

the Bridge

spring 2007



ENDOWMENT, DINNER RECOGNIZE UBBELOHDES' DEDICATION

"Under the leadership of Bob and Susan Ubbelohde during the past fifteen years Finlandia University has experienced unprecedented change and growth, all for the better," said the Rev. Dr. Dale Skogman, chairman of the Finlandia University Board of Trustees. "During their tenure the core strengths of Finlandia have been enhanced and the Finnish, Lutheran and liberal arts roots of the university have been re-energized."

It is for these reasons, and many more, that the Finlandia University Board of Trustees has endorsed a number of resolutions to recognize the 15-plus years of service Dr. Robert and Mrs. Susan Ubbelohde have dedicated to Finlandia University.

The Robert and Susan Ubbelohde Endowment for Religious Life is a tribute to the Ubbelohdes' dedication to Finlandia University and their commitment to furthering spiritual life on campus. "It is our hope that contributions to the endowment will be generous. Gifts to support religious life programs through this fund are invited," Skogman said.

On Thursday evening, May 17, 2007, during the spring meeting of the Board of Trustees, an appreciation dinner

hosted by the Board will take place at the Paavo Nurmi Center. A reception will begin at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. and presentations by several speakers. A wide constituency will be invited to the event. If you do not receive an invitation and would like to attend, please contact Doreen Korpela, assistant to the president, at 906-487-7201.

"During their tenure the core strengths of Finlandia have been enhanced and the Finnish, Lutheran and liberal arts roots of the university have been re-energized."

"The Finlandia Board of Trustees wants to formally thank Bob and Susan for their hard work and dedication," noted Dr. Gloria Jackson, secretary of the Executive Committee. "The appreciation dinner is intended to recognize their term of service and the numerous positive changes that have occurred at

Finlandia the last 15 years."

At the appreciation dinner, the Board of Trustees will bestow on President Ubbelohde the title of President Emeritus of Finlandia University. A commissioned piece of artwork will also be presented to Bob and Susan as a visible and unique expression of the affection in which they are held by the Finlandia University constituency.

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DR. ROBERT UBBELOHDE

President

*“We here at
Finlandia are
fortunate in heritage
and contemporary
partnerships in
Finland to be able to
learn from the
‘Finnish model.’”*

Jean Paul Sartre wrote a small book the title of which is translated, *Existentialism is a Humanism*, in which he tried to develop an ethic based on freedom as the dominant value. The book is a great introduction to Sartre’s philosophy; but it also demonstrates that a meaningful ethic cannot be based on freedom. In fairness to Sartre, he later disavowed the book.

While freedom is to be cherished, Sartre’s effort might be considered the finale of Enlightenment thinking. The effort to establish ethical and political theory on non-metaphysical grounds has led to failure. Utilitarianism, Kant’s categorical imperative; Sartre’s ode to freedom, emotivism; John Dewey’s theory of valuation, and other attempts have all proved unsuccessful both in theory and in practice. Unfortunately, education has also suffered if Dewey is correct that education is merely applied ethics.

With this in mind, it is interesting to reflect on the state of education in the United States. The media is filled with disturbing reports on measures of educational effectiveness – declining SAT scores, increases in the number of high school dropouts, and so on.

Yet, the same media brings us news of the success of the Finnish educational system. Literacy rates and international rankings of school performance consistently see Finland at or near the top. Why?

While I have read various explanations of Finland’s educational success, it strikes me that it is derived, I think, from Finland’s commitment to a form of virtue ethics first expounded by Aristotle. Aristotle teaches us that a good country depends on having good citizens and that to have good citizens requires that there be good government. He also suggests that the function of a state is to promote the well-being of all of its citizens. Well-being, of course, involves more than education as it addresses the health and welfare of individuals.

My visits to Finland have convinced me that through a partnership of education, labor, business and government, with leadership often provided or encouraged by the Finnish government, Finland has taken seriously the promotion of the well-being of all its citizens. This often is translated by the media in the United States in the labeling of Finland as a “welfare state.” Although I have not found any self-conscious effort in Finland to explain its success in terms of Aristotle’s ethical theory, Aristotle’s thought may in fact be what accounts for Finland’s success or at least a way to understand it.

Our own struggles in education may derive from the lack of an adequate ethical system. The moral relativism that is reflected in Sartre’s ethical theory, and the failure of other attempts to build a defensible ethical theory based on Enlightenment ideas and ideals, can be seen in today’s uncertainty among students as to whether or not something can be said to be good or bad, right or wrong. I see many students whose confusion has led them to conclude that something is good or bad, right or wrong only for the person uttering the judgment.

We here at Finlandia are fortunate, in heritage and contemporary partnerships in Finland, to be able to learn from the ‘Finnish model.’ It is a principle reason for defining Finlandia as a “learning community” and why in our vision statement we state that we work “to provide a nurturing, caring community focused on connecting theory and practice to the service of human beings and to good stewardship of natural resources.” This puts us in good stead, I think, to address the ethical confusion that many experience by helping students to reflect on the ‘Finnish model’ noting that freedom has not been sacrificed, but that standards have been upheld through a participative political process.

Robert Ubbelohde,
President



The Ubbelohde Legacy

By Dr. David L. Tiede

“Finlandia deserves an excellent president!”

A loyal leader at the university was speaking about the next president, but what a tribute to Dr. Robert and Susan Ubbelohde!

Finlandia doesn't belong to a culture of privilege or entitlement. Nordic Lutherans and 'Yoopers' seldom talk about *deserving* anything. So how would anyone be so bold as to declare “Finlandia *deserves* an excellent president!”? Furthermore, it's true!

Finlandia has become that good on Robert Ubbelohde's watch. He would be the first to insist that it was never about him. It was and always will be about Finlandia's mission and the quality of its promise. So how far has Finlandia come in the past 16-19 years since Dr. Ubbelohde became Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Philosophy (1988), then President (1991)?

In recent decades, almost no one has lasted for 16 years as a university president. The Finns in the Upper Peninsula may take such persistence for granted because they have *sisu* in their souls. To be sure President Ubbelohde has his Teutonic determination, but still, he is a mere mortal. Even the Finns have to wonder, how in heaven's name did he lead Finlandia for all of these years with such commitment and vision? What is it about Finlandia and Robert and Susan Ubbelohde that has sustained such leadership?

In their classic study, *Leadership and Ambiguity: The American College President* (McGraw-Hill, 1974), Michael Cohen and James March observed that “a presidential career is an after-the-fact invention” (p. 25). Everything is up for grabs while the president's “career” is happening. The genius of what has happened is only seen by looking backward. The enduring contribution of that presidency stands forth behind the brilliance of the leader and the transient glories of the office.

As an admiring presidential colleague and an honorary Finlandia graduate of 2006, it is my privilege to join those who have lived this story in noting a few of the University's enduring achievements, laying claim to the Ubbelohde legacy, and anticipating why Finlandia now deserves to welcome another excellent president.

The legacy is about a profound educational vision, astute specializations, and strategic relationships. None of these foundations for the future would have been laid without Robert and Susan Ubbelohde's leadership. All of them have called forth critical participation by others and anticipate powerful engagements for decades to come. To paraphrase Max DePree's insights (*Leadership is an Art*), the Ubbelohde legacy is distinguished by defining Finlandia's reality, empowering others for their callings, and saying thank you to those who have provided critical leadership.

The profound educational vision is grounded in Finlandia's commitment to *learning*. This definition as a learning community requires a unified vision and educational discipline in the University. Little Finlandia has a big educational idea, a profound commitment to learning, worthy of sustained implementation for decades to come. Perhaps only a university president with a Ph.D. in “Curriculum Theory and Instruction” could sustain this vision as Finlandia developed into a Baccalaureate granting institution.

Identifying Finlandia's specializations is also a mark of astute team leadership: Art & Design, Business Administration, the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and the university's work in Rural Human Services, Liberal Studies, Arts, Culture & the Environment, as well as the work in Elementary Teacher Education. Finlandia brings its unique strengths as a learning community in a rural context into each of these disciplines. The details will surely shift in decades to come, but the map of the future is evident.

This university's bond with Finland is a manifestly strategic relationship. Not only is this link appropriate to the history of the institution and its constituency, but these ties are about the future, calling forth the strengths of the Upper Peninsula. Finland's nimble courage in preparing for the 21st century world gives this very northern American university confidence in its capacities to become indispensable to the world's future. President Ubbelohde's 50+ visits to Finland have been an apostolate of hope.

Yes, Finlandia University deserves a(nother) excellent president! Finlandia's profound educational visions, astute priorities, and strategic relationships are signposts to her challenging and promising future. Thanks be to God for the Ubbelohde legacy.

David L. Tiede is President of Luther Seminary and Professor of New Testament, *Emeritus*, and the Bernhard M. Christensen Professor of Religion and Vocation at Augsburg College.



FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY GALLERY SCHEDULE 2007

February 22 to March 24, 2007

Opening Reception: February 22, 2007, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

David Niec: *Nocturnal Light Views from Inside and Around a Forest*

The oil paintings by David Niec, Milwaukee, Wisc., share a rare glimpse of the nocturnal world. Painted outdoors in the light of the winter moon, his work captures the extraordinary beauty of the nighttime forest and reflects its lyricism and energy. For the past decade, nocturnal landscapes have been the focus of Niec's work. Before he sets out to capture its essence, Niec becomes intimately acquainted with the place he will paint. His fascination with nature's rhythms – the changing light; patterns of movement in the sun, moon and stars; and processes of change and reoccurrence – are expressed in his work.

April 2 to April 19, 2007

Opening Reception: April 3, 2007, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Fashion Show: 7:15 p.m.

International School of Art & Design Juried Student Exhibition

The annual juried exhibition includes work submitted by Finlandia University International School of Art and Design students studying the fine art and design disciplines of drawing, painting and illustration, ceramic and glass, fiber and fashion design, product and interior design, and graphic design and digital media.

April 23 to May 29, 2007

Opening Reception: April 28, 2007, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

International School of Art & Design Diploma Works Exhibition

The exhibit features the "diploma works" of all Finlandia University International School of Art and Design graduating students. The artwork in the show represents each artist's final body of student work. Pieces take the form of intensive research projects, series of individual artworks, or design prototypes.

The Finlandia University Gallery, in the Finnish American Heritage Center, promotes Finlandia University's mission, A Learning Community Dedicated to Academic Excellence, Spiritual Growth and Service, through exhibitions of contemporary Finnish, Finnish-American and American artists. Beyond advancing the arts in the region, the gallery provides educational resources for the community and is a gathering place for people to discuss and reflect upon art. One of its goals is to become a leading exhibitor of Finnish and Finnish-American art nationwide.

Carrie Flaspohler, *Gallery Director*

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The Measure of a Man

by Brandon Gassi

How do you measure a man? Few people are wise enough to measure a man by “where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” Most are content to see that a man is “cool.” But the most meaningful things about a man are revealed in how he responds to difficult challenges.

