

FEB. 2021

1985 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

Steven Samuelson

I recently retired from the Minnesota Air National Guard (148th Fighter Wing) after 31 years as a military member and Federal Technician. I am currently the Facility's and Equipment Supervisor at Altec Industries in Duluth Minnesota. My son Jake is working as a Mechanical Engineer at Cirrus Aircraft in Duluth, my daughter, Leila is a sophomore at Concordia and youngest daughter Cora, plans to attend Concordia in the fall. My wife Julie and I have enjoyed the many trips to Concordia throughout this past year.



Laurie (Lattin) Neill

A good year farming at Habedank Farms!
Our oldest son, Kai, took a job, in his field, in the middle of a pandemic with John Deere!
Our youngest son has powered through his junior year at Concordia, often online, much to his dismay! Football season is still flexible for Isaac and the Cobbers. I resigned my job as School Counselor in our little town and "poof!" and opportunity came up early Fall 2020 to fill in as a Professional Licensed School Counselor in Newport, Oregon. It has been a wonderful few months exploring the Oregon mountains and coast, meeting new people while wearing a mask and staying safe.



Kristin (Sillerud) Rapacz

After serving on my church's staff for nearly 25 years, I decided to retire and go back to school. Beauty school! I'm now a licensed cosmetologist, proving free haircuts to men, women and kids of the Montana Rescue Mission.



Cherolyn (Quarnstrom) Cashman

I retired this year from teaching Anatomy & Physiology for 35 years. With COVID, it was an uneventful retirement, but I chose a good year to be done and am happy to not be teaching a "hands on" class online! My son graduated in May from Concordia. He has a degree in Business Administration with concentrations in Health Care Leadership and Long Term Care. My daughter also graduated in May from the Carlson School of Management at the U of MN. Her degree is in Supply Chain and Operations Management and currently works for Polaris. My other son works in corrections at the St. Cloud Correctional Facility. COVID has kept us at home and it has been nice to have my family around.



Rochelle Melander

I earned my PCC coaching certification and joined the staff of Milwaukee Area Technical College as a Success Coach. My book for children will be released in July: Mightier Than the Sword: Rebels, Reformers, and Revolutionaries Who Changed the World through Writing (Beaming Books, July 2021).

Kevin Brown

I married Nancy Koebke on 06/25/2016.
My father (Gerald Brown) died on 10/27/2016.



Janet (Prevallet) Orrick

This year has been crazy. I continue to work as a Statistical Analyst at Wells Fargo. But last year, with some time on my hands, I became a Certified Holy Yoga instructor where I teach others to use their whole self, body, mind and spirit in their worship of our Lord.

Lori Kemmet

Proud of our daughter Georgia who is a Junior at Concordia.



Steven Stromberg

Playing in three performing cover bands, playing guitar and lead and background vocals. Attending church at Westwood Community Church in Chanhassen, MN. Purchased cabin in Dent, MN, in Ottertail County.

Steve Larson

After finishing Concordia in 1985 (History & German), and getting my teaching credentials from the University of Minnesota in 1990, I just finished my 30th year as a High School Social Studies teacher, with most of those years in the small town where we live, White Salmon, Washington. It's been thoroughly challenging and fulfilling, especially during 2020 with the COVID-driven shift to Distance- or Remote Learning. Nevertheless, I look forward to another 2-4 years of teaching before I retire, and I am grateful for the wonderful preparation and "grounding" that I got during my 4 years at Concordia.

Ruth (Newman) Tang

Sheldon and I are in empty nester mode. We have sold the house we raised our kids in. Now we enjoy a loft in the Mill District of Minneapolis. Jay Nuhring class of 1985, helped us find our perfect spot. We continue to enjoy our children and our one grandchild, Cohen.



Homecoming 2021

Make plans to attend Homecoming Oct. 1-3. Watch our website for updates. 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*.

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.



ENGAGE

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 1985 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



Kristin (Stark) Chederquist passed 9/19/2020



HELP US LOCATE

If you know any of the 1985 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.

Maren Assev

Todd H. Charles

Edith (Meintzer) Cook

Karyn Ehret

Monica Falls

Neil Fuller

Peter Graves

Karen Houtz

Mark Kimp



Mary (Kroening) Hibbard

Marcia (Efteland) Martini

Kevin Meyer

Bjoerg Naerland

Brenda (Buzick) Ostlie

Hans Pedersen

Penny (Baker) Rafferty

Sarah (Langager) Smith

Elisabeth (Trost) Shahata

Khallid Yaakoub



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