

Faculty welcome 3 new professors

Craig Anderson, Kevin Buell and Jason Harris have joined the Accounting and Business Administration departments this fall.

Craig A. Anderson

Bringing an extensive list of professional qualifications and management experience, Craig A. Anderson accepted the position of department chair and hopes to share his passion for business and law with his students.

“Teaching allows me to share [my] experiences with others in a way that shows the interrelationships between academic theory and actual practice in the marketplace,,,” Anderson says.

Anderson grew up in Sioux Falls and attended Augustana, completing his undergraduate work with a triple major in accounting, economics and business administration. He fulfilled his master of business administration and masters in professional accountancy at the University of South Dakota and was named outstanding grad student with a 4.0 grade point average. Anderson is a lawyer and received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Southern California and is admitted to practice law in California, Minnesota and South Dakota. Anderson is also a CPA.CITP.

Anderson’s professional qualifications include serving in a variety of positions ranging from Chairman and CEO and a founding stockholder of PrairieWave Holdings, Inc., a Sioux Falls based telecommunications company, to director, chairman and president of a private legal practice, to a revenue agent for the IRS. “I find the complexities in modern business endlessly fascinating and enjoy the strategic planning process that integrates all



2006-2007 faculty include, front, left to right, Jaciel Keltgen, Shelly Gardner, Jason Harris and Anne Oppegard. Back row, left to right, are Kevin Buell, Dennis Bolen, Dick English and Craig Anderson

of the various disciplines into a single action plan,,,” Anderson says.

In addition to his love for business and law, Anderson enjoys playing instruments, concentrating presently on the bass guitar, and reading, especially in the areas of technology, history, philosophy, theology and ethics. He enjoys a wide range of recorded music and loves to relax with his wife and three children.

As he looks forward to his career at Augustana,

Anderson has developed goals for the business department. He hopes that the department can continue to “provide the finest academic and educational experience possible to [Augustana] students, all within a Christian, liberal arts setting; develop and support the best possible faculty in accounting, and business and work with other departments in the college in ways that enrich the entire Augustana community; and serve the Sioux Falls and surrounding region as the resource center for business consulting and development,,,”

After graduating from Augustana, Anderson hopes his students will walk away with crucial skills necessary in the business world. “[Students should take away] the ability to think critically and creatively identify and understand issues and problems facing business, and then clearly and effectively communicate the possible solutions and opportunities,,,” he says.

Kevin Buell

The classroom setting is nothing new for recent business professor, Kevin Buell. Teaching for 10 years, the last four at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa,

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Marketing student carries on prestigious marketing scholarship tradition



Junior Eric Boyce received a \$1500 scholarship from the Sioux Falls chapter of Sales and Marketing Executives (SME). SME is a professional association dedicated to sales and marketing excellence. SME offers professional growth, education, certification and networking opportunities for members and supports youth education through scholarship programs to encourage students to pursue sales and marketing careers. SME members include CEOs, marketing managers, sales managers and other senior executives who contribute to the advancement of sales and marketing management. Eric received his scholarship from Lisa Marshik '95, chair of the scholarship committee, and SME president-elect Bob Lowry.

The world is their oyster, er, lutefisk

Jobs have drawn Augustana College business students throughout the Midwest and beyond. They say their degrees and experience translate into excellent professional credentials. Here's a look at a few alumni who have parlayed their degrees into compelling occupations:

Ryan Stern, '00, is a captain in the 204th Airlift Squadron of the Hawaii Air National Guard. Ryan, far right, flew the C-130 Hercules, when he first arrived in Honolulu. He now flies the C-17 Globemaster III.

Ryan Tysdal, '01, senior media buyer at HenkinSchultz, is a member of the 2006-2007 South Dakota Advertising Federation board of directors. As Program Chair for SDAF last year, Ryan was responsible for design and content of the club program book, which won second place in Programs at the national AAF Club Achievement contest.

Shannon Bjelland Viereck, '05, is a marketing representative trainee for Federated Insurance. Following conclusion of training in June, Shannon traveled to Orange County, CA; Fresno, CA; Columbia, MO; Marion, IL; and Muncie, IN, serving open territories.



Micah Aberson, '05, is an account executive at Lawrence & Schiller, a Sioux Falls-based marketing firm. Micah was recognized by the Argus Leader as one of "15 Under 30,, 15 professionals under the age of 30 who are most likely to lead Sioux Falls in the future.

