



Spring 2004

Annual Report of Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota to Rev. Harold Usgaard, Bishop and the members of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod.

Concordia College—Moorhead believes that its partnership with you in the mission of the Lutheran Church gives the college a distinctive identification and gives you reason to be interested in its work as an institution of higher education. You will be gratified as we were that the Evaluation Team from the Higher Learning Commission, at the conclusion of its visit to the Concordia campus last November, reported it would recommend a full 10-year accreditation. As you think of Concordia, think of graduate studies in nursing and three marks of distinction.

The team recommended Concordia College receive accreditation and authorization to grant a master's degree in nursing. When granted, this authorization enables Concordia to be a full partner with NDSU and MSUM in the master's level courses offered through the tri-college consortium.

The team also recommended special recognition for three distinctive programs that could be studied and emulated by other institutions of higher learning. Since it is unusual to be recognized for even one such distinction, you who represent the church stakeholders in Concordia can join the college community in appreciating this remarkable recognition of the quality of our work. The three programs are the international education and language immersion programs, Concordia's music program, and the Dovre Center for Faith and Learning.

The opportunities for student participation in Concordia's programs in international education and language immersion and music programs are extensive and are quite well known, so let me comment on the unexpected recognition of the Center for Faith and Learning. As a Lutheran college we understand that academic quality and faithfulness to the Christian tradition are inseparable. The Center offers a program of faculty enrichment to introduce new and experienced faculty to the faith tradition that informs and undergirds Concordia's culture of faith and learning. The evaluation team's recognition clearly affirms the value and mission of the Center, now only in its tenth year of programming.

With gratitude and delight, I report to you and the members of your Synod, that Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota has been fully accredited and genuinely affirmed for its purpose *to influence the affairs of the world by sending into society thoughtful and informed men and women dedicated to the Christian life*. I thank you for commending the college to your young men and women and for your prayers and gifts that encourage our work in the world with you.

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