

Seek ye
wisdom
and gain
under-
standing
--Prov 4:5

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

At Augustana College

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Here is your annual update from the Bush Steering Committee on colleagues who are returning from leave, going on leave, or not returning to the campus, and an introduction to this year's new faculty.

RETURNING FROM LEAVE

Karen Dorn, Nursing – A major focus of Karen’s sabbatical work was establishing a campus-based research laboratory to support faculty and student research in health promotion and human performance at Augustana. This included set-up of a research laboratory and implementation of a three-year health promotion research grant involving diet and exercise interventions in a military population. Additional grant funding was awarded to expand the protocol and extend interdepartmental collaborative opportunities. During the fall semester, Karen completed focused study in gerontological nursing and health promotion theory at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha.

Barbara Nedelsky, Modern Foreign Languages – Barbara spent the Interim and spring semester in Paris where she did research on the cultural and intellectual currents that shaped the great historical gardens of Europe from Roman times to the Enlightenment.

Michael Nedelsky, Psychology – Michael spent his Interim/spring leave in Paris, where he studied the writings of St. Maximos the Confessor, a Byzantine writer, with a specific focus on his understanding of human nature. Michael did much background reading as St. Maximos’s psychology was deeply intertwined with his theology, and his theological writings cannot be read without a solid background in the theological disputes of the time. Michael’s ultimate goal is to show how St. Maximos’s psychology provides a foundation for contemporary psychopathology.

Richard Swanson, Religion/Philosophy/ Classics – Richard spent the past year working on the gospel of Mark. He is writing an interpretive piece on what he terms “this old and (delightfully) irritating story.” Because of the importance of storytelling for his interpretive work, Richard has been working with a troupe of storytellers (former students Erika Iverson and Michael Smith) to deepen his understanding of how Mark works. In addition to local performances and workshops, the three presented at the Society of Biblical Literature’s Annual Meeting in Boston and at the Festival Gathering of the Network of Biblical Storytellers in Atlanta. The group has been invited to perform in a variety of settings over the next three years. Richard also wrote an article on the poetics and narratology of Umberto Eco that will be published in *Semeia*, the premier international journal for experimental biblical interpretation.

ON LEAVE

Sharon Andrews, Education – During her Interim/spring leave, Sharon will be taking graduate level course work in the educational technology program at the University of South Dakota with the eventual goal of a master of arts degree in educational technology.

Jacquelyn Howell, Nursing – The purpose of Jackie’s fall/Interim leave is to provide an historical perspective of nursing at Augustana. She will write a description of the major curriculum changes in nursing at Augustana from 1940 to 2000. This description will include observations on what it means to have a “contemporary curriculum” related to changes in education, health care, and

other factors. She will be using the historical records housed in the nursing department and college records housed in the Center for Western Studies.

Duane Weisshaar, Chemistry – On his year of leave, Duane will be doing research with Dr. Marc Porter at Ames Lab's Micro Instrumentation Center/Iowa State University, in Ames, IA. Initially, he will be splitting time between two projects: developing water quality monitoring devices for use in the space shuttle and the International Space Station, and optimizing construction of an electrochemically modulated liquid chromatography system.

NEW BEGINNINGS

Kyle Green, HPER – Kyle is now the head men's basketball coach at Western State College in Gunnison, CO where he will also help with athletic advancement. Western is part of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and is a Division II athletic institution.

Rob Kinnunen, HPER – Rob is involved in an Internet business from his home in Viborg.

Laura McAllaster, Music – Laura has moved to Dallas to teach piano and pre-school music at Dallas/Music. Dallas/Music is a music school that teaches piano and other instruments.

Carrie Melcher, Business Administration – Carrie is teaching accounting and management courses at Luther College, Decorah, IA.

Chris Oldstone-Moore, History – Chris is teaching adjunct courses in history at Wittenberg University, Springfield, OH, and continuing his research projects and publications.

Jennifer Oldstone-Moore, History – Jenny is assistant professor of religion at Wittenberg University and a member of the East Asian studies program.

Don Tellinghuisen, Psychology – Don is an associate professor in the psychology department at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI.

Cheryl Vogtsberger, Nursing – Cheryl is working at the South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Disease Prevention, as a disease intervention specialist. The position involves follow-up investigation of reportable contagious diseases in southeastern South Dakota. Cheryl's primary focus is in the area of tuberculosis prevention and control.

NEW FACULTY

Denise Copelton, Sociology – Denise's home town is Andover, NJ. She comes to Augustana from Lancaster, PA, where she was a visiting instructor of sociology at Franklin and Marshall College. Her partner is Brian Fletcher. Denise's interests include gender studies, medical sociology, women and health, and reproductive health issues.

Martin Dennis, Psychology – Martin comes to Augustana from Yale University where he was a graduate student. He has taught in part-time adjunct positions at Yale and Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT. His home town is Rock Island, IL. Martin and his wife Rose Grant have two children: Lillian and Richard.