Internships prove worth to students, business community

Internships provide a core part of the business department and accounting curriculum. They provide practical experience, a glimpse into a student's future career field and connections to professionals in the community, and sometimes even connections to future job positions.

Former business department chair Rob Oliver affirms the value of internships in the business program. "They're a great opportunity to try to connect the theory [students] have been exposed to with the reality of the workplace environment,, he says. "When theory and reality come together, that's when you can solve problems.,,

Oliver equates internships completed by business students as similar to labs done by students majoring in the sciences. "Sioux Falls is our learning laboratory and it's a great laboratory,, said Oliver. "Very few have the lab we do.,, Senior accounting major, Corey Fishel recently completed an internship with McGladrey and Pullen and also sees the value of the internship program at Augustana.

"I think that [my internship] will give me a better understanding of which area of accounting I would like to continue my career,, says Fishel. "It also is nice to have a little experience before starting full-time for a company.,,

However, Fishel also experiences a time struggle as he works toward completing it. He believes it would be easier to focus on his internship and schoolwork if he were able to concentrate on each for solid blocks of time.

"It has been a struggle to work the hours needed around class schedules,, he states. "Having classes ranging through all morning and afternoon it is tough to find a time to be able to be in the office for extended periods of time.,, Overall, Fishel sees his internship as an opportunity to further his education beyond what he has learned in the classroom and acknowledges that his learning experience will continue long after she has completed her internship and graduated.

"You will never be educated enough,, states Fishel. "The laws and regulations are constantly changing and even though I will graduate from college, it doesn't mean that my educating stops.,,

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Augie loses dear friend, colleague and teacher

It was with deep sorrow that Augustana College observed the passing of professor, colleague, mentor and friend Douglas R. Nelson, MBA, JD, CPA on Saturday March 25, 2006.

Doug was born August 29, 1944 in Ames, Iowa to Eileen and Roy Nelson. Doug grew up playing and winning a variety of sports in Jewell, Iowa. He graduated with distinction from Iowa State in 1966 with a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Administration. He taught at the University of Iowa while earning his MBA in 1968, followed by a Juris Doctorate degree in 1974.

After passing the Bar exam, he joined the accounting firm of McGladrey and Pullen. He worked in several of their district offices before moving to Sioux Falls and becoming a partner in 1981. Due to heart disease, he retired early from the firm in 1991 and went back to his first love: teaching at the college level.

He taught accounting courses, tax and business law at Sioux Falls College and later at Augustana College. His teaching career included positions at Iowa State University, University of Iowa and Marquette University.

In 1991, he married Arlys Rath. He was the father to four boys, Andrew Nelson (Christina), Missoula, MT., Matthew Nelson, Minneapolis, Michael Rath, Harrisburg and Jeffrey Rath, Bremerton, WA. He has one granddaughter, Sylvie Nelson.

He was a mentor for countless students, guiding them towards career paths in accounting and law for the past 15 years. Education was most important to him along with his family and his professional life. When he wasn't teaching, it was likely that you could find Doug teeing off at Prairie Green golf course near his home.

Doug's students, friends and colleagues remember him:

"Doug was more than a professor; he was a friend and a mentor. He made every class enjoyable and treated each of his students with respect and compassion.,- Brendon Plack, Class of 2003

"It is with sorrow that I read of Doug's passing. Doug and I were associates together in the Davenport , Iowa office of McGladrey in the early 1980's. He was a smart tax and business professional and I learned much from him. I particularly enjoyed his sense of humor and ability to not let things get too serious without some levity. Since he left McGladrey we lost touch with each other, but I still remember him as one of those special friends we develop during our lives.,-Stephen R. Hammes, Managing Director, RSM McGladrey, Inc., Cedar Rapids, Iowa

"Doug was one of the most influential people in my life. He knew my strengths and weakness inside and out. This man was unwavering in his ability to make people inspired and to go after their dreams. He is the true definition of a leader and an educator.,-Savannah Curtin, Class of 2003

"My friend, Doug, and I met as Acacia Fraternity pledges at Iowa State University in the fall of 1962. He loved teaching and told me more than once that he got more satisfaction from mentoring a student than any of the challenges he faced in public accounting. Doug was the smartest man I've ever known, with a nearly photographic memory, and yet he could relate to the rest of us.,-Donald L. Good, DDS

