

FEB. 2021

# 1955 CLASS LETTER



## Campus Update 2021

Concordia recently announced three changes to be implemented in Fall 2021: the launch of a new pricing structure for tuition, a change to its academic framework by establishing a schools model within the college, and the introduction of the Cobber Flex Year.

Beginning in Fall 2021, the price for annual tuition will be \$27,500, which is more than \$15,000 lower than current tuition – a reduction of over 35%. The change in the college's pricing model will benefit continuing students as well. Historically, students have seen an average annual tuition increase of 4% or about \$1,700 annually.



In the upcoming year, the increase in the out-of-pocket tuition costs for continuing students will be limited to \$800 and no more than \$1,000 for 2022-23 and 2023-24.

To further prepare students, Concordia implemented an academic reorganization to clearly name three schools. Under the new academic model, Concordia introduced the School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Health Professions. These two new schools join the Offutt School of Business to encompass all areas of the college. The new schools model resulted in the appointment of two new deans. Dr. George Connell is serving as dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and Dr. Cynthia Carver is dean of the School of Health Professions. As school deans, Connell and Carver join Christopher Mason, who was appointed dean of the Offutt School of Business in January 2020.

Concordia also established a Cobber Flex Year option. The Flex Year option offers current students and those enrolling in Fall 2021 two tuition-free semesters of study beyond their anticipated graduation date. The Cobber Flex Year allows students whose college experience has been affected by the pandemic expanded possibilities to learn in ways they find most compelling.

In the midst of a pandemic, Concordia continued its work to support the vitality of our faith and learning mission. In March 2020, as the realities of COVID-19 swept the nation, Concordia transitioned to distance learning. Concordia was able to transition back to campus for the fall 2020 semester. In-person instruction and residential living were offered with modifications to academic and campus life. Each teaching space was measured to determine appropriate occupancy and classes were held in larger spaces when necessary. In addition, some classes were offered as a hybrid approach and virtual learning attendance was available for those who could not meet in-person.





## Want to be a Class Agent?

We are looking for a class agent for your class. As a Class Agent, your primary role is to keep your class connected:

connected to the college, connected to each other, and connected to the mission of Concordia programming.

If you are interested and want to know more, please reach out to Karen Carlson at [carlsonk@cord.edu](mailto:carlsonk@cord.edu) or 218-299-4335



## CLASS UPDATES

### Pastor James Thevdt

Our Son, Joel (next to the youngest), died at Altadena, CA, on February 8, 2020, from Multiple System Atrophy. He was an attorney in Los Angeles (US Attorney's Office and then in private practice).

I concluded what I think will be my last Interim as a Pastor. I have declined all requests for providing Worship Leadership and Pulpit Supply since March.

My wife (Gloria Hermodson) and I have been basically self isolating in our home since the COVID-19 Pandemic began.

We have a grandson attending Augustana University, Sioux Falls, SD, and a granddaughter who is considering Concordia.

# Homecoming 2021

Make plans to attend Oct. 1-3.  
Watch our website for updates.  
[ConcordiaCollege.edu/homecoming](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/homecoming)



## Join the Concordia Book Club!

Connect with fellow Cobber alumni, faculty/staff, current students, and current/former parents to read and discuss a variety of fiction novels. To join the group search *Concordia College Fiction Book Club*.

## Watch for Corn Feed Season!

We hope to continue with the tradition of hosting corn feeds in this summer. Watch for updates at [concordiacollege.edu/cornfeeds](https://concordiacollege.edu/cornfeeds)



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# GIVING UPDATE

In a year like none other, the generosity of alumni like us has helped propel the college forward while supporting the students it serves. A few of the highlights from this year include:

- More than \$2.1 million was raised for The Cobber Fund for scholarships and support to help make sure a Concordia education is possible for every one of our students.
- During the start of the pandemic, \$59,000 was raised for emergency funding for food, transportation, and other critical needs.
- This fall, 841 Cobber fans gave \$87,890 to make sure our athletes have the resources they need to compete despite COVID-19.
- This holiday season, 1,809 virtual Christmas Concert attendees donated \$68,552 in honor of this Concordia tradition and our student musicians.
- In just ONE day, donors fully funded the Cobber Food Pantry.



Thank you to those who have already given this year! Be on the lookout for the “CobbersGive” Fund-the-Need campaign in March - you are sure to find an area of campus that aligns with your passions. The class of 1955 can truly make a difference in the lives of current Cobbers!

**What area of campus will you champion with your gift to the Cobber Fund?**

 <b>ORIENTATION</b>	 <b>SCHOLARSHIPS</b>	 <b>SUSTAINABILITY</b>	 <b>CAREER READINESS</b>
 <b>AREA OF GREATEST NEED</b>	 <b>STUDENT LEADERSHIP</b>	 <b>STUDENT CARE AND SUPPORT</b>	 <b>ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE</b>

**Between March 8-19, your gift of any size to The Cobber Fund will unlock an additional \$100 for student scholarships – up to \$50,000!\***

\*Thank you to an anonymous alum for providing the generous match.

Together we are preparing Cobbers to lead and serve in a world that needs them. During the challenges of COVID-19, your generosity is needed more than ever.

