

FEB. 2021

1978 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 or 218-299-4335



CLASS UPDATES

Stan Mork

I'm what I like to call 90% retired. I still do a small amount of consulting work for a couple of accounting industry technology trade groups, but I'm trying to wrap up all of those activities by July of 2021. We spend the majority of our year in Northfield, MN but have purchased a vacation place in Arizona where we are escaping the cold Minnesota winters. That makes us official snowbirds now. Once Covid-19 is over, we hope to start traveling again - we had a European river cruise scheduled for 2020 that we cancelled but now are thinking that 2022 might be the year to start to look at bigger trips like that again. All in all, everything is good for Carrie and me.

Sue (Langren-Bierle) Reynolds

Living on West Battle Lake year around. You can spot my house because there is always a Concordia flag waving at the end of my dock. Happily retired for 11 years.



Tim Aarsvold

I've recently started a new business venture - LAKE COUNTRY RESORT SALES. In 2019, after 23 years of owning Geneva Beach Resort in Alexandria MN, we sold the resort and moved to the other side of the lake. The resort and campground business is a great industry, and so I joined up with two other former resort owners (one of them is a Cobber) to help others experience the lifestyle that we enjoyed so much. We specialize in MN campground and resort sales, and the company is off to a great start.

www.LakeCountryResortSales

Steven Dibb

Sharon and I moved to Stillwater, MN in 2015 as I continued my work at the Minnesota Department of Education, retiring from my role as Deputy Commissioner of Education in 2016. Since that time, I have worked as an independent consultant in education leadership working with departments of education in the Upper Midwest. I will be retiring (re-retiring) later this year with plans to spend more time with our family and traveling. (COVID willing!) We also hope to get back to our volunteer work in the near future. Sharon has been a hospice volunteer and election judge, while I have served on the Citizen Advisory Committee for the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District. For the past two years, I have also served as a member of the William O'Brien State Park Bluebird Monitoring Program. Our volunteering has definitely been negatively affected by the pandemic but we hope to return to our work in the months ahead as it is a critical component of our "encore careers" that bring much joy and satisfaction to our lives and hopefully, to others in our community.

Cynthia (Hudson) Boese

This past year has been a year of staying home, taking walks and visiting outdoor nature areas, spending time at the cabin and mask wearing - trying to stay COVID free!



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*.

Host a Corn Feed in your area!

Gather area alumni to strengthen relationships between alumni, parents, and students. Reach out to Marah Moy at mmoy@cord.edu if you are interested in hosting. Costs up to \$200 are reimbursed.



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Homecoming 2021

Make plans to attend Homecoming Oct. 1-3.

Watch our website for updates.

ConcordiaCollege.edu/homecoming



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 1978 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?**

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

**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

WE REMEMBER

David J. Burtlag passed 12/19/19

Barry Bennett passed 8/21/19



HELP US LOCATE

If you know any of the 1978 graduates below, please ask them to update their information by going to concordiacollege.edu/classnotes or send an email to alumni@cord.edu. We would love to update their records.

Rebecca (Dahlin) Abel

Thomas G. Anderson

Thomas J. Bartholomew

James T. Devine

Mark D. DeYoung

Melanie (Guenthner) DeYoung

Catherine Docken

Sheila Eastmond

Donna Ehret

Catherine Eickhof

Heywood Fuller-t

Kathleen Heiser

Michael D. Judy

Rex R. Lewis

Jay Mattsfield

Michelle A. Miller

Carol M. Moore

Mark W. O'Connor

Carolyn Protic

Agnar Ringvold

Charles B. Rogers

Paulette Seaton

Robert Unruh

John Vadheim

Barry Williamson

Terylene Wiltshire

Alvin Wollan

Paula Youngdale



Alumni can send in life updates throughout the year.
Go to: www.ConcordiaCollege.edu/ClassNotes

ALUMNI AWARDS

2020 Sent Forth Award Recipients



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