.augsburg.edu/lilly. "Faith in the City", the College's partnership with six other Lutheran institutions in Minneapolis and St. Paul, will open a new charter high school, "The Augsburg Academy for Health Careers", this fall. The new school will seek students from diverse communities who are interested in the medical arts and the competences in math and science that are required to enter these fields.

As you can see, we have much to celebrate but most importantly we celebrate being YOUR College of the Church. Through your support and prayers, we are able to fulfill our mission, preparing graduates as both thoughtful citizens and moral leaders in service to our world. Thank you.



William V. Fraue
President



David T. Wold
Director of Ministries & Campus Pastor

