

**President's Report**  
**October 7, 2011**

As I said last time, I'm going to organize my report in line with the strategic plan so that you can see how I try to orient my planning and activities to execute that plan. Before getting to details, though, I want to take a minute to call attention to some of the many good things that my colleagues will report to you this month.

In every major quantitative category I can think of, the College is in better shape now than it was a year ago. Enrollment is up by thirty students, yielding the third highest enrollment in history; the new students number 548; their academic credentials show strengthening preparation; and we welcomed record numbers of both diverse American students and international students. Gross revenues and net revenues show a significant positive swing, both because of the revenue new students bring to us but also because of favorable results in advancement efforts. We continue to make progress—significant progress—in reducing the deficit in our plant fund.

As I say, my colleagues will report in much more detail, both in their written presentations to you and also in their verbal comments to their respective committees. My report, I fear, will seem less exciting than theirs, but let me get to it. While my work advances at one time or another all six of our strategic goals, my mind has focused overwhelmingly on Goals I, IV, and VI during the past year. While these are not more important than the other goals, my sense is that they need to be addressed first to lay the foundation for further work on the remainder of the plan.

And of course this goes without saying, but I'm going to say it anyway. While I'm going to tell you what I have been up to, what I have prioritized, what I have attended to, my work is supported by, and supportive of, the work of so many other people. All that is good at Wartburg is the result of thoughtful, dedicated work by hosts of people.

**Goal I: Expand deep and integrative learning in the liberal arts tradition**

In the initial effort to address Goal I, Objective 1, we convened a faculty-staff workshop attended by more than one hundred people. There faculty and staff share the work they do with students, and they shared both their assumptions about student development and their ideas about improving our intentional support of student development. Convened very ably by Fred Ribich, and aided by a moderator from the American Association of Colleges and Universities who was able to contextualize our discussion by explaining recent research, we made dramatic process in identifying appropriate college-wide learning outcomes and setting the stage for a comprehensive student development plan.

On a personal note, I was most impressed by the depth and thoughtfulness of the discussion that our faculty and staff shared. It seemed as though we very quickly reached the core of the issue in our deliberations, and I left the gathering with a great deal of optimism about the experiences that our students have with our faculty and staff.

In the effort to stimulate the active engagement of faculty and staff, the Planning Committee announced and implemented the Strategic Initiative Fund, an internal grant program started with a gift from the McCoy's but now attracting further gifts from other Regents and friends. I've attached a copy of that announcement to this report so that you can see how we are trying to use funding very strategically to orient the work of faculty and staff around Goal I.

With people from all over the map, I have also been discussing ideas that will help us advance Objectives 2 and 3, those that call on us to increase learning opportunities and increase our capacity to engage students in transformative educational opportunities. Together with the other presidents of the Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, I have been trying to ensure that the Governor's education initiative serves the interest of our students who plan to become teachers. Aided by leadership from our Admissions Office, we have begun talks with staff at the Northern Iowa Community College to learn how we can ease transfer of NIACC students to Wartburg. I am working with a group of presidents from the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference to respond to the departure of league member Cornell College in a way that serves the interest of our student-athletes.

With the help of a few friends of the College, I have spent some time recently on two activities that hold promise for enhancing student opportunities while also developing additional sources of revenue. I, along with faculty colleagues, am exploring a mutually beneficial relationship with a proprietary school that focuses on electronic media. We might be able to partner with that school to offer our students both curricular and co-curricular options that no other school like ours can do. Also, we have had an initial meeting with the CEO and other representatives from Deutsch Welle, the giant German broadcasting company, about student internships, student exchanges, and joint broadcasts. These conversations continue at a quick pace; I'll have more to share in the near future.

Work continues on an Objective that holds promise for us: Objective 4.2 calls on us to use assessment data in our decision-making. Our faculty leadership, along with our Chief Financial Officer, spent a long time with a visiting expert to learn how to approach the quantification of our activities and programs. They continue to develop a pattern of assessment that will be useful to us. Moreover, my cabinet colleagues continue to work with their staffs to finalize metrics and timelines on the strategic plan.

All this having been said, I have also mentioned to several of you that the single most important step we can take this year to ensure the successful achievement of Goal I is to hire the perfect Chief Academic Officer. It will be difficult to replace Ferol Menzel, but our search is underway. We have chosen a search committee and a search consultant; together they have developed a search profile and will be putting it "into the field" on Monday. The search, if all goes according to plan, should conclude by the next time we meet together in February. I have attached the search profile in case you'd like to take a look.

## **Goal II: Strengthen a commitment to vocation**

While I am a strong advocate for Martin Luther's conception of vocation as a guiding principle for all that we do, I have not undertaken any initiatives on this Goal since last we met. I did attend and participate in the Churchwide Assembly (in Orlando! Go figure!), which of course serves to emphasize the fact that the College's vocation is to serve the Church by teaching young people to lead and serve in the world. At every opportunity I have to speak with parents, students, prospective students, and basically anyone who will listen, I stress the point that our mission is centered on vocation: we believe that each student who crosses our threshold is called to lead and to serve, and our responsibility is to help each one hear that call and to build the skills and dispositions that will enable him or her to answer the call effectively.

I can say with confidence that I attend to alumni pretty aggressively (Objective 3), trying not only to recognize achievement on their part but also trying to stimulate closer connection with the college. Perhaps the Outfly events that I attended in Seattle, Portland, and right here in Waverly fall under this

classification, but they would also appropriately fit under Goal III's Objective 3 and Goal VI's Objective 2. So too with the many lunches, suppers, and other informal meetings that I attend with alumni throughout the country. During the past several months, I believe I've done this in Wisconsin, Washington, Texas, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, and the District of Columbia.

On a specific matter on my "to-do" list, I do want to ensure during this year that, as the grant from the Lilly Endowment plays out, we have instituted suitable processes and structures to ensure that the Callings Initiative continues to thrive.

### **Goal III: Nurture an inclusive and vibrant mentoring community**

Many of my activities are intended to foster inclusivity, to build community with different constituencies and different stakeholders. I make it a point to attend each session of Iowa Private College Week, and I'm relatively unusual among presidents in doing that. It's clear to me, however, that building a welcoming campus environment (Objective 1) begins by helping prospective students and their families to get an intimate look at the College right off the bat.

I attempt to participate in SOAR days, which are periods of orientation for new students; this year Christy and I hosted a number of events at Greenwood for new students, including a first-ever gathering of the new international students (Objective 2). We hosted a large gathering of the parents of new students, as well as some continuing students, at a Saturday morning coffee in Greenwood during Parents' weekend. My favorite beginning-of-the-year event is also the goofiest: the knighting ceremony. An odd mishmash of seriousness (academic regalia, real swords, Shon Cook) and lightheartedness (cheerleaders, bad singing, Shon Cook?), the event stresses the fact that our new students are accepting the responsibility to remain true to a tradition of leadership and service that goes back to Ludwig the Springer.

As is customary, I host and make comments at a number of beginning-the-year events, including the faculty workshop, the retirees' brunch, and meals for various groupings of employees. In all of these venues, I stress the breadth, depth, and strength of the community that supports Wartburg College. At each event, I express my gratitude to every person who works here, as well as every person who once worked here, for advancing the College's mission, and I ask each of them to continue advancing that mission insofar as each is able to do so. All of us, no matter what role we play on campus, bear a responsibility to challenge and to nurture these students in our care.

I should mention here how impressed I have been at the serious attention given to mentoring by those who work in Student Life. Deb Loers has shared a number of the details in her written report, and I heartily recommend those for careful reading.

### **Goal IV: Provide outstanding teaching, learning, and living infrastructure**

Much of my attention during these past several months has focused on this Goal. Thanks to the leadership of Gary Grace and his colleagues, we have continued, even accelerated, the exercise in master campus planning (Objective 1). Informed by the feedback given to us by you Regents (and your spouses) last May, as well as by the feedback we've received from other stakeholders, we've been able to refine the penultimate set of recommendations that Performa Higher Education gave us, which then informed the final recommendation we have prepared and will share with you during the plenary

session. This is an important achievement, for with it we take an essential step toward building a comprehensive campaign.

I've attended to a host of items that fall under the heading of Objective 2, the one that deals with responsible fiscal practices, organizational strength, and sound financial stewardship. Thanks to really good leadership by Jack Salzwedel, the rest of the Investment Committee, and Rich Seggerman, we've effected the transition from Hammond Associates to Jeffrey Slocum and Associates. Thanks to very hard work and very careful planning by Edie Waldstein and her entire staff in Enrollment Management, we've attracted a very large incoming class, retained an unusually high number of continuing students, and generated substantial revenue over budget.

Thanks, also, to hard work from Scott Leisinger and his team in Advancement, we can take real satisfaction in improved results there: additional givers, additional dollars given to annual fund, additional dollars given to budget relief. Looking forward, as the master plan takes shape, I am spending a good amount of time with Scott Leisinger and his colleagues planning the comprehensive campaign, as well as continuing to build relationships with people who can help to design the campaign and, furthermore, contribute to it. I spend time, too, at smaller fundraising events, such as the annual booster club golf outing and dinner.

One of my favorite events this year already was the celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Walston-Hoover Stadium, for it touches on so many of the Goals we are trying to achieve. Obviously, the Stadium represents generous stewardship by the Hoovers; but it also illustrates our commitment to the kind of infrastructure that supports the co-curricular learning programs our students need (Goal 1), the value we place on the mentoring that our coaches can provide (Goal 3), and the investment in our students that we prize (Goal 5).

I'll make a brief comment about Objective 4, which calls on us to develop a long-term plan for the replacement and upgrade of technology. We have work to do on this issue, no doubt, but I have been pleased at the quality of the long-term planning done by our ITS department, which is led by Gary Wipperman. During the summer, he and his staff accelerated a long-term plan to extend wireless capability throughout the campus, completing that project several years before originally scheduled.

#### **Goal 5: Invest in the people of Wartburg College**

In pursuit of Objective 1, I have paid a bit more attention to our faculty searches, renewing the charge of the Mission Team, chaired by Kit Kleinhans, to participate in each search and supporting the efforts of our diversity advisor, Peter Nash, to facilitate the process of building deep pools of candidates from many communities and experiences.

Serving Objective 2, I have carved out some money in the revised budget (provided you endorse the revised budget) for additional professional development of faculty and staff to execute the goals of the strategic plan; and this is money besides that available through the Incentive Fund. Faithful to Objective 3, I have engaged the President's Budget Advisory Council in decision-making about compensation policies and practices. Aply staffed by Tracy Rucker and Rich Seggerman from the business office, that group is helping us think through options for renewing our health insurance coverage as well as ways in which we might best use the revised budget to improve compensation for faculty and staff.

As Objective 4 calls on us to do, we are continuing and improving our orientation program for new board members, a program that you will recall has benefited from the care and leadership of Rachel Riensche. Furthermore, I am exploring options for continuing to develop board experience and expertise. Succession planning for our external board has taken a lot of my attention in recent months. We are slowly and, I hope, very politely introducing natural completion points for service on our advisory boards. I have invited Mark Hanawalt of Waverly and Gary Nelson of Waverly to chair our President's Advisory Council and our Leadership National Advisory Board, respectively. I am working through issues of authority and autonomy with our Broadcast Archives National Advisory Board.

### **Goal 6: Tell the Wartburg Story**

With regard to this goal, I suspect that the most important achievement in recent months was the appointment of Graham Garner to lead our revamped office of Marketing and Communication. I'm pleased to report that he has eagerly and aggressively shouldered the responsibility for that office, reorganizing its structure and refocusing its attention. Already, in keeping with Objective 1, we are diversifying our media exposure: you might hear Wartburg College mentioned on Iowa Public Radio while you are in town.

I view my several trips to Washington, DC, to meet with members of Congress and their staffs as my own opportunity to tell the Wartburg story; so too do I view my participation in national and regional meetings. Early in the summer, I was a panelist and faculty member at a workshop for chief academic officers sponsored by the American Council on Education; in the autumn, I participated in a meeting with foundation heads and another meeting with staff at the *New York Times*, both of which were organized by the Council of Independent Colleges. Not only are these opportunities to tell the story, to raise the visibility of the College, but they are also opportunities to identify new resources for the College.

More locally, my work with the presidents of the Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities is designed to press the interest of Wartburg College, whether that interest involves publicity or finances. I have met in recent months with the editorial staff of the *Waterloo Courier*; and I served on the search committee for the new CEO of the Waverly Health Center, the local hospital that shares a close relationship with the College.

### **Sign Off:**

I trust that I've given you a clear picture of how I organize my time. It remains an honor and a privilege to serve Wartburg College. As I've shared with you in the past, Christy and I could not be happier to be doing this work in behalf of the students, and of the many, many other constituencies of the College. Moreover, we remain deeply grateful for the leadership and service that you Regents demonstrate, as well as for the warm support that you extend to us.

I know that this begins to sound corny, but I really believe it: Wartburg's future, which is a future we can make together, beckons with almost boundless promise. I can hardly wait to see what we achieve.

## **WARTBURG COLLEGE**

### **Strategic Initiative Fund**

The Strategic Initiative Fund supports innovative projects or faculty/staff development that will advance the goals and objectives of the Wartburg College Strategic Plan entitled *Living Our Learning; Claiming Our Calling; Transforming Tomorrow*. This fund, established by Michael J. McCoy and his wife Marge, provides financial support above and beyond the current operating budget to specifically encourage the goals of the plan. In the first year of implementation, academic year 2011-12, the fund will focus on Goal 1, specifically Objectives 2, 3, and 4.

#### **GOAL 1**

**Expand deep and integrative learning in the liberal arts tradition.**

*Objective 2: Increase opportunities for rigorous interdisciplinary and inquiry-based learning that help students develop the skills, knowledge, and dispositions necessary for a life of learning.*

*Objective 3: Increase the capacity of Wartburg's distinctive, integrative curricular and co-curricular programs to engage all students in meaningful, transformative educational opportunities.*

*Objective 4: Nurture a culture of excellence through assessment and continuous improvement strategies.*

Faculty and staff are asked to submit proposals to the *Strategic Planning Steering Committee*. Janeen Stewart serves as chair of the Committee. Proposals can be sent directly to her.

Grants are for projects spanning up to a two-year period; the maximum award for a proposed project is targeted at \$5,000. However, requests for slightly larger grant amounts will be considered for projects that are particularly comprehensive and creative in nature.

The most appealing proposals will:

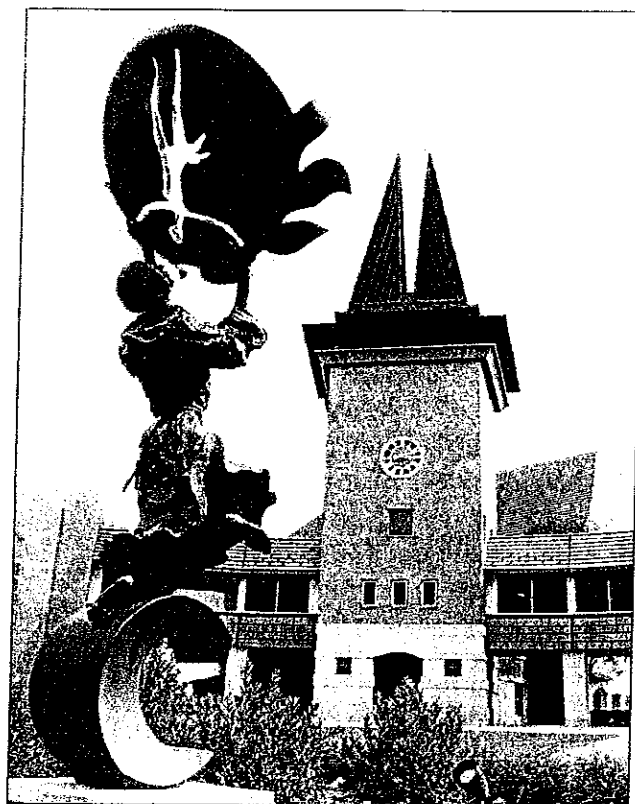
1. Clearly explain how the project will expand deep and integrative learning;
2. Effectively combine rigor in academics with meaningful ways for students to “live their learning.”

Applications should include the following information:

- Names of the individual(s) proposing the project
- Department(s) and division(s) collaborating on the project
- The purpose of the project and how it relates to the goals of the strategic plan
- Budget for the project
- Time and duration of the project
- Outcomes of the project and an indication of how they might be documented or assessed

In the case of faculty/staff development, please identify the expected results. In the case of strategic projects other than faculty and staff development, identify the learning that students will achieve.

The first deadline for proposals is October 21, 2011. The second deadline for proposals is February 24, 2012.



*Inviting Applications and Nominations for*

**Vice President  
for Academic Affairs  
and  
Dean of the Faculty**

**W**artburg College, an independent, coeducational liberal arts college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), announces a global search for the **Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty**. The selective four-year institution seeks an experienced academic administrator with a passion for the liberal arts and pre-professional programs in a vibrant academic community dedicated to educating students for lives of leadership and service as they discover and claim their calling. This academic leader will embrace and clearly articulate the mission of Wartburg College while providing judicious guidance to the academic and service programs to ensure the mission is fulfilled.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty reports to the President and provides leadership for the academic program of the College. The senior administrator inspires faculty and staff to provide the highest quality of instruction, programs, and service and ensures that academic and relevant co-curricular activities execute the mission and strategic plan of the College.

**Qualifications**

An earned doctorate and successful classroom and academic leadership experience are required. The Vice President and Dean will fulfill and advance the mission of the College through modeling the values and demonstrating personal and professional integrity and outstanding leadership. An advocate for the College, faculty

and students, the Vice President and Dean will be involved on the campus and in the local community.

The Vice President and Dean will be a collaborative leader who listens and considers multiple viewpoints, while being decisive and confident in making decisions. Experience in performing program and personnel assessments and directing tenure

## Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty Search

and promotion processes will be critical. A skilled communicator, the senior administrator will demonstrate respect for faculty governance and transparency of actions.

The academic leader will understand and value engaged pedagogies, such as service learning, community-based and student-faculty research, and public scholarship. A commitment to faculty professional development and experience with liberal arts curriculum design and implementation will be expected. The Vice President and Dean will be knowledgeable of instructional technology and higher education financial processes and systems.

The Vice President and Dean will understand the importance of enhancing diversity among faculty and staff and have a passion for improving diversity and inclusion among the professoriate.

### *Mission Statement*

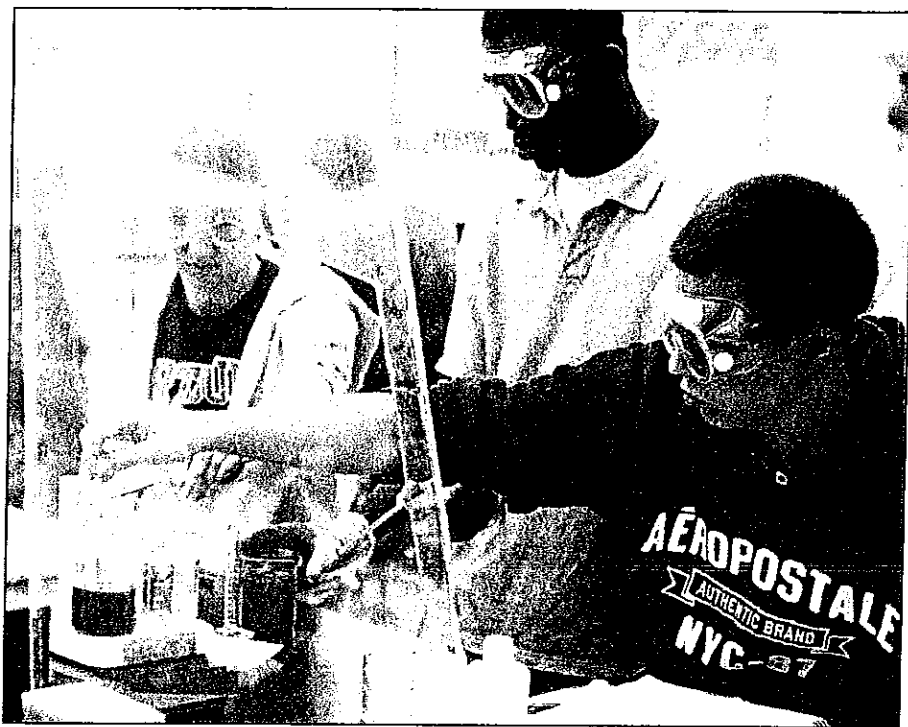
Wartburg College is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.

### Primary Responsibilities and Duties

The Vice President and Dean serves as the administrative officer responsible for academic programs. In this role, the senior administrator collaborates with faculty, staff, the Vice President for Student Life, the Vice President for Enrollment Management, as well as other Cabinet members to expand deep and integrative learning in the liberal arts tradition.

Additionally, the Vice President and Dean:

- Leads the faculty in developing and improving the educational programs and policies of the College, including, but not limited to, curricular offerings, pedagogical methods, supportive co-curricular opportunities, graduation requirements, and effective processes of assessment, including assessment of institutional needs.
- Monitors the academic progress of students, the delivery of instruction, and the functions of academic departments and other units.
- Guides the process to recruit faculty who promise excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service consonant with the mission of the College
- Recognizes that excellent pursuit of Wartburg's mission requires a faculty and staff that reflects the diversity of the student body and the world in which they must thrive.
- Ensures the integrity and effectiveness of faculty evaluation, on the basis of which the Vice President for Academic Affairs recommends to the President successful candidates for promotion and tenure.



## Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty Search

- Plans, identifies, and creates opportunities for faculty development.
- Identifies, seeks, and secures external funding to support the educational mission of the College.
- Maintains the Faculty Handbook and recommends policies ensuring the general welfare of the academic program and the faculty to the President, and through the President to the Board of Regents.
- Hires, supervises, directs the work of, and evaluates the College Librarian; the Directors of the Center for Community Engagement, the Institute for Leadership Education, and Global and Multicultural Studies; the Department Chairs; and the administrative assistant for academic affairs. The Vice President and Dean designates and recruits Assistant/Associate Deans to provide necessary support to the College's academic affairs.
- Collaborates with colleagues to exploit new developments in pedagogy that will enhance student learning and to identify opportunities to develop new academic programs that will advance the institution and serve its mission.
- Serves and chairs College committees and advisory groups as assigned, including serving on the Cabinet to furnish information and advice about the academic program; collaborating with Cabinet colleagues in recommending appropriate college policies, procedures, and practices;

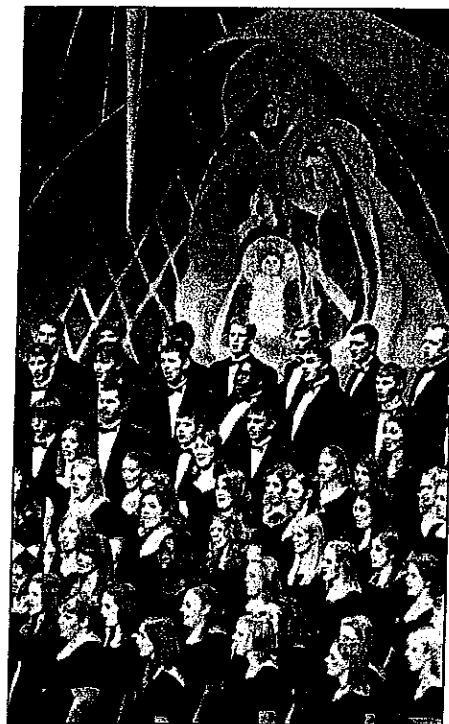
and facilitating the oversight exercised by the Board of Regents and its various committees over the academic program.

### About Wartburg College

Founded in 1852, Wartburg College is nationally recognized for its community engagement and academic excellence. As an ELCA institution of higher learning, Wartburg College is an ecumenical, open, and affirming community that honors its intellectual Christian heritage, while welcoming and reflecting a variety of traditions within its student body, faculty and staff.

Wartburg provides a unique interdisciplinary and integrative core curriculum called the Wartburg Plan of Essential Education, which is designed to create liberally educated, ethically minded citizens for the 21st century. The curriculum embraces the College's key mission pillars of leadership, service, faith and learning.

Recognized among the best colleges in the nation in *The Princeton Review*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *Peterson's Top Colleges for Science*, *Colleges of Distinction*, and *Barron's Best Buys in College Education*, Wartburg is known for having engaged students, great teaching, a vibrant community, and successful outcomes. Wartburg was one of two U.S. colleges and one of eight throughout the world to receive the 2010 MacJannet Prize for



global citizenship. The College also has been named "with distinction" to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

Wartburg's enrollment numbers 1,775 representing 26 U.S. states and 46 countries. Within the student

body there are 182 U.S. students of color and 106 international students. The College has a student-to-faculty ratio of 12:1. The College

employs 107 full-time faculty members, with 91 percent holding terminal degrees. The College has 10 endowed chairs and six endowed professorships.

Offering more than 50 academic majors and pre-professional and certificate programs leading to the

The Wartburg Community is committed to creating and maintaining a mutually respectful environment that recognizes and celebrates diversity among all students, faculty, and staff. As an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution, Wartburg College actively seeks applications from members of underrepresented groups.

## Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty Search

bachelor's degree, the College's largest majors are biology, business administration, communication arts, elementary education, and psychology. The percentage of Wartburg pre-med graduates accepted to medical school (96 percent) is double the national average. The College's retention rate is 86 percent.

More than 25 percent of Wartburg's students participate in the nationally recognized music program which boasts three touring, six instrumental, and five vocal ensembles.

Wartburg is a member of the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IIAC) and fields 19 intercollegiate teams for men and women. Nearly 600 students are involved in athletics.

Wartburg College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission.

Specific program accreditations include the Council on Social Work Education, the National Association of Schools of Music, the American Music Therapy Association, and the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education.

### About Waverly, Iowa

The city of Waverly is an award-winning Iowa Main Street community of almost 10,000 residents. Located in northeast Iowa on the banks of the Cedar River, the city offers excellent public and private pre-k-12 education options, a wide array of outdoor activities, and an excellent system of parks and golf courses.

The city and the College combine to be a well-educated, physically active community that invites diversity and seeks to be challenged by a culture of intellectual inquiry and committed social action.

### Class of 2010

- 45 percent studied abroad
- 37 percent completed an academic internship
- 12 percent earned highest honors (3.85-4.0)

Waterloo-Cedar Falls is fewer than 20 minutes away providing easy access to the urban advantages of transportation (regional airport), shopping, and entertainment.

*Wartburg College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, or handicap in admission, employment, programs, or activities.*

### To Apply or Nominate

Applications, including a cover letter, curriculum vitae and references, and nominations should be sent to:

[Wartburg@myersmcrac.com](mailto:Wartburg@myersmcrac.com)

David Gring, Ph.D., Senior Vice President of Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting, is the consultant for this search.

Dr. Gring is available to answer any questions. Contact him by email at [davidgring@myersmcrac.com](mailto:davidgring@myersmcrac.com) or by phone at (540) 797-2520.



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## WARTBURG COLLEGE IN THE MEDIA/RECOGNITION

May 6-Oct. 6, 2011

(Compiled by the Office of Marketing and Communication)

### INSTITUTIONAL

A visit by **Capt. Dan Grinstead '72**, University of Iowa Hospitals social worker who enlisted in the National Guard at 57 and recently finished a yearlong tour of duty in Afghanistan, was covered by Iowa Public Radio and the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. (Oct. 6) The Wartburg social work department is adding work with military families to the curriculum.

The **Corporation Education Day** focus on India was reported by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. (Oct. 5)

**Wartburg's building program** under former President Jack Ohle was mentioned in *Finance and Commerce* in a story that focused on capital improvements at Carleton and Gustavus Adolphus colleges. (Sept. 28)

**Erik Bettermann**, director general of Deutsche Welle (Germany's leading international broadcaster) who visited Wartburg Sept. 19-20, was interviewed by Iowa Public Radio and the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. (Sept. 21)

A talk at Wartburg by Iowa adventurer **Charlie Wittmack** — who swam the English Channel, bicycled across Europe and much of Asia and then climbed Mount Everest — was reported in the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. (Sept. 14)

Iowa Supreme Court **Chief Justice Mark Cady** warned about political influences on the judiciary during a Constitution Day address at Wartburg reported by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. (Sept. 16)

Wartburg's reuse of the **old Knights Gym basketball floor** was cited in *Athletic Business* magazine. (Sept. 14)

An **emergency exercise simulation** at Wartburg with the Waverly Police Department, Bremer County Office of Emergency Management and the Waverly Health Center was reported by KWWL. (Aug. 31)

Wartburg hosted **Iowa Private College Week**, which was covered by KWWL. (Aug. 4)

**Dr. Edith Waldstein '73** was quoted about the timeline for high school students to apply to college on CNBC. (July 18)

Wartburg's **3+4 degree program** to accelerate a student's entry to seminary was featured in *The Lutheran*. (June)

**Christine Lieberknecht**, minister president of the German state of Thuringia, received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at Commencement as reported on KWWL and the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. (May 29)

Wartburg's use of **commencement gowns** made from recycled plastic was reported in the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. (May 21)

## FACULTY/STAFF

**Pastor Brian Beckstrom** wrote "A Blank Canvas" in *The Lutheran*. (Sept. 26)

**Karen Thalacker '88** Waverly attorney, Bremer County magistrate and Wartburg lecturer in law, wrote a Constitution Day column in the Des Moines Register. (Sept. 15)

**Chris Knudson '01**, marketing and communication director of creative strategy, was quoted about how Wartburg got its name with a video describing it on Tweed, a Chronicle of Higher Education blog (August).

**Dr. Daniel Kaplunas** was profiled in a feature on the Wartburg Community Symphony season in the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. (Aug. 6)

**Dr. Scott Fullwiler** was cited in "The Market Has Spoken: Austerity is Bad for Business" on the Global Research blog. **Fullwiler** also wrote "QE3, Treasury Style — Go Around, Not Over the Debt Ceiling Limit" on the Naked Capitalism blog. (June/July)

**Dr. Bill Withers** discussed "How to Complain (and Get Results)" in *Good Housekeeping* and discussed consumer complaints in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. (June 14)

**Dr. Scott Muntefering**, assistant professor of music education, reconnected a family with an ancestor who was a former Cedar Falls Municipal Band leader, as reported in the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. (June 21)

## STUDENTS

**Randene Davis '13** was crowned 2011 Alternate National Shorthorn Lassie at the Junior National Shorthorn Show and Conference in Indianapolis, according to the Albert Lea (Minn.) Tribune. (Sept. 16)

