



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ELCA Synod Assemblies 2016

Greetings from Augustana University:

Founded in 1860, Augustana is a selective, comprehensive university affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. With 53 majors, 41 minors and 15 pre-professional programs for undergraduates, along with graduate degree and continuing education programs, we are committed to enriching lives and fostering development by combining a foundation in the liberal arts with professional skill and advanced study.

AU serves more than 1,800 students from 30 states and 38 countries. Most are part of our residential community and call our 100-acre campus home. Our graduate and continuing education programs serve students online and during times that are convenient for adult learners.

Today is an exciting time at Augustana. Recent highlights from AU include:

- The development and execution of *Horizons 2019: The Strategic Plan for Augustana*, a compass that is helping us transform and grow the institution within the vastly competitive and ever-changing world of higher education.
- The addition of new centers and offices to help us better serve the needs of students and our community, including our new Student Success Center, the Office of Graduate and Continuing Education, and the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.
- The anticipated completion of the Froiland Science Complex, our new \$35 million, 125,000-square-foot science facility, the largest and most complex building endeavor in our 156-year history. Phase one of the project (open now) features a 41,000-square-foot new addition to our existing science center. Our students are now benefiting from its active learning classrooms, multi-use classatories, a state-of-the-art nursing simulation lab, and glass-enclosed laboratories that truly put science on display for the entire campus – and our community. Phase two (open this summer) features a complete renovation of our existing science facility.
- The introduction of *Horizons 2019: The Campaign for Augustana University*, our new fundraising campaign designed to enhance campus life, enrich teaching and learning, and provide for the campus community through increased annual and long-term investments. From a facilities standpoint, the campaign includes significant goals for a new Student Activities Center, along with major renovations to the Morrison Commons and the Humanities Center.
- An NCAA DII National Championship for our men's basketball team; international tours for our performing and visual arts students; the receipt of a major research grant from the National Institutes of Health; a growing number of outreach, volunteerism and ministry initiatives; and continued recognition from national ranking agencies such as U.S. News, Forbes, the Princeton Review and Washington Monthly.

We thank God for all the blessings he has given to Augustana University over the past year and we continue to offer our prayers for the important ministry of our ELCA Synod Assemblies.

For Augustana University,

Rob Oliver
President