

CONCORDIA COLLEGE

Greetings to you, friends and partners in mission, from Concordia College. Below you will find a concise report on life and work in our community of faith and learning.

College Plan

Concordia is in the third year of implementation of the strategic plan, *Whole Self, Whole Life, Whole World: The Plan for Concordia College, 2012-2017*. You can view the document, along with related progress reports, on line at <https://www.concordiacollege.edu/about/our-mission/strategic-plan>.

Enrollment

The current student body of 2,351 undergraduate students represents 36 states and 30 countries. These students come from a variety of cultural backgrounds and faith traditions. 55% self-report Lutheran affiliation. As of June 1, Karl Stumo, a 1992 graduate of Concordia, will assume the position of Vice President for Enrollment and Marketing. He previously served as Associate Dean of Admissions at Drake University (IA), as Vice President for Admission and Enrollment Services at Pacific Lutheran University (WA), and Vice President for Enrollment and Marketing at Dominican University (IL).

Key Mission Initiatives

Dr. Roland Martinson, past dean of the faculty at Luther Seminary and current member of Concordia's Board of Regents, has been engaged with us in conversation about the emerging vision of ministry at Concordia. The ongoing Worship, Faith and Spiritual Practice Project has discovered and mapped an amazingly rich diversity of faith and spiritual practices among Concordia students, faculty and staff. Efforts are now underway to nourish this dynamic culture of practice with the goal to deepen and expand the life of faith and spirituality on campus.

The Concordia Career Initiative has been developed to create an innovative plan for career readiness for our students, one grounded in the context of a twenty-first century liberal arts education and in the Lutheran concept of vocation. The new Executive Director of the Initiative, Carly Nelson, comes to Concordia from Microsoft. She is a 1996 graduate of Concordia who earned a M.A. in Leadership from Luther Seminary in 1998. The Initiative's focus is to engage both internal and external constituents in expanding and diversifying the portfolio of opportunities for student internships and other off-campus work experiences, engaging alumni and friends of the college in working directly with students in their career preparation, and raising funds to support the Initiative.

The science project is the major capital initiative before the college—the largest in its history. In the words of one faculty member, “We’re not educating scientists to be the best scientists they can be, but to be the best scientists the world needs them to be.” Planning and fundraising are well underway to upgrade the college’s science facilities to better mirror the needs of a 21st century science education and ensure Concordia continued success among its graduates.

Farewells and Best Wishes

Rev. Thomas Schlotterback left Concordia this fall to return to his beloved Montana as Vice President for Mission Advancement at St. John’s Lutheran Ministries in Billings. On April 27 we

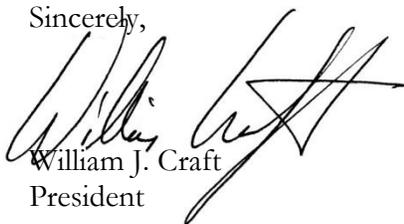
will celebrate Campus Pastor Tim Megorden's career of service to church and campus with chapel at 9:50 a.m. and a reception at 1:30 p.m. Please join us if you can.

The Concordia Relationship with Lutheran World Relief

One of the great privileges of my office has been the invitation to join the governing board of Lutheran World Relief. I came on to that board just as Bishop Jessica Crist (Montana) was concluding her board service. This January I traveled with the board and LWR staff to see its work in Honduras among farm families. You can read the reflection I wrote about that experience and what it affirmed for me about the abiding value of a Concordia education by following this link: <https://www.concordiacollege.edu/news-media/detail/defining-college-value/>

Let me close by thanking you for your faithful work on behalf of the church we love and of world it serves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William J. Craft', is written over a printed name and title. The signature is stylized and cursive.

William J. Craft
President