I was fortunate to meet with Dr. Robert Ubbelohde recently. I was hoping he’d say a few words about his time at Finlandia University and how it has affected him as an educator and a human being. I was looking for something short and sweet to pass on some last words before his retirement in July 2007. He gave me what I asked for, but I learned much more. Getting inside the head of this brilliant man, and discovering his passion for education and Finlandia, helped me understand all he has done for this university.

“I believe that everyone has a call in life, and that call will benefit someone, or many people,” said Dr. Ubbelohde. “How can you have an education if pieces are missing that deal with life itself?”

Dr. Ubbelohde earned his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, a C.A.S. from Harvard University, and master’s and undergraduate degrees at University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 1991 he was named the 15th president of Suomi College after serving as dean of faculty since 1988.

Among the notable events during his presidency are the conversion of Finlandia to a baccalaureate degree-granting university in 1996, a 65% increase in student enrollment over the past ten years, major upgrades to campus technology, and capital improvements including a new chapel, expansion of Maki Library, and the opening of Portage Campus in 2005.

The university is now an on-the-rise four-year university. In 1998, athletics were reintroduced, starting with men’s basketball. Today, there are 13 men’s and women’s athletic programs and the

university is a NCAA Division III member. In 2000, the school became Finlandia University. (“Finlandia” is Latin for Finland). More students became interested in the school itself, the programs offered, and the beautiful area.

“The last 15 years have been a time of significant change at Finlandia,” Dr. Ubbelohde said. “Together, we have carefully examined our core strengths and re-energized our Finnish, Lutheran and liberal arts roots – the things that make us a distinctive learning community.”

Even though he is retiring, Dr. Ubbelohde looks toward Finlandia’s future. He hopes the university will add more classrooms, grow in enrollment and update the Paavo Nurmi Center. He would like to see up to 1,200 students in the near future, improved diversity, and a couple of master’s degrees. He has pride in Finlandia and the students attending the school.

“When I arrived on this campus in 1988, I knew it was a very special place. It still is and I am confident it will remain so,” said Dr. Ubbelohde. “My focus over the next nine months will be to bolster organizational and financial stability, provide for a smooth transition of the university’s senior leadership, and stabilize student enrollment.”

This brief overview illustrates some of what President Ubbelohde’s leadership has done for all of us students, for our faculty members, and for Finlandia University. It is because of his sacrifices that we have what we have. It is because of his patience and caring that we know one another. It is because of his love and passion that Finlandia has been so successful over the past 15 years and will continue to be! Thank you President Ubbelohde. We wish you the best in your next chapter of life. You are the essence of what it means to be a Finlandia Lion.

This article was first published in the January 31, 2007, issue of The Roar, Finlandia’s monthly student newspaper. The author, Elementary Education freshman Brandon Gassi, is from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

– Martin Luther King, Jr.





So Many Experiences

Susan Ubbelohde didn't expect to spend nearly 20 years in the Copper Country. "Robert was academic dean when we first came here, and shortly after the presidency opened up. At that point, not realizing the many things that would happen, we didn't think we'd be here more than 10 years," she said. "It is very, very surprising that we've been here as long as we have."

She wouldn't say that her role as president's wife has been easy, although Susan kind of knew what to expect. "My mother was a pastor's wife, so I definitely had that model. You're always secondary in a way, and that's odd," she explained. "But if you're aware of it, you can avoid taking it personally."

"Robert and I attended several annual Lutheran college presidents' conferences early on," Susan recalled. "At the conferences all the spouses would get together – at that point they were all wives. It was a very helpful group. It was important for me to realize that many things are simply uniform to the role and others share the same experiences."

"I tried to keep track of the small details for Robert," Susan said. "It's difficult to tend to the small things when you're trying to get a message across. It was important for him to concentrate on the big picture. I was comfortable with that."

Susan has been described by many as the 'ideal first lady.' "I wouldn't describe myself that way," Susan responded. "I don't know what the ideal first lady would be. I just tried to be myself and do the best job I could."

Shortly after her husband became president, Susan talked with a woman who had been a university president's wife for many years. "She said something I've always remembered," Susan recalled. "'In this day and age [as the wife of a university president] you really don't have to do a thing. You could just say, I have my own life. But you'd miss so many opportunities to meet people and do things that you would otherwise never have the opportunity to do.'"

"It's a strange kind of a position as the president's wife," Susan reflected. "It's essentially a support role, but it's very true that there are so many experiences. At first, it was uncomfortable meeting new people. But as we met with many of the same people year after year, I found that everyone was so interesting. It's really wonderful to get to know people over that length of time."

"And the contact with Finland was remarkable," Susan added. "My guess is that I've been there about 30 times. It's the kind of opportunity that doesn't usually happen. To get to know a foreign country and gain so much intimate knowledge about a different culture was very rewarding."



"It was also really fun hosting people in our home. That part I have really enjoyed," Susan said. "It seems friendlier somehow. And of course it was so easy thanks to Finlandia's marvelous food service staff."

President Ubbelohde often says that he fell in love with Suomi College. Susan expresses a similar experience, "This place is so amazing. In one sense it's in the middle of nowhere and not very big, but on the other hand there are so many things happening. I remember the 100th anniversary of the college in 1996. All kinds of people were coming from Finland, and there were dozens of activities going on. Suddenly I realized there were relatively few people doing all these remarkable things. Even though Finlandia's staff is small, things always get done."

"For Finlandia University to host the Sibelius Festivals is a wonderful thing," Susan added. "The young Finnish performers are so serious about their music, yet, like any other young person, so full of life. You can just feel them wanting to share with the audience. Getting to know them was fantastic. While many of them had been to places like New York or Los Angeles, they weren't aware that there was a place in the United States with this kind of a Finnish background."

Susan may be best remembered for her work to establish the North Wind Shops. "The book store is a lot fun," she said. "When Robert asked me to help him realize the vision for North Wind Books I wasn't looking for anything else to do, but I've found that it's really nice to do something on campus that is separate from my role as the president's wife.

I was very, very happy when we added the textbooks because it brings more students in and feels even more like a college bookstore."

"I think it's incredible what has happened at Finlandia in recent years. I sometimes forget there are less than 600 students, and a relatively small staff and faculty. The baccalaureate academic programs, Portage Campus, the ties with Finland ... there's something about this place that is just amazing. People share something here that I really can't define. There's some kind of a spark. It seems that nothing is impossible, no matter what. Maybe it's that Finnish *sisu*. Somehow I have the feeling that the school will survive very well. There's something here that won't let it do anything else."

Susan is happy she spent 20 years of her life in the UP. "If anyone had told me I was going to spend this much time in the Upper Peninsula, I would have told them they were crazy. I'm really more of an urban kind of person," she explained. "Of course, the Upper Peninsula itself has charms, but I think the real attraction is the college."

So, what is Susan planning to do in her retirement? "I think I'll probably do what I've always done," she predicted. "When we get there, I'll look around and say, okay, now what am I going to do *here*? I want to do some gardening and more cooking than I've had time for here. There are so many books I'd like to read. That's just to start. I'll just see what happens. Robert and I are also talking about where we'd like to travel. We definitely want to go back to Finland and enjoy the country at a more leisurely pace."

"The baccalaureate academic programs, Portage Campus, the ties with Finland ... there's something about this place that is just amazing."

CAMPUS NEWS



Author Steve Lehto

Pop Lehto's Grandson Writes of Italian Hall Tragedy

On Christmas Eve 1913, more than six dozen people were crushed to death as they scrambled to flee the second floor of the Italian Hall in Calumet, Mich. Someone had cried, "Fire" at the top of the stairs. There was no fire.

In his book, "Death's Door: The Truth Behind Michigan's Largest Mass Murder," author Steve Lehto examines conflicting news reports, court transcripts and other documentation about this tragedy to finally set the record straight. On Nov. 1, Lehto presented three lectures about the book at the Finnish American Heritage Center, and conducted a book signing at North Wind Books. More than 450 community members and area high school and middle school students attended the lectures. The book was recently named a 2007 Michigan Notable Book by the Library of Michigan.

Lehto is a practicing attorney and an adjunct professor of law at University of Detroit Law School. His grandfather, Waino "Pops" Lehto, was a professor, administrator and dean at Suomi College from 1926 to 1961.

Finlandia Introduces Online Courses

Selected Finlandia courses are now available for completion online at FinlandiaUOnline.net. "Online learning is a great alternative," said Carol Bates, dean of Finlandia's College for Professional Studies. "It eliminates commute time to the university and allows non-traditional students, especially, to conveniently complete college courses while also meeting work and family commitments."

More than 100 students registered for spring 2007 semester online courses that began in January. The following summer 2007 semester courses begin in May: Introduction to Electronic Commerce (BUS 240); Microeconomics (ECN 231); Medical Terminology (HSC 112); Transition to Professional Nursing (NUR 303); Nursing Research/Statistics (NUR 308); Growth and Development of Children and Adolescents (PSY 343); General Sociology (SOC 201) and Human Relations and Diversity (SOC 263). Contact Admissions at 877-202-5491 for additional information.



2007 Homecoming Queen Kathryn Holsworth; Homecoming King Tucker Thoreson is at left. (photo by Lauren Roell)

Homecoming a Great Success!

"The Student Alumni Association (SAA), in cooperation with the International Alumni Board and other alumni, worked very hard to make the first Homecoming in many years fun for all," reports Christina Armbruster, director of alumni relations.

"We decided to bring homecoming back to FU because we wish to see more school spirit and involvement on



Judy and Larry Ross

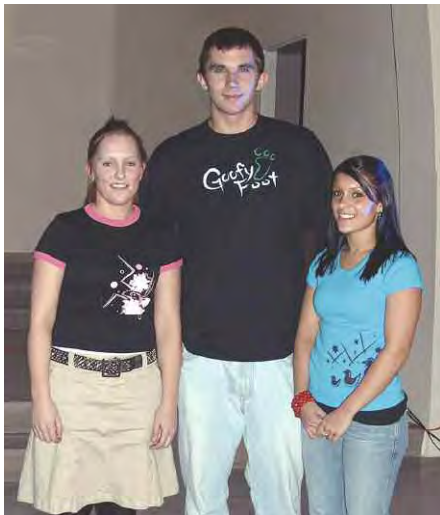
Larry Ross Retires

"It's the most enjoyable thing I've done," said Larry Ross of his 10 years as Finlandia's vice president for business and finance. "It was a great way to end my career. I don't regret a minute of it." Ross retired effective Dec. 31, 2006, but is still on campus occasionally as a consultant to President Ubbelohde. Prior to his work at Finlandia, for 26 years Larry was with the Copper Range Mining Co., White Pine, Mich. "To begin with, working for the college was a big change. It was a totally different setting," he said. Now Larry faces the transition to retirement. "It's different, I almost feel like I'm missing something. I will miss the many friends at Finlandia."

CAMPUS NEWS

our campus among our students, faculty and alumni,” adds SAA member and business sophomore Sarah Erdman (Minocqua, Wisc.). “I think we have great potential here, as a small school, for school spirit and closeness.”

Homecoming festivities Jan. 22-27 included a number of indoor and outdoor activities. At the formal Homecoming Dance Jan. 25, business junior Kathryn Holsworth (Republic, Mich.) was crowned queen and education junior Tucker Thorseson (Crystal Falls, Mich.), king. The SAA extends special thanks to Jenifer Murphy ('03) and The Kukkakuppa Flower Shop for the donation of flowers for the dance.



