

Augsburg College
Commission on Academic Opportunities
September 23, 2011

Augsburg's mission statement identifies the core goals of an Augsburg education and provides a framework for decisions about how we live out our mission as a College with a calling to educate students at the intersections of faith, learning, and service:

Augsburg College educates students to be informed citizens, thoughtful stewards, critical thinkers, and responsible leaders.

The Augsburg experience is supported by an engaged community that is committed to intentional diversity in its life and work. An Augsburg education is defined by excellence in the liberal arts and professional studies, guided by the faith and values of the Lutheran Church, and shaped by its urban and global settings.

Augsburg's future vitality, strength, and position in the higher education community depend on the relationship among three key drivers: excellence in academic programs; a sustainable economic model, and an enrollment plan that most effectively serves Augsburg's mission. To engage this work in the coming year, the Board of Regents has charged President Pribbenow with establishing two commissions, one focusing on academic opportunities, and another focusing on strategic finance.

The academic program is the heart of Augsburg College. Stewardship of this vital resource is essential to the College's academic reputation and economic strength. The Commission on Academic Opportunities will engage the faculty and broader community in a deliberative process that will lead to recommendations to the Faculty, President, and Board of Regents about the future direction and priorities for Augsburg's academic programs.

Within the context of Augsburg's mission and with attention to the drivers of Augsburg's long-term position in higher education, the charge to the **Commission on Academic Opportunities** is to:

- Identify exceptional academic programs (e.g., undergraduate majors, minors, graduate programs) and recommend the ways these programs can continue to advance student learning and the academic reputation of the college
- Recommend current and new academic programs with the highest potential to improve the academic reputation and financial strength of the college over the next three to five years
- Recommend investments to strengthen the academic program, enhance student learning experiences, and expand enrollment
- Recommend academic investments we should maintain at current levels or discontinue (e.g., courses, concentrations, minors, majors, programs)

Mindful of the unique role of the faculty as architects of the academic program of the College, President Pribbenow has engaged Faculty Senate as a partner in convening the Commission on Academic Opportunities and reviewing recommendations. Dean Farley will chair the commission; other commission members will be full-time tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure track faculty recommended by Faculty Senate, in consultation with the Dean and approved by the Faculty. Deans Gort and Peterson will serve as ex-officio members.

The Commission will submit its recommendations to Faculty Senate and to the President, who will submit them to the Board of Regents by May 4, 2012.

Commission on Academic Opportunities Membership

Barbara Farley, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the College, Chair

Kristin Anderson, Department of Art

Jeanne Boeh, Department of Economics

Lois Bosch, Department of Social Work

Larry Crockett, Department of Computer Science

Bill Green, Department of History

Jeanine Gregoire, Department of Education

Michael Kidd, Department of Languages and Cross-Cultural Studies

Dawn Ludwig, Department of Physician Assistant Studies

Elise Marubbio, Department of American Indian Studies

David Matz, Department of Psychology

David Murr, Department of Physics

Philip Quanbeck, II, Department of Religion

Stu Stoller, Department of Business Administration

Kathryn Swanson, Department of English

Of Counsel

President's Cabinet

Amy Gort, Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Arts and Science

Lori Peterson, Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies