Note from the editor

Emma Deignan ’18

Hello from Oregon! I am writing to you from a bus full of Nordic Choir students heading down the West Coast. Having more than enough hours squished on a bus full of my closest friends, I have tons of time to reflect. January Term is so special. The opportunities that Luther provides its students seem endless. While singing in amazing cathedrals across the West Coast, my mind wanders to the other wonderful places my fellow students are exploring. From France to Vietnam to Japan to the Virgin Islands, Luther is everywhere! The experiences we are gaining from this three week term are priceless. Be sure to read the blog posts of J-term students, if you haven't already. If you have questions, comments, or concerns about this month’s Parent Newsletter, I encourage you to contact us at parentnewsletter@luther.edu.

Message from Corey Landstrom

Vice President and Dean for Student Life

Preparing students for the future is a core aspect of the Luther College mission statement. In Student Life, we are in the process of incorporating learning goals into our student work-study and volunteer position descriptions. Luther’s mission statement states in part, (we) “challenge one another to learn in community, to discern our callings, and to serve with distinction for the common good.”

The engagement and work experiences students have at Luther can and should provide ways for students to develop the skills, practices, and habits that are called for in our mission.
statement. We also understand and appreciate what the broader world expects and demands of college students. The value of students' education is rooted in their capacity to contribute their value to other organizations and communities. Read more

**Spotlight On:**

**Alpha Phi Omega**

Alpha Phi Omega is a national co-ed service fraternity founded on the principles of leadership, friendship, and service. It provides members the opportunity to develop leadership skills as they provide service to their campus, the community, the nation, and to members of the fraternity. The chapter Mu Theta at Luther College is one of over 350 chapters nationwide and its members are among more than 17,000 active students.

The mission of Alpha Phi Omega is to prepare members to be campus and community leaders through fellowship and service. This is done while enriching values of leadership, friendship, and service with the objectives of sharing, growing, improving, and investing in mind. Read more

**Luther News**

**Luther College to host pianist Shaffer-Gottschalk Feb. 13**

Luther College Music Department presents guest piano recitalist David Shaffer-Gottschalk in concert at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, in the Noble recital Hall of the Jenson-Noble Hall of Music on the Luther College Campus. Shaffer-Gottschalk taught music at Virginia State University for 21 years and has performed extensively as a soloist and collaborative pianist. He retired from VSU in 2013 and currently resides in the Rochester, Minnesota, area. Read More

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day lecture at Luther College**

Angela Onwuachi-Willig, Charles M. and Marion J. Kierscht Professor of Law at the University of Iowa, gave this year’s Martin Luther King Jr. Day lecture at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 18, in the Center for Faith and Life Recital Hall on the Luther College campus. The lecture considered the question of how far society has come, or not come, since 1955 with respect to the killing of unarmed black people by examining and comparing the deaths of Emmett Till and Trayvon Martin and the trials that followed. Onwuachi-Willig explored and analyzed the "protection of whiteness" that is shared between the two cases. She made the argument that the two killings and trials were centered on policing the boundaries of whiteness. Read More

See all headlines

**Luther Events Calendar**

**Theatre Performance: "The Man Who" by Peter Brook and Marie-Hélène Estienne**

Tuesday, January 26, 2016
Center for the Arts: Studio II

**Nordic Choir Tour Homecoming Concert**

Thursday, February 4, 2016
Center For Faith and Life, Main Hall

**Symphony Orchestra Homecoming Concert**
All Thing$ Financial

- Work study is taxable income and your student(s) will be issued a W-2 at the end of January 2016. W-2’s can be received electronically by having your student to log on to my.luther.edu to authorize Luther College to deliver their electronic form.

- Please remember to file the 2016-17 FAFSA online at https://fafsa.gov/. The FAFSA for 2016-17 is available starting January 1, 2016.

- Spring semester payments were due on January 10, 2016. Any questions regarding bills or Form1098-T should be directed to Financial Services at (563) 387-1015.

- We will send reminder emails to students who reported outside agency scholarships to us earlier in the year if we have not received payment from the agency.

- If your student(s) claimed an EXEMPT status in 2015 on the federal or state W-4, they will need to complete a new 2016 W-4 with the Student Employment Office. Reminder emails were sent to students on January 6.