Left to right: Samantha Voigt, Victor Harrington and Kylee Benson

Students Launch “Goofy Foot” Urbanwear

A new line of urbanwear clothing targeted to extreme sports enthusiasts was launched Nov. 30 by Finlandia art and design senior Samantha Voigt (Ewen, Mich.), with the help of senior Victor Harrington (Chassell, Mich.) and junior Kylee Benson (Iron River, Mich.). The original “Goofy Foot” silkscreen designs by Voigt, Harrington and Benson appear on a variety of bright-colored, loose-fitting t-shirts and sweatshirts. “Goofy Foot” refers to a snowboarding and

skateboarding stance, but the loose clothing and abstract designs have widespread appeal. The venture began as part of an academic project, but the more Voigt researched urbanwear, the further she wanted to go with it, Voigt explained.



Clockwise from lower left: freshmen Kendra Benson and Jennifer Kelly, junior Hannah Norman, Dr. Ann Kemppainen, René Johnson, sophomore Mai Takada and freshman Carly Akers (Additional participating students and chaperones are not pictured.)

Servant Leadership: Year Two

Twelve Finlandia and Northern Great Lakes Synod (ELCA) students and 5 adults will learn and serve in Tanzania, East Africa, May 8-28, 2007. Much of the group’s time will be spent at a secondary school where they will help construct a kitchen and dining hall.

This year’s trip to Tanzania is the second for Finlandia’s Servant Leadership program. When liberal arts freshman Kendra Benson (Harrison Township, Mich.) learned of the opportunity she knew right away it was something she wanted to do. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I want to meet the people of Tanzania one-on-one, experience how they live and find out who they are, especially the kids,” Kendra said.

To help fund the opportunity, the students are engaged in a number of events, including a recent soup and salad lunch and silent auction. For additional information contact René Johnson, director of servant leadership, at 906-487-7558 or rene.johnson@finlandia.edu.



Pastor Tuomas Palola

Scholar Presents History of Early Finnish-American Lutheranism

Finnish pastor and scholar Tuomas Palola spoke at the Finnish American Heritage Center Nov. 6. Palola serves the Jyväskylä (Finland) Evangelical Lutheran Parish and is completing post-graduate theology studies at Helsinki University. His lecture, “Apostolic Lutheran and Evangelical Lutheran: Alternatives for American Finns,” covered the early history of the churches established by Finns in the U.S.

Palola’s dissertation subject is the history of the Apostolic Lutheran Church between 1884 and 1929. He has extensively researched the Laestadian (Apostolic Lutheran) movement in North America. This was his third research visit to Hancock. Palola also has a strong interest in missionary work with Estonia’s Evangelical Lutheran Church; he has traveled to Tartu, Estonia, more than 40 times in the last decade.

CAMPUS NEWS



Left to right: Olavi Blåsted, Erkki Määttänen, Albert Haapala and George Haapala (photo by James Kurtti)

“Tosi Tarnia” features Copper Country Finnish Americans

On Mar. 1, the North American premiere of several episodes of the Finnish television program, “Tosi Tarnia” (“True Tales”) took place at the Finnish American Heritage Center. Two of the featured films were

“Haapala Boys” about musicians and brothers Albert and George Haapala of Bruce Crossing, Mich., and “Toivola – Land of Hope” filmed last summer in and around Toivola, Mich., in which, among others, long-time Finlandia English professor Lauri Anderson is featured.

Filmmaker and program host Erkki Määttänen of the YLE-Finnish Broadcasting Company was on hand to introduce the short films. Määttänen’s television program, broadcast throughout Finland, explores the extraordinariness of everyday life. He has made several trips to the Copper Country and other Finnish areas of the Midwest to film some of his “true tales.”



Painted violins by Yueh-Mei Cheng

Yueh-Mei Cheng to Exhibit in China

International School of Art and Design faculty member Yueh-mei Cheng has been invited to exhibit her artwork in both Nebraska and Beijing, China. Jan. 8 to Feb. 9, an exhibition titled, “Super String” featured the work of Cheng and two other artists at the University of Nebraska at Kearney Walker Art Gallery. She participated on a discussion panel, made a public presentation about her work, and conducted a classroom lecture and painting demonstration.

June 16 to July 1, Cheng’s work will be featured in a solo exhibition at the Beijing Art Museum in China. About 40 new paintings will be on display. “In China, the market is so competitive. To be invited to exhibit, the value of your work must be recognized by key persons. It’s a great honor,” said Cheng.



Left to right: Fredi deYampert, Ben Larson, Colleen Mauno, Bob Butler, Jason Sullivan, Phyllis Fredendall, Dottie Andler, John Bur and John Lantto

Faculty, Staff Appreciation Lunch

The annual Finlandia University Faculty and Staff Appreciation Lunch took place Jan. 5. A tasty lunch prepared by Finlandia food service staff was followed by recognition of 15 long-term employees celebrating 5-year multiples of service. Bob Butler (ISOB), Jason Sullivan (Financial Aid) and Colleen Mauno (Business Office) were recognized for 5 years of service. Completing 10 years of service are Fredi deYampert (CoPS), Ben Larson (Admissions) and Lee Luoto (Upward Bound). John Bur (Educational Talent Search), Phyllis Fredendall (ISAD) and Jean Woodbury (ISOB) have been with the university for 15 years. Dottie Andler, John Lantto and Tom Lantto (Maintenance), and Joan Manninen (Food Service) have completed 25 years of service. And Lauri Anderson (SCAS) and Doreen Korpela (President’s Office) have completed an impressive 30 years of service.

CAMPUS NEWS



Stefan Lindfors

Noted Finnish Designer on Campus

Internationally-known Finnish designer, sculptor and film director Stefan Lindfors presented two energetic and inspiring lectures at Finlandia's Portage Campus Jan. 16. His four-day visit to mentor International School of Art and Design students and faculty was made possible by a gift from Elsa and David Brule.

"Lindfors is one of the most talented artists in Finland and a well-known and sought-after speaker," said Kristian Venalainen, consulting ISAD dean.

Lindfors has designed furniture, high-end tableware, objects for mass production, as well as graphic design, for Finnish and European industry. His permanent public sculpture installations can be seen in, among other cities, New York and Helsinki. Lindfors maintains an active schedule of lecture and jury work, and continues to work selectively as a designer and artist when not pursuing his career as a film director.



Dr. Arnold Sarya

Trustee Dr. Arnold Sarya Recognized

Longtime Finlandia Board of Trustees member Dr. Arnold Sarya was

presented with the Traverse City (Michigan) Area Chamber of Commerce 2006 Distinguished Service Award in January. The award recognizes the extraordinary endeavors of individuals who make the Traverse City region a better place.

Sarya was recognized for decades of community service through his orthodontist practice, civic associations, and as one of the area's original hockey boosters. Sarya is a native of Allouez, an Upper Peninsula town north of Calumet, where his father worked for the copper mining industry. The family moved to Detroit when he was a child.



Left to right: Emily Pierce, Betsi Arend, Ronda Jones and Stacy Karvonen

Fiber Arts Students Awarded Scholarships

Four art and design students have recently been awarded scholarships totaling \$5,244 from the Barbara L. Kuhlman Foundation.

Fiber arts seniors Ronda Jones (Calumet, Mich.) and Betsi Arend (Eagle River, Mich.), junior Emily Pierce (Traverse City, Mich.) and sophomore Stacy Karvonen (Nisula, Mich.) each received a scholarship award. Not surprisingly, given their interest in fiber arts, the students plan to use the funds for materials such as dyes and fabrics. "I'll be able to complete some projects, not just plan them," commented one of the artists.

The Kuhlman Foundation is dedicated to supporting the study of fiber arts by providing scholarships to deserving students. The late Barbara L. Kuhlman was a college professor and life-long supporter of the arts.



Left to right: President Ubbelohde; Matti Hirsilä, head of JUAS International Business program; and Dr. Joseph Monahan

University of Jyväskylä, Finlandia to Collaborate on MBA

The Jyväskylä (Finland) University of Applied Sciences (JUAS) and the Finlandia University International School of Business have formally agreed to collaborate in the delivery of Finlandia's executive MBA program.

Through on-line coursework and 'virtual' classroom sites on both campuses, a cohort of MBA students in Jyväskylä and Hancock, mentored by professors from both universities, will participate in completion of the intensive, one-year graduate degree.

"The connection between cultures will deliver a genuine global educational experience," says Dr. Joseph Monahan, dean of the ISOB. The Finlandia Board of Trustees approved the MBA in January. The advanced degree program will begin in the 2007-08 academic year.



Talking with Bob Ubbelohde

"I came in part because of the location. It was the right part of the country," said Finlandia University President Dr. Robert Ubbelohde of his 1988 move to the Copper Country. "And the Lutheran part was important to me. What I knew about Finns wasn't very much, but it was positive."

"But then getting here and learning that we were known as the institution of last resort, for me it was a shock. That's where I started," he said. It was in his three years as academic dean that President Ubbelohde really got to know Suomi College, "It's still hard to separate being academic dean and being president."

What were your first impressions of Suomi College?

"When North Central came for its first visit in spring 1989, they noted that there was no evidence we were Lutheran or Finnish. We had 28 majors and about 400 students. And adding the fact that we were open admissions, taking kids that really weren't prepared for college, I thought what was happening was counterproductive from an educational point of view."

"And yet, there were positive, wonderful pieces, an endearing side to the college. There were faculty dedicated to teaching. I liked the students because most of them wanted to learn. And as I observed and thought about the college, I could see what the institution, in some ways, already meant to the community, especially the young nursing program."

How has the history of Suomi College shaped today's university?

"Historically Suomi College was owned by the Lutheran church, not operated as an affiliate of the church as it is now. The college had a very clear mission to educate clergy and others to serve the church, through music for instance. With the long-anticipated 1950s merger of several Lutheran churches nationally, Suomi College suddenly became an independent institution."

"As early as 1946, former Suomi College presidents Viljo Nikander and Edward Isaac saw very clearly that when the churches merged, we were going to lose the seminary. And although I didn't read this until much later, in a publication produced at the 50th anniversary of the college, Nikander and Isaac wrote essays proposing a vision to address the changes that would occur; a vision of a 4-year college of liberal arts. Somehow that vision got lost."

"And so we became independent. And the college struggled. Suomi essentially became a community or junior college, while by that time most other two-year colleges were converting to four-year institutions. I don't know why the college headed the direction of an open admissions, two-year institution. I think we drifted."

"When I came here enrollment was dropping 8% a year. As planning for the future began, the major questions were Do we try to save the college? or Do we close it? Once we decided to try to save it, the first direction from the Board was to make it a viable two-year institution. And although attempts were then made to survive as a 2-year college, they didn't succeed."

How did the 21st century vision for Finlandia University unfold?

"Comprehensive strategic planning was begun. We went to Finland; we listened to alumni; we listened to everybody. There was open discussion about whether we should maintain the Finnish and Lutheran identities of the college. We considered that within a day's drive from Hancock, there are four or five million Lutherans. That looked promising for recruitment, but nearly two-thirds of the ELCA colleges are in that circle. And Michigan Tech is across the way. We didn't want to compete with Tech, but certainly wanted to see it as a potential strength."

"In the end we decided to reaffirm the Finnish and Lutheran identities and use those as screens to determine what programs to offer. The Finns have always tied their education to people and community development. What I saw happening in Finland was a picture of what could be happening, and what should be happening, out the Suomi College tradition.

"We had seen the Finnish model joining art and design with business. Art had some strong faculty, and they were interested and excited. The Kuopio Academy was very supportive. So we proposed a baccalaureate art and design program. That began our focused effort to deal with the area's economic development.

"We also had the Lutheran idea of service or vocational call, and we wanted to lift this up as service to others. At that point we offered nursing, human services and pre-education. We had criminal justice and added physical therapist assistant when the request came. Part of what we were saying was that the community has to be healthy. If we don't have medical facilities, for instance, we're not going to attract students, faculty or new businesses. So we looked at how we could participate in community development, not just economic development.

"The liberal arts tradition, important both here and in Finland, was the critical piece. The ability to read, and read widely, is encouraged by the Lutheran faith. Open dialogue and debate are important to both of these traditions."

What molded your leadership style?

"I believe all leadership is contextual. When I started there was a lot of frustration on campus, but it wasn't focused. The challenge was to shift the viewpoint, build coherence and focus on the institution. We were talking about transformation.

"There was opposition to becoming a four-year university and establishing academic standards. There was little experience with participative management as many faculty didn't come from the tradition of private higher education. And most non-academic staff came out of private business or were young and lacked experience.

"As a whole, the institution wasn't functioning well, yet there were many good people. And it was the people – the students, faculty and staff – who tugged at my head and heart saying, it's worth putting time into; the community is worth it.

"The overall goal was to move the institution to a point where management is participatory, and faculty and staff are prepared for a more diffuse leadership dynamic. But there were some who fought the Learning Community ideal. So, as the leader, I had to hold the authority in the short-term.

"In a sense I was making autocratic decisions, while at the same time urging staff and faculty to participate in management. I was taught that the educator's role is to put

him or herself out of business, that's why you teach. You want to get students to the point where they don't need you. And then they become colleagues. And it was the same here: to lead the institution to a point where it can start to function on its own.

"I am starting to see the foundation of an effective, participative, collegial decision-making structure on campus today. For instance, all budgets used to be done at my desk. Now the Planning and Budget Committee prepares the budget for my approval and forwarding to the Board of Trustees; I rarely make changes. That reflects leadership in the Business Office; it also reflects that people are thinking seriously and acting in the best interests of the institution in a participatory, collegial way.

"There will always, certainly, be some division when making institutional changes and securing institutional agreement. All someone in a job like mine can do is to attempt to identify and hire people who have a vision and the ability to implement it. It's frustrating to have to say, 'we need to do this.' So it's exciting when people say to me, 'I have an idea.' Taking action on that idea, making it happen, isn't my accomplishment; it's theirs.

"Students have kept me motivated through the most difficult times. I've taught at very elite places where students have a strong sense of entitlement. When I came here students would say, 'thank you.' That's a very different mind set. The students here are different because they're open to learning."



How does the future look? Have we reached a turning point?

“Of course, the conversion to a four-year institution is essentially complete. But I’m not sure we’ve reached a turning point. Public perception of Finlandia has changed dramatically, I think. However, it’s easier to destroy something than to build it. If I’ve had a primary frustration, it’s that we couldn’t do things fast enough. The setbacks were difficult.

“We have a base of unique, creative programs. We have faculty who care about teaching and students who want to learn. We are more closely aligned with our history and heritage, both rich sources of strength. I think we’re in a good place to answer many questions of why: Why should a university encourage service? Why do we worry about spiritual growth? Why are we concerned about academic excellence?”

What are some critical areas for continued improvement?

“Data informs, and we’re beginning to use it in decision making. But we don’t yet have a central office to gather and analyze it. We’ve reached the point where somebody has to own and take charge of data gathering, evaluation and feedback. As we build efficient data collection systems, and as faculty and staff focus on effective analysis and evaluation, decision making and allocation of resources will become easier.

“Another critical area is where to grow in the future. The university probably isn’t looking at a total transformation with a new president, but there are critical issues of how and where we can grow, and where we can best invest our resources. That may mean revisiting the vision and mission. There continues to be considerable competition for students and tuition dollars. In the foreseeable future that will continue to provide a challenge for Finlandia’s leadership.

“The leadership in Finland with whom I have developed relationships is essentially retiring. If Finlandia wants to maintain political connections with Finland, some new relationships have to be pursued. But a critical piece, relationships with institutions, is firmly in place. The judgment will have to be made: Do we want to remain closely connected with political leaders, or are solid relationships with Finnish institutions enough?

“I think our Lutheran identity and how we define ourselves in relation to it will be important in the coming years. It’s a question that concerns all ELCA colleges. We’re an independent institution, but we receive support from the ELCA. How do we build and maintain a relationship? One of my earliest aims was to make certain there was space on campus for the gospel to be preached. But Finlandia also needs space to support students and staff of other faiths and spiritual viewpoints. It’s important to be balanced.

“Diversity is another important issue. It’s not just growth. It’s how diverse we want to be, and how diverse we can be. We’ve had some luck building a multicultural faculty. Gender issues are important to consider. In one sense, we have a math department fully populated by women; that’s significant. On the other hand, if you’re looking at diverse role models, we need to recruit additional male faculty members.”

How solid is Finlandia’s positive momentum?

“It’s hard to say. It’s not just who takes the helm. It’s how strongly people feel about Finlandia’s mission. Today, there is not necessarily a large, but a strong voice for the Lutheran piece. There’s a strong voice for the Finnish piece and academic excellence. If the base of our mission continues to be defined this way, I see lots of momentum. Whether or not people will continue to see Finlandia as a Learning Community is more problematic.

“I think the service piece is more deeply embedded in the student body than we realize. I don’t think that’ll change. And there is a push from students on the academic side. Students often tell me if a program isn’t functioning well academically. I have great faith in students.”

What are your greatest accomplishments?

“I don’t even think that way. What I think about are students crossing the stage at Commencement to receive their diplomas. I can’t claim to know the life story of each student,



but I've learned enough about our students to know when a graduate has overcome or accomplished something extraordinary to earn that degree. To me, that's significant."

What has most surprised you?

"At one point, I said that it would be over my dead body that we'd bring athletics back. I'd had horrible experiences with football teams at other schools so athletics was almost a negative word for me. It's hard for me to believe that I listened to the argument that athletics would present new opportunities to UP youth. When the men's hockey team, for example, comes from behind to beat a highly ranked team, that's nice, and it's significant for the team and the school. But what's significant for me is that I know most of those players and they're decent people."

"Welcoming students from Finland and other countries is rewarding. And I'm very happy about the sustained attention we've received from leaders and institutions in Finland. They're synergistic relationships in which we can help them, and they us. Two archbishops, a prime minister, the president, and many other Finnish dignitaries have traveled to Finlandia. It was moving to witness their 'discovery' of Finnish America."

Did you think you would spend nearly 20 years in the Copper Country?

"No. I was recently reminded that at one point I said I'd be here three to five years. I am, at heart, a city person. Until I

moved here, I'd never lived more than a few blocks from a grocery store. But I learned to cope. I fell in love with the place. It's not Harvard, so being here doesn't necessarily give you great prestige. But I always come back to the students we serve; it's much more satisfying."

What have you learned?

"I've learned to be a little more patient, although many people may not perceive it. I wasn't trained for this job. It's not what I set out to do. If you read my high school annual, it says I planned to be a professor or pastor."

"What I dreaded most was fundraising. I never thought I could ask for money. Now I have many good friends who happen to be donors. That was a pleasant surprise. And I've learned so much from donors, just by listening. But it's difficult, too. How do you maintain a friendship, and at some point ask for money? It was surprising to learn that if people don't want to give, they're not going to give, but you can still be friends."

What are your plans for the future?

"I plan to write five books. I have outlines for four and an idea for a fifth. The fifth doesn't have a full outline yet, but it's about Finland and what I see as the Finnish miracle. My core interest, though, is writing a book on politics, morality and education. To do that I have to write three prior books: one on metaphysics, one on epistemology and the philosophy of science, and one on theology. They'll all be written as meditations addressed to my son, Alex. I don't care if they're ever published."

What shouldn't be overlooked?

"Susan sometimes gets ignored, although she's often the person making sure I'm at my best. It's important to recognize that in this job, all immediate family members are affected by the work load. When I was traveling, for example Susan did the snow blowing. She's the one who made sure she was available to attend the games in which Alex played when I couldn't manage it. If people called and were angry, Susan had to calm them down when I wasn't there. She often tried to protect our children from the fallout of decisions I made. I've made some people unhappy; it's part of the job. It's obviously harder in a small community."

"Any leadership, at least for someone who's married, is a joint thing. Susan has been a tremendous help to me and my work, and an asset to the university. Whenever I couldn't find the right person on campus for a special project, she would volunteer her time. Many donors are couples, so in many cases her presence was more critical than mine. It goes beyond taking care of Board dinners, organizing the Sibelius Festival, and all that's she done for North Wind Books."



SPORTS NEWS

Women's Softball: Coach Heinemeyer Takes On New Role



For two years Bo Heinemeyer, originally from Shiocton, Wisc., was an assistant baseball coach for the Finlandia Lions. Now he has taken on a new role: women's head softball coach.

Heinemeyer attended Lakeland College, Sheboygan, Wisc., where he played football and baseball for the Muskies and completed a degree in computer science with minors in exercise science and coaching.

While at Lakeland College, Heinemeyer was a member of the Lake Michigan All-Conference baseball team three separate seasons, twice as an outfielder and once as a pitcher. During his senior year, the Muskies competed in the NCAA Division III College World Series and finished fifth in the nation. Heinemeyer is the only player in Lakeland College history to pitch a World Series win.

Heinemeyer takes over the young softball program with many strong student-athletes. In 2006, the softball team finished the season 11-19 and four players received national All-Independent Team honors from the Association of Division III Independents. They were 2006 criminal justice graduate Joan Derusha (Gladstone, Mich.) and current nursing students sophomore Amy Bellinger (Coleman, Mich.), junior Meagan Petros (Marquette, Mich.) and senior Jana Riutta (Stanton Township, Mich.). Riutta was also named the Association of Division III Independents Softball Player of the Week the week of May 1, 2006.

Men's Hockey: Josh Paquette Marks Milestones



Lions junior forward Josh Paquette (Marquette, Mich.) hit a milestone the weekend of January 26 versus Midwest Collegiate Hockey Association (MCHA) foe Northland College when he netted career point number 100.

Paquette is also right behind Milwaukee School of Engineering senior Brian Soik in the MCHA career assist category, with 60. Soik

finished his career with 66, breaking the former league mark of 58. Both players were also chasing the MCHA career point record of 99. At the conclusion of the 2006-07 MCHA season, Paquette has 99 points (39 goals and 60 assists) in 55 games, and Soik had 97 (31 goals and 66 assists) in 71 games.



