

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

# FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

At Augustana College

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The Bush Steering Committee is pleased to offer you a few notes 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. We hope you enjoy catching up.

## RETURNING FROM LEAVE

**Rich Bowman, Religion** -- During his spring leave, Rich explored the portrayal of masculinity in the biblical story of King David in I and II Samuel. His analysis revealed that traditional masculine characteristics such as resorting to violence to resolve conflicts often fail to achieve and maintain the goal of political and social stability.

**Mary Brendtro, Nursing** -- The focus of Mary's year was health policy in preparation for developing and teaching the health policy course in the master's program in nursing. Mary completed a course in Health Policy Development offered by the doctoral program in nursing at Duquesne University, enrolled in two institutes on health policy at the University of Washington and George Mason University, and attended a Public Policy and Legislative Conference in Washington DC. A manuscript in which she analyzed a health policy issue using a public policy theoretical framework was accepted for publication. In addition to participating in a SD nursing workforce development project and lobbying for passage of a bill that would amend the SD Nurse Practice Act, Mary also spent a month working with two Legislative Assistants for health issues in the Washington DC office of Senator Tom Daschle.

**Vance Butler, HPER** -- During his year of leave, Vance started work on an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction Supervision at the University of South Dakota. He will continue this work this fall and next summer.

**Lisa Grevlos, Music** -- On her spring 1997 through fall 1997 leave, Lisa completed her one-year residency requirement and all course requirements for the Doctor of Arts degree in Voice Performance and Opera Stage Directing at the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. She has completed the initial stages of her dissertation proposal and will complete the first of two voice recitals in March, 1998.

**Debbie Hanson, English** -- During her fall leave, Debbie worked on a manuscript concerning Willa Cather's use of folk narratives in three of her novels. She also organized a panel on sports and folklore entitled "The Play's the Thing: Folklore and Sports" for this year's American Folklore Society's national convention to be held in Portland, OR, in October. In addition, she has been asked to be the liaison for the AFS at the 2001 Modern Language Association national conference. This would involve organizing and chairing the three sessions that AFS sponsors at MLA every year. Debbie was asked to submit an article for an upcoming folklore and literature edition of the children's literature journal *The Lion and the Unicorn*, and she has two entries (Willa Cather, Laura Ingalls Wilder) in the recently published *Folklore and Literature Encyclopedia*.

**Sandra Looney, English** -- On her spring leave, Sandra began a study of William Butler Yeats -- Irish Protestant, poet, playwright, nationalist -- and his inner circle of friends who were instrumental in the formation of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, a venue for the expression of the new nationalistic spirit. In addition, she surveyed Ireland's current leading writers -- both from the North -- dramatist Brian Friel and Nobel Prize winning poet Seamus Heaney. Brian Friel's best-known play *Dancing at Lughnasa* illustrates his focus: Irish social, political, and family life; Seamus Heaney's poetry responds to both the personal and the political. Sandra spent April through June in England and Ireland, seeing plays in London, Stratford, and Dublin and studying the connecting relationships between the writers and their places in Dublin, Sligo, and the North.

**Craig Spencer, Biology** -- In his year of leave, Craig wrote five manuscripts for scientific journals. Two of the papers were based

upon research projects in South Dakota dealing with water pollution in the Big Sioux River and fish ecology in northwest Iowa. The other three were based upon projects in Montana dealing with fire ecology, exotic species, and lake ecology. Six Augustana students participated as co-authors. Craig prepared a successful grant proposal to the National Science Foundation establishing a state of the art radioisotope dating lab at Augustana which will help launch a long-term research program studying changes in water quality in land use through analysis of the historical record preserved in lake sediment. Craig also participated in a National Science Foundation course studying tropical ecology on Mona Island, off the coast of Puerto Rico. He says that he is now tired of writing and ready to get back to teaching.

## ***ON LEAVE***

**Joan Bacon, Special Education** -- The focus of Joan's fall leave will be to study national trends and innovations in special education teaching preparation programs that are responsive to revised standards of the Council for Exceptional Children, changing special education teacher certification requirements, and the national shortage of special education teachers. Her activities will include attending related national conferences, web-based research, site visits, and working with local agencies affected by these changes.

**Larry Brendtro, Special Education** -- During his year of leave, Larry will be completing a book with Martin Brokenleg and Steve Van Bockern and continuing his research on delinquency at Starr Commonwealth in Michigan. His plans included being in Australia in August and Israel next May.

**Martin Brokenleg, Native American Studies** -- Martin's fall leave will involve research in the field of at-risk youth. He will work with Larry Brendtro and Steve Van Bockern on a book tentatively titled *From Risk to Resilience*. The plan is to have the manuscript to the publisher by January.