**Robby Salmon '13** shines as the Wartburg punter as reported in the Mason City Globe Gazette. (Sept. 12)

Wartburg's **student garden** was featured on KWWL. (Aug. 26)

Basketball player **Tanner Kramer '14** was profiled in Albert Lea (Minn.) Tribune. (July 31)

**Megan Herickhoff** '12 was second runner-up in the Miss International pageant, competing as Miss Midwest International in Chicago. The contestants represented various U.S. states and regions as well as Canada, Britain, and India. Herickhoff, a national spokesperson for the narcolepsy network, used the platform, "The Life and Times of a Real Sleeping Beauty — The Awareness of Narcolepsy." (July)

**JoHanna Smrcina** '12, AmeriCorps' Waverly community garden coordinator, and **Dr. Tammy Faux** were quoted in a story about the gardens in the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier (June 15). **Smrcina** also wrote about them in the Waverly Newspapers.

**"Lessons Learned: The Iowa Disasters of 2008,"** an hour-long documentary produced by Wartburg Television in partnership with the Rebuild Iowa Office, premiered June 1 at the State Historical Society Building as reported by numerous Iowa TV and radio stations and newspapers.

#### ALUMNI

**Amanda Greubel** '01 testified before a U.S. Senate committee on the loss of the American Dream, as reported in the National Association of Social Workers News. (September)

**Sandra Hildreth** '00 recalled teaching in Brooklyn during the Sept. 11 attacks as reported in the Des Moines Register. (Sept. 3)

Former Wartburg pitcher **Bradley Watson** '11, a 37<sup>th</sup>-round pick and the first Knight drafted by Major League Baseball in a decade, logged a sterling record in his first minor league season with the St. Louis Cardinals' Gulf Coast League team in Florida as reported by Cardinal Nation and Fox Sports Midwest. (August)

**Charles Lutz** '53 received the 2011 Honorary Award of The Vincent L. Hawkinson Foundation for Peace and Justice in Minneapolis Oct. 9, according to the Metro Lutheran. (August)

**Kristen Capel** '95 was installed as the first female lead pastor at Easter Lutheran Church in Egan, Minn., according to the This Week (Minn.) newspaper. (Aug. 24)

Former Wartburg softball star **Ashley Rogers** '08 was inducted into the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union Softball Hall of Fame as reported by Iowa Prep Sports. (July 22)

Linebacker **Brian McIntire** '06 was the leader on defense as the Sioux Falls Storm won its fifth Indoor Football League championship as reported in the Sioux Falls Argus Leader. (July)

ESPN producer **Scott Harves '97** was lauded on si.com as one of top 10 media people for his feature on a Michigan prep star who died after making a winning basket. (June 17)

## **RECOGNITION**

Wartburg was No. 151 among the 236 first-tier Best National Liberal Arts Colleges as ranked by **U.S. News and World Report** — up one position from 2010. Another 371 liberal arts colleges were in the regional listings. (September)

Wartburg was No. 157 in the **Forbes Best Colleges** rankings of 650 U.S. schools (the top 20 percent of all colleges based on educational outcomes). Wartburg had the biggest jump of any college, moving up from No. 458 in 2010. (August)

Wartburg jumped 74 places to No. 98 in the Sierra Club's listing of "**Cool Schools**" with a ratings improvement of 14 points or 45 percent. (August)

**Logan Hansen '12** was among 132 football players from all divisions nominated for the All State "Good Works Team" for achievements off the field as "protectors of the integrity of college football through their achievements away from the field." Hansen reads and mentors children weekly at Bremwood Lutheran Children's Home and volunteers for the Special Olympics Iowa Unified Sports Day committee. (July 19)

**Dr. Fred Waldstein '74**, professor of political science, was one of five finalists for the Thomas Ehrlich Civically Engaged Faculty Award presented by Campus Compact, a coalition of 1,100 college and university presidents promoting "the civic purposes of higher education." (June 2)

**Shelby Sieren '13** was one of 35 undergraduates nationwide to receive a \$6,000 scholarship from the Phi Eta Sigma First-Year National Honor Society. She is the first Wartburg student awarded the organization's top scholarship. (June 1)

**The U.S. Track and Cross Country Coaches Association** named 13 Wartburg students All-Academic. (June)

Wartburg College earned a fifth consecutive listing in the **President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll**, administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, which recognizes colleges and universities that support volunteering, service-learning, and civic engagement as part of their mission. (May 19)