"These are great accomplishments for Josh. His records may hold for quite awhile," said Joe Burcar, head men's hockey coach. "To do this in three years demonstrates his awesome skill on the ice. His success is also attributed to his great teammates. Without them, he wouldn't have achieved these milestones this quickly, or at all. It is a very real possibility that he will set additional Finlandia and MCHA records."

SPORTS NEWS

Fall Student-Athletes Recognized



Student-athletes who participated in fall 2006 athletic programs (women's volleyball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's soccer) were recognized at an awards banquet Dec. 10. Four (or more) student-athletes from each sport are selected annually for the following awards: Most Valuable Player, Lion Award, Most Improved, and Academic Excellence. Pictured are: Back row (left to right): Kate Abbott, Kristi Michael, Darryl Sage, Andrew Kirt, Sean Yahn, Luke Tainter; Middle row: Lauren Roell, Nora Hyrkas, Kristen Koljonen, Molly Raab, Catherine Fisher; Seated: Laura Peterson, Jennifer Kelly, Melissa Skarda. Not pictured are Carmen Dunstan, CJ Fisher, Chase Gillespie, Sara Sleik and Shawn Wickersheim.

Women's Basketball: Freshmen Women Make Notable Impact

With six new faces on the twelve-player Finlandia women's basketball team, fifth-year head coach Steve Nordstrom knew the freshman would make a huge impact on the 2006-2007 schedule. Joining the roster this season were Jennette Katona (Negaunee, Mich.), Jillian Dolkey (Munising, Mich.), Molly Turner (Houghton, Mich.), Janna Daavettila (Brighton, Mich.), Ally Tincknell (Negaunee, Mich.) and Jodi Riutta (Stanton Township, Mich.).

Forwards Tinknell and Riutta were two team standouts this season. The women started in 20 and 21 games, respectively, out of 22 games played (as of Feb. 12). "As freshmen, Ally and Jodi made the most of their starting roles," states Nordstrom. "They both led the team on the court in several statistical categories."

Of their first 22 games, Tincknell and Riutta combined to post four team-high scores and 17 team-high rebounds. Individually, Tincknell led the team in rebounding with 8.2 per game and added 9.2 points per game. Overall, she shot .490 from the field (as of Feb. 12).

Riutta was the second leading scorer on the team, averaging 10.9 points per game. "She scored over 20 points on four occasions this season and had a Finlandia team high 26 points and 15 rebounds versus UW-LaCrosse on December 12," says Nordstrom. Riutta was also second in rebounding with 5.6 per game.

"Ally and Jodi contributed to an outstanding season on the basketball court," states Nordstrom. "The exciting part is that they were willing to learn and have determination to get better."

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Reflections on...

Alumni Pride

I wish a time machine like that used by the old funny paper character, Alley Oop, was a reality so that our forebears could travel forward in time and view the wonders wrought at Finlandia University. – *Charles Altonen ('58), Ashtabula, Ohio*

Finlandia is not without its heroes and in Robert Ubbelohde it has another. – *Richard Gross ('68), East Haven, Conn.*

Spiritual Life

Back in the early days, Bob was determined that Finlandia needed a chapel. He would often say, "What's a Lutheran school without a chapel?" Bob had a vision, stuck with it, and never lost faith or gave up hope. – *Sam Benedict, Rapid River, Mich., Board of Trustees*

The construction of the Chapel of St. Matthew is a significant witness to the university's relationship to the church and the mission of the school to proclaim and teach Christian values in a time when many students are bombarded by purely secular values. – *The Rev. Dr. Rudy Kemppainen, Ishpeming, Mich., Board of Trustees*

Economic and Community Development

Dr. Robert Ubbelohde's tenure as president of Finlandia University marks a period of great growth in the history of the century-old institution. His leadership has resulted in substantial change and improvement for the university and the surrounding community. – *Michigan Senator Carl Levin*

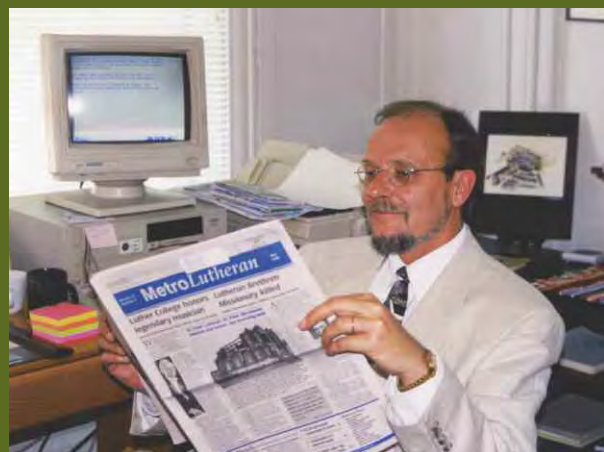
Bob Ubbelohde has been vital in making Finlandia University the successful institution it is today. Under Bob's tenure, I have seen Finlandia become an important institution of higher learning and a large contributor to the UP's work force and economy. – *Mike Lahti, Hancock, Mich., State Representative, Michigan's 110th District, Vice Chairman, Finlandia Board of Trustees*

We were overwhelmed by the number of responses to a request for comments regarding the tenure of retiring President Robert Ubbelohde and his wife Susan. Following are excerpts of remarks from a wide group of Finlandia University constituents. We offer our sincere thanks to all who responded. The quotes have been edited for length and clarity.



Left: Suomi alumnus Douglas Rossi ('96); Rev. Dr. H. George Anderson, then Presiding Bishop, ELCA; and President Ubbelohde break ground for the Chapel of St. Matthew, Aug. 4, 1996.

Right: President Ubbelohde is "caught" reading the Metro Lutheran.



As the Boss

Dr. Ubbelohde has the ability to recognize the talent of the people who surround him and utilize their talents to create a positive environment for the growth of the university. — *Dan Wisti, Hancock, Mich., Board of Trustees*

I will always remember Bob as being accessible and forthright. Bob's door was always open, and I never felt uncomfortable stopping by unexpectedly to ask a question or discuss an issue. And, there was never any ambiguity in the answer — I would have a 'yes' or a 'no' in three minutes flat. I appreciated that. — *Joanne MacInnes, Hancock, Mich., former Executive Director of the Lily I. Jutila Center for Global Design and Business*

Bob has been a big part of my working career—no doubt about this. I have learned so much from him and will always be grateful for the opportunities he has given me and many others. One of the most important and necessary messages he has always stressed is the need for all of us to believe in ourselves and in what Finlandia University has the potential to become. And look how far we have come! — *Kathleen Lakanen, Vice President for Advancement*

One of my first experiences with President Ubbelohde was when he was our academic dean. I went to him because in the past the spring play required the reading and approval of the dean and others. When I asked him to look it over he just looked at me and said, "It's your play to do—you don't need my approval to do your job." I appreciated that. — *Melvin Kangas, Associate Professor of Fine Arts*

Finnish Connections

Bob understands Finnish humor very well. When talking with him, I often forget that he is not Finnish. — *Eija Vähälä, Kuopio Academy of Design*

Bob brought the early history of Finnish emigration to North America back to Finland. Before he began his visits to Finland, this was something historical to which we didn't pay much attention. Bob appealed to our interest in our ancestors, told the story and got our attention. — *Jukka Valtasaari, Ambassador of Finland to the United States, retired, President's Council*

Finlandia University now enjoys much improved status in Finland. Previously, from the Finnish point of view, Suomi College was a nice stronghold of Finnish-American heritage, but it appeared as though its most remarkable days were in the past. Now the situation has totally changed. I would compare this progress to the image Finland herself has recently gained as a respected country in an international context. — *The Rev. Dr. Heikki Mäkeläinen, Tampere, Finland, Board of Trustees*

The mutuality of purpose and cooperation between Finlandia and Finland is not only a unique feature among the colleges and universities of the ELCA, it is a lifeline for new ideas and the sharing of materials and personnel. This mutual commitment better the lives of their respective constituencies. — *The Rev. Melvin Johnson, Woodbury, Minn., Board of Trustees*

From the start of his tenure as president, Bob identified the unique character of the college in its connection to its Finnish heritage. The story Bob himself tells of his initial trip to Finland says much about his inspired vision and determination for the college's success. While in Helsinki meeting with leaders and educators, he was taken aside and kindly warned that 'Suomi College was an embarrassment to Finland.' Twelve years later the President of Finland was the 2003 Finlandia University Commencement speaker — dramatic evidence of Bob's inspired leadership. — *Patricia Van Pelt, Eagle Harbor, Mich., Board of Trustees*



Left: The president welcomes Speaker of the Parliament of Finland, Paavo Lipponen, then Prime Minister, to the Copper Country.

Right: President Ubbelohde and Finland President Tarja Halonen at 2003 Commencement ceremonies.



As a German and non-Finn, Bob will be remembered for leading and maintaining a Finnish institution and its heritage. – *Roger A. Mattson ('57), Duluth, Minn., member and former vice president, Finnish Council in America*

The quality of today's Finlandia University increases its credibility in Finland. – *Dr. and Mrs. Sakari T. Jutila, Toledo, Ohio, Finnish Council in America*

Relationship Building and Networking

As a retired university advancement professional with a 22-year career, I have admired President Bob's energy, dedication, devotion and success. He is the hardest working, traveling president I have known. – *Ron Helman, Chassell, Mich., Executive Committee, Board of Trustees*

I have watched Bob patiently work through the college's many challenges. He met tirelessly with prospective donors, and presented the college's vision to leaders of the Finnish-American community, as well as to education and business leaders in Finland. However, a single visit is only the beginning. Securing donations and other support takes time, patience and determination. Patiently Bob came to the West Coast to visit and revisit every source of potential support. – *Paul Niskanen, Portland, Ore., Honorary Consul of Finland*

Robert and Susan Ubbelohde exemplify the ideal university president and first lady. Their friendly, generous and upbeat personalities, as well as their expertise in education and business, have given Finlandia University the impetus it needed to rise to the top of its class. – *Ray and Lois Lescelius, Elmhurst, Ill., Board of Trustees*

Remarkable and inspirational outreach is what I believe has been Dr. Ubbelohde's most significant contribution to Finlandia University. Through his trips to the West Coast and his inspiring commentary in mailings and *the Bridge*, he has made those of us of Finnish heritage feel in touch with the university. – *Ava Anttila, Los Angeles, Calif.*

Bob and Susan Ubbelohde were very big promoters of Finlandia. I was never embarrassed to say I was a trustee for Finlandia after they showed up. They made me proud to be affiliated with the school. Sure, we're one of the smallest schools in the ELCA, but Bob never seemed to know that. He promoted the school like it was about to be asked to join the Ivy League. – *Norm Berg, Wheaton, Ill., Board of Trustees*

The Legacy

I find that Bob will be best remembered for being a brilliant guy with a common touch who significantly upgraded Finlandia. – *John Leinonen, Northville, Mich., Board of Trustees*

When I joined Finlandia in the summer of 2004, I was given a heartfelt welcome by the local community. I soon discovered that this welcome had much to do with, the Ubbelohdes. People would consistently say, 'Oh, you're working with Bob and Susan Ubbelohde. Suomi—I mean Finlandia—has come so far under Bob's leadership.' We will all benefit from their legacy. – *Dr. Jeanne Rellahan, Provost*

We now look forward to the challenge of building on Bob's legacy. He will be a hard act to follow, but with the groundwork he has laid the future looks bright for Finlandia. – *Roger D. Westland, Ph.D., Luck, Wisc., Board of Trustees, emeritus*

Bob's and Susan's contributions to Finlandia leave a powerful legacy that Finlandia can only grow to appreciate more and more as time passes. – *Dr. Sylvia Fleishman ('58), Wakefield, Mich., President, International Alumni Board*

As I ponder what Bob has done for Suomi/Finlandia, the same word keeps popping up in my mind ... that word is *renaissance*. – *Edith Niederer, Honey Creek, Wisc., Board of Trustees*

I think Bob has done a great job developing Finlandia – together with all his staff – into a good and appealing school that offers a high level of education and a real alternative to bigger (and more expensive) universities. – *Henrik Työppönen, Helsinki, Finland, Finnish Council in America*



Left: President Ubbelohde, Paavo Lipponen and Sanford Mattila (aka Sisu the Clown) at the 2000 dedication of the Chapel of St. Matthew.