Trygve Fredrickson, Business Administration – Most recently, Trygve was an associate professor at South Dakota State University where he taught business and banking classes and administered internships and the small business consulting program. His scholarly interests include management and organizational development. He and his wife Marie have a 21-month old son, Jorge, adopted from Guatemala.

John Greene, HPER – John is assistant men’s basketball coach and an HPER instructor. He is originally from Three Lakes, WI, and comes to Augustana from Madison, WI, where he was head men’s basketball coach at Madison Area Technical College. John is interested in athletic administration and sports psychology. He enjoys golf, fishing, and body surfing.

Lisa Grevlos, Music – Lisa is entering a tenure-track position as assistant professor of music. She will be teaching in applied voice and music education. Lisa directs the opera theatre program and the Collegiate Chorale. She is working on her doctorate of arts degree in voice performance and opera stage production from the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. Lisa’s outside interests include her family and vocal performance with the Sioux Falls Municipal Band. She and her husband Mike have three children: Katie (6), Abbie (5), and Will (7 months).



Back Row: Michael Waddell, Martin Dennis, Trygve Fredrickson, Tracy Hellman Front Row: John Greene, Lisa Grevlos, Beverly Steinmark, Denise Copelton, Christina Harbaugh Not pictured: Stephanie Radecki

Christina Harbaugh, Music – Christina comes to Augustana from Wichita State University, Wichita, KS, where she was a graduate teaching assistant. She enjoys Beethoven studies, foreign languages, geology, and travel.

Tracy Hellman, HPER – Tracy is head men’s and women’s cross country and assistant track coach and an HPER instructor. His home town is Redfield, SD. Before coming to Augustana, he was a graduate teaching assistant at Humboldt State University in northern California.

Stephanie Radecki, HPER – Stephanie is assistant volleyball coach and an HPER instructor. Her home town is Meadville, PA. She comes to Augustana from the University of North Alabama where she was assistant volleyball coach.

Beverly Steinmark, Computer Science – Beverly is from Lake Andes, SD. She has taught as a student instructor at USD. Her interests include gardening, walking, and working as a volunteer EMT with her local ambulance service. She and her husband Joel have two daughters and six grandchildren.

Michael Waddell, Religion/Philosophy/Classics – Originally from Owatonna, MN, Michael comes to Augustana from the University of Notre Dame where he recently earned his Ph.D. He has taught courses at Notre Dame and at Cornell College, Mount Vernon, IA. His specialization is medieval philosophy, especially the thought of Thomas Aquinas. Michael enjoys mountain biking, roller blading, dancing, music, playing softball, and weightlifting. His fiancée, Jennifer Rotondo, will be teaching statistics at Augustana and Introduction to Psychology at the University of Sioux Falls.

**FALL FACULTY SEMINAR
“BEING OURSELVES: WHAT DOES THAT MEAN IN AN AGE OF DIVERSITY?”**

by LaMoyné Pederson

Augustana’s Fall Faculty Seminar was held August 23 at the Good Samaritan Society Jerstad Retreat Center. Gracia Grindal, Professor of Rhetoric at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, was the guest lecturer/facilitator for “Being Ourselves: What Does That Mean in An Age of Diversity?” Through her remarks on the history of Lutheran higher education and its roots in the Augsburg Confession, Professor Grindal encouraged seminar participants to reflect on what it means to teach, to exercise our calling, and to pass on the faith in a world of many cultures.

The seminar began by looking at key articles of the Augsburg Confession that bear on the identity of Lutheran colleges, particularly the doctrine of justification by grace through faith. Grindal then reviewed the mission statement of the college and our five shared fundamental values. A number of questions were raised. Among them: What does it mean to be Lutheran now that ethnic ties are not as strong as they used to be? How do we preserve and celebrate our distinctiveness while fostering an ecumenical outlook? How does a commitment to

ecumenism and diversity relate to Christianity as a missionary religion? Can we be diverse if we’re too Lutheran? Or Lutheran if we’re too diverse? Does tolerance mean that our differences don’t matter and that beliefs at variance with our own are just fine? How does lack of diversity affect teaching and learning? Is there a connection between Lutheran doctrine and character education? Is it possible to have character without deep conviction? Does embracing diversity and emphasizing tolerance engender a relativism that makes character education more difficult?

No answers were given to these difficult questions, but it wasn’t Grindal’s intent to provide them. What she did was to lay the issues before us and give us the opportunity to probe them further in small groups. Her own comments were laced with wit and humor (participants will remember her allusion to the Lutheran who was sure he’d go to heaven because he’d never done any good works, and the fellow from North Dakota who tried to prove how spiritual he was by not going to the bathroom), while her engaging manner made for an enjoyable morning.

Bush Course Enhancement Project Grant proposals are due October 25. If you need a copy of the guidelines, please contact Karin Lindell (ext. 4808; e-mail klindell) or see the Augustana Bush web site <http://inst.augie.edu/~bush/>.

Mark your calendars for the November 17-18 Collaboration Conference in Minneapolis, MN. The conference theme is “Building the New Learning Communities.” The Bush Grant will pay for

registration and hotel costs and provide transportation. Watch for your brochure and registration materials.

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