Learn more or give early at [ConcordiaCollege.edu/cobbersgive](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/cobbersgive)

## WE REMEMBER



Norman Aarestad passed 2/7/2020

Doris (Gisvold) Holen passed 2/6/2020

Eileen (Larson) Johnson passed 2/4/2020

Richard Schellack passed 8/16/2019

Neil Johnson passed 8/6/2019

## HELP US LOCATE

If you know any of the 1955 Alumni below, please ask them to update their information by going to [concordiacollege.edu/classnotes](http://concordiacollege.edu/classnotes) or send an email to [alumni@cord.edu](mailto:alumni@cord.edu). We would love to update their records.

Margaret (Forthun) Blickensderfer

James Hauge

William Larsen

Walter Moll

Carol (Quam) Perdue



Alumni can send in life updates throughout the year.  
Go to: [www.ConcordiaCollege.edu/ClassNotes](http://www.ConcordiaCollege.edu/ClassNotes)

# ALUMNI AWARDS

## 2020 Sent Forth Award Recipients

Sent Forth  
to influence the  
affairs of the world



Cmdr. Brian Kesselring '00



Tara (Stueber) Wilson '06



## 2020 Alumni Achievement Award Recipients



Robert Johnson '71



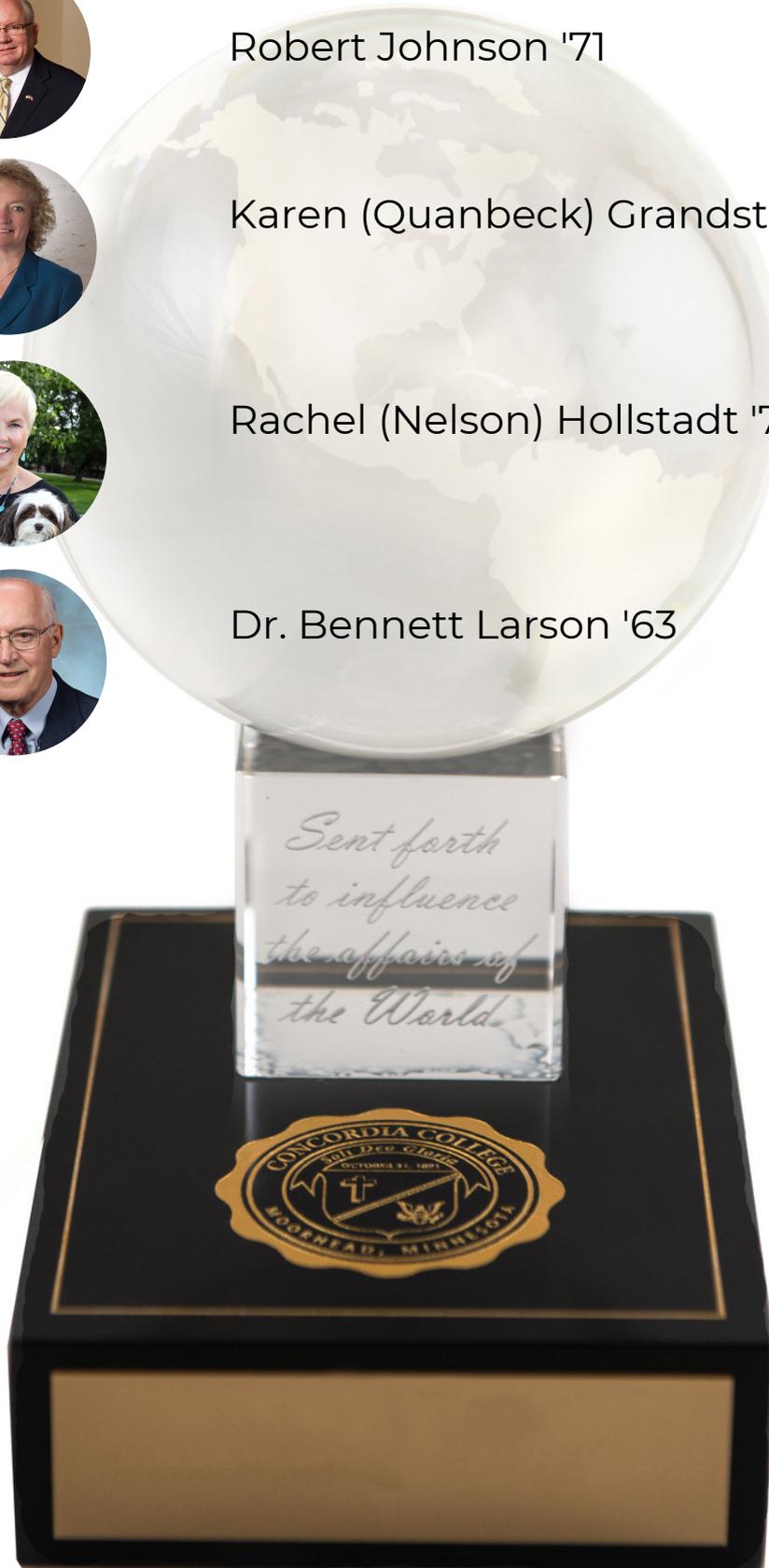
Karen (Quanbeck) Grandstrand '77



Rachel (Nelson) Hollstadt '70



Dr. Bennett Larson '63



To read the bios of the 2020 AAA and Sent Forth Award Recipients or if you would like to nominate a deserving Alum, please go to [ConcordiaCollege.edu/AlumniAwards](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/AlumniAwards)