Right: Former food service staff member Lauren Ollanketo thanks President Ubbelohde at an annual employee luncheon.



Bob has shown outstanding leadership and vision, and sensitivity to the needs of the university. – *John Hamar, Chassell, Mich., Executive Committee, Board of Trustees*

Students and Academics

Bob's most significant contributions to Finlandia are his vision and integrity, integrity, integrity. I hope he will be remembered for developing a superior, hard-working and productive staff and faculty, as well as a highly energized student body well respected by employers in their fields. – *Kathryn Olson, Grand Rapids, Mich., Board of Trustees*

Bob literally and figuratively saved Finlandia from closing its doors. His belief that Finlandia could and should nurture students who might not ever consider higher education grew into a vision for Finlandia that has brought about profound change and positive progress. – *Pat and Oscar Boldt, Appleton, Wisc.*

In Bob's tenure I think the proof is in the pudding. That is to say that the student teachers in our building have worked very well. Finlandia's reputation, credibility and students have improved. The Elementary Education program degree track is broader and the right people have been hired to do the job. – *Paul Saarinen, Atlantic Mine, Mich., Principal, E. B. Holman School*

The students, their education, personal character and future are the driving force behind the 15 year tenure of Bob's presidency. Yet, much of their success in community involvement and academics are a direct result of Bob's leadership and motivation. – *Elizabeth Ann (Betty) Kilpela, Copper Harbor, Mich., Board of Trustees*

The Name Change

The first time I met Bob I asked, "What were you thinking changing the name of 'Suomi College' to 'Finlandia University?'" With predictable poise, he assured me that the 'Suomi' of Finlandia had not been forgotten. – *Marvin J. Suomi, Chair, President's Council*

A Lions Fan

I cherish the memory from Finn Fest in Marquette when, as we did not have enough tickets for all of us (my wife Cheryl, Susan, Bob and I) to attend a concert, we opted instead to go see Finlandia's team play hockey. We saw another Bob and Susan there who, as hockey lovers ourselves, we liked very much – people full of fire and enthusiasm and true team support. – *The Hon. Osmo Lipponen, Consulate General of Finland in New York, Board of Trustees*

An Administrator

Bob Ubbelohde has been vital in making Finlandia University the successful institution it is today. Under Bob's tenure, I have seen Finlandia become an important institution of higher learning and a large contributor to the UP's work force and economy. He recommended crucial actions and made sure they were carried out. – *Mike Lahti, Hancock, Mich., State Representative, Michigan's 110th District, Vice-Chairman, Board of Trustees*

Bob's letter in *the Bridge* has always been so logical, orderly and concise. It is no wonder that the university has grown under his direction. What I mean to say is, he thinks, plans, and does ...like a CEO. He could do anything with those attributes. – *Rikhard Laiho, Findlay, Ohio, Finnish Council in America*

Through his actions President Ubbelohde has shown that modern operating methods and contacts can also be used to preserve traditions. Developing Finlandia's activities also shows respect for the people who established and built Suomi College over the decades. – *Klaus Helberg, Helsinki, Finland, Member of Parliament of Finland*

I've spent my life in the business world and clearly the well-being of a company is directly linked to the strength of its leadership. Bob has proven the same is true of the academic environment. I believe his personal choice of academic specialty – philosophy – underlies the great personal impact his presidency has given Finlandia. – *Philip L. Wirtanen, Bergland, Mich., Vice Chair, Finnish Council in America*



Far left: President Ubbelohde congratulates Melissa Maki, 2005 Human Services graduate.

Left: The president takes a few minutes for reflection.

Right: President Ubbelohde and Coach Steve Nordstrom with the women's basketball 2005 USCAA National Basketball Championship trophy.



The Vision

I met Dr. Ubbelohde in 2002 soon after I moved to the Keweenaw to manage the SmartZone. When we first met I was greatly impressed by his global vision for what seemed a very small university. I later learned that Finlandia University is a small school that thinks big – as a result of Bob's leadership. Bob's positive attitude and enthusiasm is infectious. As I got to know him I developed a respect for his strong ethics and spiritualism, his genuine interest in students, and his willingness to think out of the box. – *Alan West, Executive in Residence, Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse, Pittsburgh, Penn.*

In the 1992 summer edition of *the Bridge* President Ubbelohde wrote, 'Suomi has two choices: it can prosper and remain a lively place for sound learning, or it can slowly fade away like so many other colleges have over the years.' He then invites readers to join him on an 'imaginary tour of the Suomi campus in the year 2000.' Dr. Ubbelohde has always said that part of his job was to look ahead, envision the future, and then help guide the institution to that future. His vision and guidance have had a significant impact on where we are today. – *Carol Bates, Dean, College of Professional Studies*

I've had great admiration for Bob, both personally and professionally. Perception, combined with vision and reality, enabled him to fill a much needed void in the world of education. – *Louise Osterman, Pasadena, Calif.*

I was a trustee on the Board of Trustees of Suomi College at the time we were seeking a new president. I believe it was a unanimous decision to call Robert Ubbelohde to serve as our new president. He has kept me well informed of the progress of our school – now Finlandia University – and I can see that the goals and dreams he had expressed to us all those years ago have come to fruition. – *Dr. W. Jean Drey, Indianapolis, Ind., Board of Trustees, emeritus*

We first met Bob and Susan in California just after he assumed the presidency of Finlandia. In due time, they came to our home, and we had an animated exchange. His vision seemed as implausible as it was arresting and inspiring. Perhaps one should not actually use the word "vision," as this implies aims that are touched by fancifulness and perilousness. As a matter of fact, Bob explained his plans with such clarity and with so calm an air of confidence as to make them seem almost inevitable. – *Roger and Karen (Hill) Reynolds, Del Mar, Calif., Finnish Council in America*

Sisu

One of the criteria I have always deemed first and foremost for any person in a leadership position is the degree of ownership they have in both the position they hold and the entity they represent. It is without any hesitation on my part to credit Robert Ubbelohde with a real and in-depth ownership of the life, mission and future of Finlandia University. – *The Rev. Melvin Johnson, Woodbury, Minn., Board of Trustees*

Bob will be remembered for his perseverance, his stick-to-it-iveness. He didn't give up on anything. The caliber and quality of the institution from 1990 to 2006 is as day is to night. – *Alexander (Sandy) McAfee, Pepper Pike, Ohio, Board of Trustees*

Portage Campus

The Portage Campus has been an unbelievable and wonderful addition to our campus. – *Dr. Arnold F. Sarya, Traverse City, Mich, Board of Trustees*

The acquisition of the Portage Campus has been an integral part of Finlandia's growth and progress. It not only provides expanded facilities for the university, but through its Center for Global Design and Business fosters entrepreneurial activity that challenges students in product design and business development. – *The Rev. Dr. Rudy Kemppainen, Ishpeming, Mich., Board of Trustees*



Left: Joanne MacInnes, Phil Musser, Alan West, Rich Brown and Glenn Mroz listen to President Ubbelohde's speech at the September 23, 2005, dedication of the Finlandia University Portage Campus.

Right; Japanese Recruitment Representative Hikaru Yamamoto accepts the Lion Award from President Ubbelohde.



Susan Ubbelohde

Susan has been a first lady *par excellence*. She has made it possible for Bob to devote 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to the university's welfare and development. Her management of and energy for North Winds Books has been noteworthy and exceptional beyond expectation. – *Ron Helman, Chassell, Mich., Board of Trustees*

Susan's place in all of what President Ubbelohde experienced cannot be minimized. Her support of him, her love for him, her own 'sense of ownership' were a source of hope and help that cannot be measured in a few words or even a few paragraphs. Her personal interest and drive on behalf of North Wind Books has become part of her own legacy at Finlandia. – *The Rev. Melvin Johnson, Woodbury, Minn., Board of Trustees*

Susan has left her mark through her warmth, approachability, and hospitality to hundreds of Finlandia supporters. Her commitments to North Winds Books and life-long learning are evident to all. – *Dr. Sylvia Fleishman ('58), Wakefield, Mich., President, International Alumni Board*

On the lighter side...

The Ubbelohdes consistently opened their home to receive the Finlandia Board of Trustees and their spouses and, despite unpredictable weather in the Upper Peninsula, the gatherings exuded a warmth of fellowship. With Susan at his side, Bob would often chide board members to share ribald jokes at their gatherings, but they rarely embarrassed themselves by their participation. – *The Rev. Dr. Dale Skogman, Gladstone, Mich., President, Board of Trustees*

During Bob's tenure as president, the Board of Trustees was significantly influential in convincing Bob of the desirability of developing a sense of humor. Fortunately, Susan came into her responsibilities as the first lady with a sense of humor sufficient to cover Bob's initial shortfall. – *Ken Seaton, Hancock, Mich., Treasurer, Board of Trustees*

The first time I met Bob and inquired about his Finnish background he made a point to tell me that he was in fact not Finnish at all; he was of German descent. Half Finnish and half German myself, we immediately began speaking of our love for sauerkraut, schnitzel and other German delicacies. When I asked him if he enjoyed the infamous U.P. pasty, he shook his head with a vehement no. This particular German didn't have a love for pasties, but instead fell in love with Suomi College. – *Reed Harris, Santa Monica, Calif., Finnish Council in America*

Bob and I were contemporaries during his first five years at the college. We traveled together in development tasks for a couple of years. I recall joint trips to NYC, to Finland, to Ohio, Arizona, etc. Once I was anxious for Bob to meet our promising number one giving prospect in Ohio, only to have her refuse to allow us in the house when we called. I was so embarrassed. (However, she bequeathed to Finlandia just under one million dollars.) I was embarrassed again in New York City in 1992. Turns out we were caught in a very severe traffic jam on the Brooklyn Bridge. I knew we shouldn't have indulged in those huge containers of coffee. We escaped being arrested, and Bob was so understanding and nice about it. Subsequently, he traveled most with his wife, Susan. – *The Rev. Les E. Niemi, AuTrain, Mich., Finnish Council in America*

I met Bob on one of his earliest trips to Florida as president of Finlandia. At that time I was the manager of the Finnish-American Rest Home in Lake Worth. We went out for dinner and when the waitress asked me what I would like to drink, not knowing Bob yet, said I'd like a Coke. Without hesitation, Bob ordered a martini. I immediately changed my mind and told the waitress I'd have the same. From then on, I knew we'd get along just fine. – *Rachel Hetico Hirvonen, Marquette, Mich., Executive Committee, Board of Trustees*



Left: Other duties as assigned ... Finland President Halonen finds the perfect place to sign an autograph.