"He taught me so much more than concepts from a book. He had a way with his students that encouraged them to be the best that they could be, both in academia and personal life. He pushed his students to accomplish more than they believed they could. He also emphasized not taking life too seriously and to enjoy what life has to offer. He really made me step back and evaluate what I want to accomplish, not only in a professional world, but also in my personal life.,-Tricia Thorn, Class of 2005

"If I could describe Doug Nelson with one word, it would be genuine. Doug had genuine respect for his students, had a genuine smile and laugh that was contagious. Above all else, he was a genuine good man.,-Sean Hilgenberg, Class of 2002



New faculty join department (Continued from Page 1)

Buell looks forward to a future teaching accounting at Augustana. “My feeling is that the Augustana community is just one big caring family... and it’s great,, he says.

Before his teaching career, Buell worked in public accounting as a CPA for 18 years, gaining experience in both the audit and tax areas, for McGladrey and Pullen and the firm now known as Eide Bailly, formally Charles Bailly and Co. He graduated with a BA from South Dakota State University, although he fulfilled a majority of his accounting work at Augustana. He completed his MBA at the University of South Dakota and currently works toward his doctorate at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

“I think my past experience gives me a good balance of professional knowledge, along with the experience of teaching,, Buell says. “It gives me both strong experience in the classroom and in the industry of public accounting,,

Buell grew up in a small rural community in Northwest Iowa and believes his upbringing helped to instill in him the importance of an education, strong work ethic and a Christian background. While Buell acknowledges the importance of work and school, he advises students to “Establish a mission and/or goals that will lead to a successful career, but to be sure to include your family and your spiritual life,,

Buell’s advice rings true in his own life as he holds his family and spirituality as high priorities. His wife, Sherry, a retired naval officer, currently teaches communication and leadership courses at Buena Vista University and Iowa Lakes Community College. Together they have three children, Joe, a senior business and theatre major at the University of Sioux Falls, Elizabeth, a third year medical student at the University of South Dakota, and Amanda, a senior international studies and political science major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Using his own life as example, Buell advises his students to pursue their passions. “Find a profession that you are either passionate about or you will find fulfilling throughout your career,, he said. When not in the classroom or spending time with his family, Buell enjoys the outdoors, especially boating, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling and golfing.

Buell believes that he has found his passion through

his teaching profession and the students he advises. “I love working with students in the classroom, and also advising [them]... I just love working with students,,

Jason Harris

Augustana welcomed Jason Harris to the business department this fall, where he teaches Business I and Business Law II. After working as both a lawyer and lobbyist, the career move has been a pleasant change. “I love the fantastic friends that I’ve made, the positive atmosphere and the Christian faith [present at Augustana],,, he said.

Harris’ wife, Wanda (‘88) is especially excited about his career move because it will allow him more time to spend with his family. When not working, Harris enjoys spending time with friends and his wife and two sons, golfing, reading, skiing, and watching ESPN.

Harris hails from Rapid City, SD. He graduated from Augustana with a bachelor’s degree in Government and International Affairs. Following his undergraduate work, Harris went on to receive his Juris Doctorate at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion.

After college, Harris worked for the South Dakota Municipal League, the Attorney General’s Office, SDACBS, and in private practice. He also currently serves on the State Council of Developmental Disabilities.

“From a young age, I developed a passion for law and that passion stayed with me through college,, Harris said. “I love the critical thinking aspect of it,,

Harris also attributes his accomplishments to his work ethic. “My dad was a doctor, so in watching him, I was able to see the value of hard work,, he said. “But I was also able to learn the importance of balance,, To his students, Harris advises them to “never stop learning and don’t be afraid of change,,

Harris believes his background in law will allow him to better educate his students. “[My experiences] help me bring real world experience from the legal and business world to the students of Augustana,, he said.

However, while Harris believes that his students can benefit from his knowledge, he also believes he can benefit from his students. “I enjoy the interaction and the dialogue with the students and the stimulation it provides,, Harris said. “I love all the energy of this place,,

Sife group plans projects for campus and community

Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) is off to a great start for another exciting year! Under the leadership of co-presidents Rick Meyer and Val Anderson, the group has already begun nine projects.

A few projects will take place on campus. SIFE will sponsor a seminar for freshman on the perils of credit card debt. Two seminars have been designed for college seniors. One will focus on various types of insurance that people need to purchase throughout their lives. Then in the spring, SIFE will host a budget seminar to assist new graduates in beginning their professional lives with personal financial plans.