**John Clementson, Education** -- On his spring leave, John plans to pursue three projects. First, he hopes to use a software program (QSR) to analyze qualitative data from adolescents regarding issues of identity. Secondly, he would like to develop a comprehensive web site for middle school educators. Finally, he will be writing several articles related to authentic assessment and the use of electronic portfolios in the college classroom.

**Carolyn Geyer, English** -- Carolyn's plans for the year include working on a project about reintroducing Hemingway in undergraduate general education classes, a project which began when she served on a panel at the Eighth International Conference on Hemingway at Les Saintes Maries de La Mer in France in late May. Carolyn's project group is working toward the centennial of Hemingway's birth next year, with a conference at Oak Park, IL. In addition, Carolyn will travel to Norway to continue research on Ole Rølvaag and to study more about Henrik Ibsen, who greatly influenced Rølvaag.

**Margot Nelson, Nursing** -- Margot will be spending part of her year of leave in Australia and New Zealand conducting research regarding incorporation of the Maori culture into educational endeavors in New Zealand and following up on her dissertation research with an HIV-infected population. In the spring she will be at the University of Kentucky, working with a colleague who teaches graduate Community Health Nursing.

**LaMoyne Pederson, Philosophy** -- During his spring leave, LaMoyne plans to focus on four issues. The first is whether God has an essential nature and what are the properties a being must have in order to be God. The second is the divine command theory in ethics: Is it defensible and what are the implications of defining moral concepts in theological terms? Then, as time permits, he would like to explore in greater depth the philosophical foundation of punishment in the criminal justice system and the moral defensibility of the doctrine of hell in religion.

**Tom Shields, Art** -- Tom's fall leave activities will include creating work for two exhibitions. One will be at North Dakota State University, Nov. 17-Dec. 20. The other will be at the Eide/Dalrymple Gallery during February, 1999. Tom is also planning to draw from sites on the northwest coast and travel to see the Monet, Bonnard, and Dove exhibits.

**Tim Sorenson, Math** -- On his year of leave, Tim will be doing research and teaching a course at the University in Linköping, Sweden.

## ***NEW BEGINNINGS***

**Patricia Akerson, Modern Foreign Languages** --- Pat is spending time at home and enjoying her grandson.

**Dan Anderson, HPER** -- Dan is head basketball coach and a Physical Education teacher at Northeast Community College in Norfolk, Nebraska.

**Duane Matz, History** -- Duane is working on a manuscript based on his dissertation dealing with images of Native Americans in the popular culture. In relation to this project he will be doing research in the dime novel collection at the University of Minnesota.

## ***NEW FACULTY***



**Back Row: Robert Colvin, Michael Jewett, Geoffrey Dipple**

**Front Row: Jill Tyler, John Peters, Jaciel-Keltgen-Pierson**

**Robert Colvin, Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish)** -- Robert's home town is Bakersfield, CA. He most recently taught at Central College in Pella, IA. He is married to Stephanie and they have two children: Hannah (almost 5) and Adam (2). Robert's scholarly interests include contemporary Spanish literature, Argentine history and culture, and chaos theory. His other interests include reading, American history, piano and singing, and church service.

**Geoffrey Dipple, History** -- Geoffrey comes to Augustana from Erindale College, University of Toronto, where he was an assistant professor. He has also taught at Queen's University and the University of Ottawa. Geoffrey and his wife Sharon have two sons: Joseph (7) and Benjamin (4). Geoffrey's scholarly area of interest is the Protestant Reformation. He says cooking is one of his outside interests.

**Kyle Green, HPER** -- Kyle is the assistant men's basketball coach, a position he held part-time at Augie last year. Prior to coming to Augie, Kyle coached and taught at Southwest State University. He and his wife Michele were married this summer. Kyle's fields of interest include outdoor recreation and outdoor activities such as orienteering, rock-climbing, kayaking, and canoeing. He also enjoys golf and reading.

**Michael Jewett, HPER** -- Mike is the assistant women's basketball coach, a position he held part-time at Augie last year. Mike is married to Michelle. He taught high school English and was head girls' basketball coach at Brandon Valley. His interests include

athletic administration and athletic training and conditioning. He enjoys sports, jogging, lifting weights, and reading (especially biographies).

**Jaciel Keltgen-Pierson, Business Administration** -- Last year Jaciel was an adjunct in Augustana's Business Administration Department. Before coming to Augie, she was President of Pierson and Associates of Sioux Falls, a marketing firm still in part-time operation. She and her husband Chris Pierson have three children: Casey, Meghan, and Kirsten. Jaciel's area of expertise and research interest is the teenage college market. She is the recipient of the Addy Award and numerous National Admissions Marketing Awards. Her outside interests include traveling and reading, and she characterizes herself as a sports enthusiast (as a spectator at children's events).

**John Peters, Art** -- John Peters is not new to Augustana as he taught here from 1995 to 1997. He and his wife Deb have three sons: Benu (14), Jonah (13), and Steffan (9) and a daughter Skylar (6). John's mother Lorraine Peters works in the Augustana catering and food service. John's artistic area of interest is liturgical sculpture. His outside interests include being a Cub Scout leader and Boy Scout Committee involvement.