Right: Susan and Bob Ubbelohde dance the polka at the 31st annual Spring Smorgasbord, a benefit dinner for the alumni scholarship fund, in 1995.





ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNI NOTES

Paul Salsini, '55

2230 E. Bradford Ave., Unit G
Milwaukee, WI 53211
psalsini@execpc.com

News: Hello. I am a 1955 graduate of Suomi College. (I received the 1981 Alumnus of the Year Award.) My first novel was published in November. "The Cielo: A Novel of Wartime Tuscany" is set in Tuscany during World War II. Please visit www.thecielobook.com for more information. I'm afraid I haven't been back to the Copper Country in a few years, but my brother and his wife still live in Hubbell. I have retired from *The Milwaukee Journal* but teach journalism courses at Marquette University.

ENGAGEMENTS

Sarah Junttila & Kevin Stevens

Sarah Junttila, daughter of John and Sharon Junttila of Calumet, Mich., and Kevin Stevens, son of Mike and Nancy Stevens of Lake Linden, Mich., announce their engagement. The bride-to-be is a 2002 graduate of Calumet High School. She will graduate in April 2007 from Finlandia University with a BA in elementary

education. The future groom is a 2000 graduate of Lake Linden-Hubbell High School. He graduated from Finlandia University in 2004 with a BBA and an associate degree in criminal justice. A May 2007 wedding is planned.

MARRIAGES

Amy Keskimaki & Dan Rautiola

Amy Sue Keskimaki and Dan Michael Rautiola were married November 11, 2006. The bride is the daughter of Paul and Susan Keskimaki of Houghton, Mich. She is a 2002 graduate of Houghton High School and a 2004 graduate of Finlandia University. Amy is employed as a physical therapist assistant (PTA) at Keweenaw Memorial Rehabilitation Center and is also a lab assistant in the PTA department at Finlandia. The groom is the son of Delmar and Ann Rautiola, Atlantic Mine, Mich. He is a 2002 graduate of Jeffers High School and a 2005 graduate of Michigan Technological University. Dan is pursuing a construction management degree at MTU.

Jennifer Miller & Tim Niedzwiecki

Jennifer Miller and Tim Niedzwiecki were married October 14, 2006, in Lake Linden, Mich. The bride is the

daughter of Norbert and Peggy Miller of Lake Linden. Jennifer will graduate in April 2007 from Finlandia University with a BBA degree. The groom is the son of Michael and Sue Niedzwiecki of Pinconning, Mich. He is a 2005 graduate of Michigan Technological University. Tim works at Pettibone, Baraga, Mich. The couple resides in Atlantic Mine, Mich.

Soren S. Schmidt & Rebekah Kae VanDuinen

Soren S. Schmidt and Rebekah Kae (VanDuinen) Schmidt were married August 26, 2006, in Crystal Falls, Mich. Originally from Escanaba, Mich., Soren is a 1994 graduate of Suomi College. He is the program director at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp. Rebekah, from Menominee, Mich., is a graduate of Central Michigan University. She works for Americorps. The couple resides in Crystal Falls.

Holly Johnson and Levi Peterson

Holly Johnson and Levi Peterson were married February 17, 2007, in Houghton, Mich. The bride is the daughter of Jerry and Edie Johnson of Atlantic Mine, Mich. Holly is a 2003 graduate of Jeffers High School and attended Finlandia University. She is employed in the Minneapolis area. The groom is the son of Aaron and

Reunion 2008

Attention all Suomi College and Finlandia University alumni. Mark your calendars! Make your travel plans! An all-alumni reunion will take place June 27-29, 2008. This is an excellent opportunity to reconnect with friends and classmates and see for yourself the exciting changes at Finlandia University. Weekend activities will include a welcome dinner with alumni recognition and awards, tours of campus and local sites of interest, a boat cruise, a barbecue, chapel services, a choir performance, alumni athletic events, and, of course, a pasty picnic. Your help is still needed to make this a huge success. If you have expertise to share, please contact Christina Armbruster ('00, '03), Finlandia director of donor and alumni relations, at 906-487-7205 or christina.armbruster@finlandia.edu.

ALUMNI NEWS

Lynda Peterson of Dassel, Minn. Levi is a 2002 graduate of Dassel-Cokato High School and a 2004 graduate of Ridgewater College, Wilmar, Minn. He is employed at B.A.E. Systems, Minneapolis.

Shanda L. Jacques & Erik J. Miller

Shanda Lynn Jacques and Erik Joseph Miller were married July 22, 2006, in Lake Linden, Mich. The bride is the daughter of David and Mary Jacques of Mohawk, Mich. She is a 2000 graduate of Calumet High School, and a 2006 graduate of Finlandia University with a BA in elementary education. She is employed by Americorps. The groom is the son of Norbert and Margaret Miller of Lake Linden. He is a 1999 graduate of Lake Linden-Hubbell High School, and a 2000 graduate of Gogebic Community College. He is employed by Joe Beveridge Construction of Bootjack, Mich. The couple resides in Lake Linden.

Diane L. Nye & Darcy D. Mills

Diane L. Nye and Darcy D. Mills were married October 7, 2006, in Dollar Bay, Mich. The bride is the daughter of Harry Nye and Evelyn Nye, both of Dollar Bay. Diane is a graduate of Dollar Bay High School and the Finlandia University nursing program ('87). She works at Keweenaw Nursing Home and Hospice. The groom is the son of Robert and Joyce Mills of Lake Linden, Mich. He is a graduate of Lake Linden-Hubbell High School and works for Peninsula Products. The couple resides in Dollar Bay.

OBITUARIES

F. Lucille Nadeau, 97, passed away November 18, 2006, in Ontonagon, Mich. She was born April 16, 1909, in Laurium, Mich., a daughter of the late Wallace and Cora (Pascoe) Nadeau. She graduated from Calumet High School in 1927. Lucille lived in Detroit, Mich., from 1942 to 1945.

Locally, she worked at the Cozy Garden, Laurium, and Suomi College until she retired in 1971.

Walfred M. "Wally" Kempainen, 91, of Bessemer, Mich., died November 30, 2006, in Ironwood, Mich. He was born December 14, 1914, in Mohawk, Mich., the son of the late Walter and Hilda (Sivula) Kempainen. He attended Hancock, Mich., and Ewen, Mich., schools, graduating from Ewen High School in 1932. Wally also attended Ripon College, and graduated from Suomi College. He was employed by several automobile dealerships until his retirement in 1973. He enjoyed Bible study and hunting partridge.

Helen Kathryn (Rautio) Daavettila, 89, of Hancock, Mich., died July 30, 2006, in Hancock. Helen was born October 13, 1916, in Fulton, Mich., to Hannah (Haavikko) and Ernest Rautio. She graduated from Suomi College in 1939. Helen worked for a local chapter of the American Red

ALUMNI FRIENDS

Finlandia Alumni Relations
c/o Christina Armbruster
601 Quincy Street
Hancock, MI 49930
alumnidirectory@finlandia.edu
www.finlandia.edu

SHARE YOUR NEWS

Did you bump into a classmate while on vacation?
Were you recently married? Do you know of the passing of an alumna/alumnus?
Are you continuing your education? Have you started your own business?

We'd like to hear about it! Please take a minute to fill out this simple form. If you care to elaborate, please do so via e-mail or snail mail.

Name: _____ Year graduated or attended: _____

Address: _____ Field of Study: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

News: _____

ALUMNI NEWS

Cross for 27 years. She retired on her 84th birthday in 2000. Helen enjoyed cross country skiing into her 80s, berry picking and taking saunas. Persons wishing to memorialize Helen are encouraged to donate to Finlandia University in her name.

Mrs. Judith E. Chard, 75, of Gaylord, Mich., died October 2, 2006, in Petoskey, Mich. She was born August 16, 1931, in Eagle River, Mich., and was raised in the Copper Country. Mrs. Chard graduated from Suomi College ('68) and Northern Michigan University. In December 1970, she married Lambert Chard. Mrs. Chard retired as a substitute teacher in the Gaylord area. She was a very intelligent woman who enjoyed painting and creating her own greeting cards. She will be fondly remembered for her big smile, her laugh and the sparkle in her eye.

Carl W. Harju, 73, of Calumet, Mich., passed away December 24, 2006, in Marquette, Mich. Carl was born April 26, 1933, in Kearsarge, Mich., a son of the late Swandi and Agnes (Pohjola) Harju. He graduated from Calumet High School in 1951 and attended Suomi College from 1953-1955. Carl served in the National Guard for four years followed by a career in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Lorraine Ruth Uitto Richards, 72, passed away November 26, 2006, in Hancock, Mich. She was born in Dodgeville, Mich., on May 30, 1934, to the late Werner S. and Ann (Zorich) Uitto. She attended the Isle

Royale School in Dodgeville and Houghton High School. An 18-year resident of Seattle, Wash., Lorraine returned to Dodgeville in 1971. In 1985, she graduated from Suomi College and became the archives assistant to Dr. Olaf Rankinen at the Finnish American Heritage Center. She enjoyed a rewarding career assisting researchers and receiving visitors, including the president of Finland. She retired in 2001. Lorraine was a co-founder of the Copper Range Historical Society, and helped to establish its museum in South Range, Mich. She was an accomplished artist and historian, and author of the book, "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Pasties."

Joyce Marie Nakkula, 70, of Houghton, Mich., passed away November 9, 2006, in Houghton. She was born in 1936 in Hancock, Mich., the daughter of the late John and Bessie (Waisanen) Nuranen. Joyce attended Hancock public schools. She and her late husband Arvid were longtime residents of Waasa Location, Hancock. Joyce worked as a housekeeper at Suomi College for many years. To her many friends and family, Joyce was an inspiration through her constant smiles, unique sense of humor, and positive attitude even in the face of life's most difficult challenges.

Rev. Rebecca Koivu, 53, of Calumet, Mich., passed away December 16, 2006, in Laurium, Mich. She was born October 1, 1953, at Selfridge

AFB, Mich., a daughter of the late Robert and Norma (Fisher) Koivu. She attended Hancock High School and, later, Michigan Technological University and Suomi College ('91). Rebecca was an accomplished artist. Most recently, she was a minister at the Copper Country Christian Fellowship in Calumet. Rebecca was always ready and willing to help people in all walks of life and felt great compassion for everyone she met. She enjoyed fishing, camping, gardening, canning and making preserves.