SIFE’s focus will shift toward the community next spring with a Business Ethics Workshop. The group will also assist senior citizens through a workshop discussing online banking and internet technology.

The group will hit senior high school classrooms this fall as part of Junior Achievement’s outreach. SIFE members will be joining Kimberly Huff’s Lincoln High classroom this fall to help teach personal economics. The team will also return to the St. Francis House to mentor guests with resume’ writing and interviewing skills.

Last, but certainly not least, members will be writing a complete business plan for an organization that plans to open a camp near Sioux Falls.

Sabbaticals refresh teachers, assist in research efforts

Business and accounting professors Dennis Bolen and Richard English stand in front of students in the classroom once again after taking time away from Augustana to complete a sabbatical during the last school year.

During his break from the rigors of the classroom, English wrote a paper on the subject of embezzlement and researched websites that focused on retirement planning. His research on retirement planning will be one of the topics discussed in a personal finance class he teaches at Augustana, and he presented his paper on embezzlement to the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences.

“It’s always a benefit to get away from the classroom and get time to think,,,” said English. “You’ve got to refresh your classes every once in awhile,,,”

Augustana College President Rob Oliver also sees the benefit to sabbaticals. “[Sabbaticals] are an opportunity for renewal, to step away from the classroom and refresh one’s energy and one’s intellect and then step back into the classroom with renewed energy and enthusiasm,,,” said Oliver. “I’m very supportive of sabbatical programs for professors. It gives [classes] new topics and new depth and breadth,,,”

This is the third sabbatical English has taken during his time at Augustana. During his first sabbatical in 1984, English studied ethics at Bentley College in Boston and during his second in 1994, he presented papers on various subjects while staying in Sioux Falls.

Bolen says the primary goal of his time away from the classroom was to increase his understanding of business valuation as researched and practiced by the academic and business communities so he could offer service to Augustana business students at a higher, and more current, level.

“The initial preparation stage of my leave was a review of the literature for the current status of business valuation research starting with the idea of economic value added, a current topic of interest for researchers, investors, and entrepreneurs,,,” he says. “The next step was approaching faculty of Northwestern University in Chicago to gain their perception of the direction of current or planned research in valuation. Then, determining the point of view of the Vice President of a large investment firm in Chicago, USB gave a ‘windy city’ practitioner point of view,,,”

Bolen also contacted other practitioners in Minneapolis and Sioux Falls for their input on the subject, and then began writing. “Although this experience has already positively affected my teaching in the classroom,,,” he says. “Writing continues towards eventual submission for presentations and publication,,,”

Internships open eyes to real world continued from page 2

Recent graduate Dylan Andersen also completed internships during his time at Augustana with Senator Tom Daschle, Planned Parenthood of South Dakota and at the Sioux Falls Convention Center. Now working for the Holiday Inn City Centre, Andersen sees his internships as invaluable experiences he received while here at Augustana.

“An internship in my field of interest provided me with a deeper understanding of the intricacies that surround a career,,,” said Andersen. “I find that I am better able to adapt to deadlines imposed on projects after my internship because of the real-world experience my internship offered,,,”

After his experiences with organizations in Sioux Falls, Andersen encourages students to seek the knowledge he received.

“I highly recommend that all students complete an internship prior to leaving academia,,,” said Andersen. “The advantage of a liberal arts degree coupled with experiential learning place recent graduates among the most prized job candidates,,,”

Norway entices faculty, staff to recruit students

January is typically seen as an opportunity for students to travel or take classes of general interest that they might not have time to take during a regular semester. However, professors also find it a convenient time to explore studies they are not able to during a regular semester that might improve the curriculum of their departments.

This past January, business professors Shelly Gardner and Jaciel Keltgen, along with director of international programs Donn Grinager, communications professor and coordinator of Norwegian studies at Augustana Mike Nitz, and nursing professors Pam Schrader and Karen Younger traveled to Norway on a Bush Grant in the hopes of exploring ways in which they could improve their department curriculum and further strengthen connections between Augustana and educational institutions in Norway.

“We’re trying to keep Norwegian programs front and center,,,” said Nitz.

Business professors Gardner and Keltgen traveled overseas specifically to “forge relationships with Norwegian professors and businesses in order to offer international internships, especially for those students with an international emphasis,,,”

Gardner and Keltgen hope this trip will help them to better advise students pursuing international studies or a possible international business track, as well as benefit the college by placing students in visible internships.

