

Augustana Recognized

Augustana recently received key rankings by several national publications.

Washington Monthly's "2010 College Rankings" lists Augustana as the No. 6 baccalaureate college in the nation for its efforts to advance social mobility, research and service.

The Princeton Review rated Augustana as one of the best colleges in the Midwest.

U.S. News Media's America's Best Colleges ranked Augustana No. 5 among the Best Regional Colleges in the Midwest and No. 2 in the Midwest among regional colleges categorized as "Great Schools with Great Prices."



Augustana Reports Record Enrollment for International Students

This fall, Augustana saw its largest-ever incoming class of international students. Fifty-four new students representing 20 countries and five continents began their studies here in September, joining 25 continuing international students, for a total of 79 international students from 24 countries – nearly double the number of international students on campus during the 2009-2010 academic year.

Donn Grinager, director of the International Programs Office (IPO) for Augustana, said the growth in international students is the result of multiple efforts, including a strategic investment in additional administrative and support staff, an increase in resources for marketing and outreach, relationship building with colleagues in other countries and efforts to establish a positive reputation with sponsoring agencies funded by the U.S. State Department.

"We have seen many years' worth of networking start to pay off," Grinager said.

This fall, international students make up roughly 4.5 percent of the student body – a number Grinager would like to see grow. To help recruit more international students, Grinager and Ben Iverson, associate director of International Programs, are traveling to Latin America, the Middle East, Northern Europe, Africa, and Asia and visiting sponsoring agencies in the U.S.

Once an international student is on campus, Augustana's student-support programs work to provide a welcoming experience. The Augustana Cultural Exchange (ACE) is a mentoring program developed by the IPO that matches American students with a small group of international students. The American student mentors serve as small-group leaders and facilitators to address questions, help new students find connections with other people and organize fun activities throughout the year on campus and in Sioux Falls.

The Rendezvous is a weekly social gathering at the Huddle where American and international students can listen to a weekly presentation by a student from another country and make plans for the weekend. Staff from the IPO attend each Rendezvous to provide important information and updates.

Countries represented at Augustana during the 2010-2011 academic year include: Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Bulgaria, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, China/Hong Kong, Vietnam, Burma, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Ecuador, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Uruguay, Madagascar, Taiwan and Canada.

59 Students Conduct Summer Research

Last summer, 59 Augustana students participated in summer research projects on- and off-campus.

"At Augustana, we're proud of the fact that many students choose to come here because of the extensive scientific research opportunities available to our undergraduates. Thanks to our exceptional faculty and low student-to-professor ratios, our students have fantastic opportunities to conduct research alongside our faculty scientists and at partnering institutions throughout the U.S.," said Rob Oliver, president.

One example is Rachel Hurley, a senior from Canton, S.D., majoring in Chemistry and Biology. Hurley spent the summer in Rochester, Minn., researching therapeutic efficiencies for the treatment of non-follicular thyroid cancer alongside a faculty member from the Mayo Clinic's Bio-Chemistry Department.