**Jill Tyler, Communication** -- Jill has been an adjunct at Augustana for two years. She has taught at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, CT, Central College in Pella, IA, and Drake University in Des Moines, IA. She and her husband Steve Miller have five children: Leah (8), Sam (7), Caleb (5), Seth (3), and Joseph (1). Jill's scholarly interests include intercultural communication and community, communication pedagogies across the curriculum, and training and development in interpersonal communication in an organizational setting. She enjoys parenting, homemaking, and writing.

## REFLECTIONS ON THE FALL FACULTY SEMINAR

by Marilyn Carlson  
Aronson

According to Mark Langseth, facilitator for "Service-Learning: Integrating Service with Academic Study?", the 1998 Fall Faculty Seminar sponsored by Augustana's Bush and Teagle Grants and the USF Faculty Development Committee, "Service-learning is a teaching/learning strategy that combines meaningful community or public service with academic improvement, civic responsibility, or personal growth." I attended this workshop to explore possibilities for service learning in my classes. I left the workshop with several pages of excellent ideas for connecting service with academic understanding. Even if I do not incorporate these ideas for this semester, I have the tools for implementation.

The morning session of the workshop included lecture, discussion of handouts, and an overview of "burning issues" regarding implementation of service learning. The afternoon provided hands-on, small-group discussion with colleagues regarding methods for incorporating service learning into individual courses. In separate groups, colleagues discussed the components of service learning applicable to their fields: experiential learning, intentional civic involvement and responsibility, reflection for values and personal growth, and planned reciprocity for positive community and public impact.

One quotation struck me as vital for consideration, since it supports the fact that service learning is a powerful pedagogical tool. "Students who see no relevance between learning and life can't store learning for life." (Langseth). One of the texts that I perused following the seminar, *Reflective Faculty Evaluation*, makes a strong case for service learning. The author, J. A. Centra, describes the Service Learning Project at Arizona State University, developed in 1993 to solve two problems on campus: (1) the empty assignment syndrome and (2) assistance for a local district whose overabundance of children put them at the risk of failure. (Centra 177). Centra discovered that this project encouraged participants in reflective thinking, which is a special kind of intellectual activity that begins with a question, hypothesis, or perplexity, and leads a person to an inquiry to resolve it. "Experience, relevant knowledge, and reasoning ability are important criteria" for reflective thinking (Centra 177). This increased cognitive understanding maximizes student learning because students can connect community experience with course content. Besides, students learn, first hand, that they can make a difference in their world. Aren't such outcomes as greater engagement, retention, and understanding what we desire for all students?

## **LOFTHUS LECTURE**

“Comparing Nature’s Secrets” will be the title of the Lofthus Lecture presented by Dr. Leland Johnson on October 14 at 3:00 p.m. in Kresge Recital Hall. The lecture is sponsored by the Bush Steering Committee. Last spring Lee completed his three-year term as Orin M. Lofthus Distinguished Professor. The professorship was created by former students of Professor O. M. Lofthus in 1989 in gratitude for the contributions he made to their education and personal growth. Dr. Lofthus was a professor of Biology at Augustana from 1935 to 1945.

Four Augustana professors have been honored as Lofthus Distinguished Professor. They are Arlen Viste, Lyn Oyos, Leland Johnson, and, beginning in fall 1998, Martin Brokenleg.

According to Lee, Dr. Lofthus was not just a scientist, but someone who shared his views of the world with his students. In his memory, Lee would like to share his own thoughts, not only about science and the work he did as Lofthus Professor, but with regard to a broader view of science in the American culture. The Bush Steering Committee cordially invites the community to attend.

## Bush Committee Update

The Bush Steering Committee will be submitting its \$300,000 Program Grant Proposal in October. The Bush Foundation Board of Directors will review the proposal at its February board meeting. In the meantime, the college will sustain several of the activities funded by our previous Bush Grant, including the faculty mentor program and assistance with conference attendance. Joan Bacon will be leaving the Bush Steering Committee after four years of outstanding service. We welcome Susan Schrader (SOCl) as the Bush Steering Committee's newest member.

### *SOME THOUGHTS FROM THE NEWEST MEMBER OF THE BUSH STEERING COMMITTEE*

As a new member of the Bush Steering Committee, I have reflected on my participation in Bush-sponsored events over the past years. My recollection, as may be yours, is one of enrichment and revitalization. I have savored the opportunity to participate as learner in an interdisciplinary context of peers, and I have valued the chance to strengthen my own teaching through the experiences offered through Bush support. Looking forward, I am excited about the prospects the new Bush Grant application may afford us as faculty to enhance teaching excellence.

*Susan Schrader*

#### 1998-1999 BUSH STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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