Patricia Lee Maata, 30, of Bruce Crossing, Mich., passed away November 13, 2006, in Minneapolis, Minn. She was born September 19, 1976, in L'Anse, Mich., a daughter of Leo and Marion Helppi. Patricia attended local schools, Finlandia University ('98), and Northern Michigan University. She loved to cook and, despite health problems, had a cheerful attitude.

Andre James Durocher, 28, of Freda, Mich., passed away December 8, 2006. Andre was born September 23, 1978, in Hancock, a son of Leo and Mary (Jadin) Durocher. He lived in the Freda area for most of his life. Andre graduated from Houghton High School, and attended Central Michigan University and Finlandia University ('01). He was employed by the Durocher Logging Company and the Superior View Restaurant. For many years he played hockey for several local teams. He also played baseball throughout his life.

Memorials & In Honor List

MEMORIALS - 9/1/06-11/30/06

Ilona Arntzen
Helen Rautio Daavettila
Janet Dickson
Dolores Sormunen Fennell
Martha Johnson Fischer
John A. Haapala
Jack Hill

Dr. Bernhard Hillila
Duane Jarva
Edward A. Kangas
Dr. Paul E. Karvonen
Eric Kettula
John & Tilda Koski
Martha Laine
Jalmar Lytinen

Bertha Mattila
Pastor Kenneth Merckz
Tauno Nurmi
Arvit Saari
Walfred Saari
Rev. Dr. James Savolainen
Jim Savolainen
Pearl Savolainen

Herbert Stierna
Anna Stool
Francis Tervonen
Riitta West

IN HONOR - 9/1/06-11/30/06

Marriage of Sharon & Hank Juntunen
Marion Stierna



The Rev. Dr. Bernhard “Bernie” Hillila Suomi College President, 1949-1952

The Rev. Dr. Bernhard “Bernie” Hillila, 87, of Valparaiso, Ind., died November 27, 2006, in Valparaiso. Hillila was president of Suomi College (Finlandia University)

and Theological Seminary from 1949 to 1952. He was also a Suomi College professor of practical theology and psychology and served on the college’s Board of Directors.

“President Hillila was quite instrumental in separating the seminary from the junior college and in moving the seminary from Hancock to the Maywood, Ill., campus of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago,” said long-time Finlandia University board member Rev. Dr. Rudolph Kemppainen. “He was a good president in my opinion.” Suomi Theological Seminary was among four seminaries that consolidated in 1962 to form the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

During Hillila’s presidency, “the Suomi Synod (Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) was in great transition as it moved toward the merge with the Lutheran Church in America,” Kemppainen continued. “Pastor Hillila was a key player in the merger negotiations. He was the vice president of the Synod, and served on the Consistory, a sort-of executive committee of the Synod that handled matters of the synod between conventions.” Hillila was vice president of the Suomi Synod and a member of the Consistory from 1955 to 1960.

Hillila was also a very capable educator. “One of the passions of his life was to increase the scholarship of the seminary and the effectiveness of the theological school in preparing pastors for the Lutheran church,” explained Kemppainen. “He was kind of a no-nonsense leader. He was concerned about improving the quality of education, both in the seminary and the junior college.”

In his work, “The Suomi Synod Ministerium 1876-1962,” Rev. Dr. Raymond Wargelin, Suomi College president from 1959 to 1960, writes of Rev. Hillila, “As a pastor of the Suomi Synod, Bernhard Hillila was a leader in the movement within the synod to identify ultimately with wider Lutheranism. While president of Suomi

College he increased the entrance requirements for entering seminarians of the Suomi Theological Seminary from the traditional junior college education to graduation from a recognized senior college. As a member of the [Suomi Synod] Consistory he supported affiliating Suomi Theological Seminary with a major Lutheran theological seminary in order that the students might benefit from the leadership of a multi-faculty. As a preacher his sermons were always learned and well-prepared, revealing the strong roots of traditional Finnish Lutheran theology, both of the “Large” as well the “Small” tradition. Hillila was a strong supporter of the merger of the Synod into the Lutheran Church in America.”

Hillila was born May 21, 1919, to the late Rev. Hugo and Hannah Hillila in Gwinn, Mich. On June 28, 1944, he married the former Esther Halttunen in New Castle, Penn. He is survived by his wife Esther, three children and three grandchildren. Esther is a 1941 graduate of Suomi College. She continued her education, completing both bachelor’s and master’s degrees, and taught American history for a time at Suomi College.

Rev. Hillila graduated from Ishpeming (Mich.) High School in 1936. He completed a B.A. at Boston University, a theological degree at Suomi Theological Seminary, an M.A. at Case-Western University and an Ed.D. at Columbia University/Union Seminary. Ordained in 1941, Hillila served as pastor in bilingual (English/Finnish) Lutheran congregations in Sudbury, Mass.; Fairport Harbor, Ohio; Brooklyn, New York; and Warren, Ohio.

Rev. Hillila also served as a dean of Hamma Divinity School in Springfield, Ohio; dean of faculty at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, Calif.; and professor of education at Valparaiso University.

A prolific writer in both English and Finnish, Hillila’s works include a history of the IN-KY Synod of the ELCA, two translations of Finnish devotional books by Olavi Kaukola, and three light-hearted books about the Finnish ethnic condition. A poet at heart, he authored three books of poetry, along with many other poems published in journals and anthologies in both English and Finnish. In 1996, Bernie was “Performer of the Year” for Finlandia Foundation, traveling coast to coast to give humorous presentations on Finnish-ness.

The family suggests memorials to the Hillila Scholarship Fund at Finlandia University.

CALENDAR

FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR 2007

UNIVERSITY EVENTS

MARCH

- 1st-24th Gallery Exhibit: David Niec: *Nocturnal Light* (Finlandia Gallery)
 8th Nordic Film: *Lupaus*, 6 p.m. (FAHC Theatre)
 9th-10th Spring Play: *An Evening with Gilbert and Sullivan*,
 7:30 p.m. (FAHC Theatre)
 11th Spring Play: *An Evening with Gilbert and Sullivan*,
 3 p.m. (FAHC Theatre)
 17th Nordic Film: *Lupaus*, 11 a.m. (FAHC Theatre)

APRIL

- 2nd-19th ISAD Juried Student Exhibition (Finlandia Gallery)
 3rd Opening Reception: ISAD Juried Student Exhibition,
 7 p.m. (Finlandia Gallery)
 12th Nordic Film: *Unna and Nuuk*, 6 p.m. (FAHC Theatre)
 13th Winter Sports Banquet (Finlandia Hall)
 14th Nordic Film: *Unna and Nuuk*, 11 a.m. (FAHC Theatre)
 20th Honors Banquet (Finlandia Hall)
 23rd-30th ISAD Diploma Works Exhibition (Finlandia Gallery)
 28th Opening Reception: ISAD Diploma Works Exhibition,
 7 p.m. (Finlandia Gallery)
 28th Baccalaureate Worship Service (FAHC Theatre)
 29th 110th Annual Commencement Exercises (Paavo Nurmi Center)

MAY

- 1st-29th ISAD Diploma Works Exhibition (Finlandia Gallery)
 8th Spring Sports Banquet (Finlandia Hall)
 10th Nordic Film: *Kitchen Stories*, 7 p.m. (FAHC Theatre)
 12th Nordic Film: *Kitchen Stories*, 11 a.m. (FAHC Theatre)
 17th Appreciation Dinner for President Robert and Mrs. Susan Ubbelohde
 (Paavo Nurmi Center)

ADVANCE

9th Annual Sibelius Academy Music Festival

- July 15 – Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wheaton, Ill.
 Call 906-487-7519 to reserve tickets
 July 18, 19, 20 – Calumet Theatre, Calumet, Mich.
 Call 906-337-2610 to reserve tickets

Elderhostel: A Finnish-American Experience

- July 7-15 – Session I, featuring the Sibelius Academy Music Festival
 July 29-Aug. 4 – Session II, featuring a Lake Superior Shoreline Excursion

For more information contact
 Ross Rinkinen, director of special events, at
 906-487-7314 or ross.rinkinen@finlandia.edu.

ATHLETIC EVENTS

MARCH

Women's Hockey

- 3rd-4th NCHA Playoffs

Men's Hockey

- 2nd-4th MCHA Championship*
 *Houghton County Arena, Hancock, MI

Nordic Skiing

- 7th-10th NCAA Championships*
 *Jackson, NH

Women's Softball

- 2nd-4th Finlandia Dome Tournament*
 8th-13th Spring Trip, Dallas, TX
 30th Concordia University (WI)
 31st Mount Mary College
 *Superior Dome, Marquette, MI

Men's Baseball

- 1st Viterbo University*
 15th New Jersey City College**

17th

Knox College**

19th

St. Lawrence University **

20th

Babson College**

21st

Kalamazoo College**

*HHH Metrodome, Minneapolis, MN

**Gene Cusic Classic, Ft. Meyers, FL

APRIL

Women's Softball

- 1st Lakeland College
 13th Crown College
 14th Bethany Lutheran College
 15th Martin Luther College
 20th Maranatha Baptist Bible College
 21st Cardinal Stritch University
 22nd Lawrence University
 27th-28th Trinity International University

Men's Baseball

- 1st St. Norbert College
 2nd Cardinal Stritch University

10th

Northland College

15th

Alma College

16th

Calvin College

18th

UW - Superior

20th

Maranatha Baptist Bible College

21st-22nd

University of Dallas

27th-28th

Trinity International University

MAY

Women's Softball

- 5th-6th D-III Independents Championship

Men's Baseball

- 1st Crown College
 2nd Martin Luther College
 3rd North Central University
 5th **Lakeland College***
 8th **Northland College**
 12th-13th DIII Independents Championship
 *Escanaba, MI
Home games in bold

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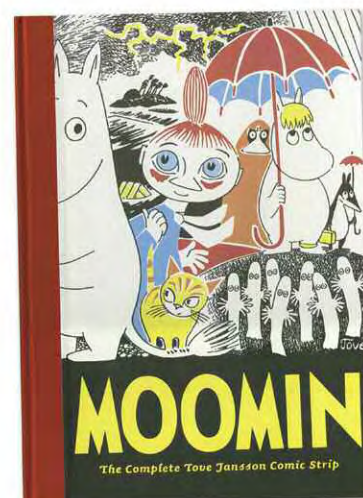
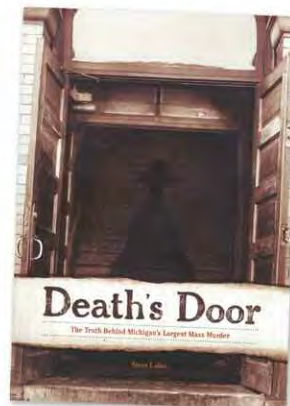
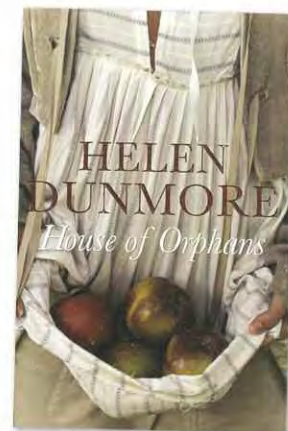
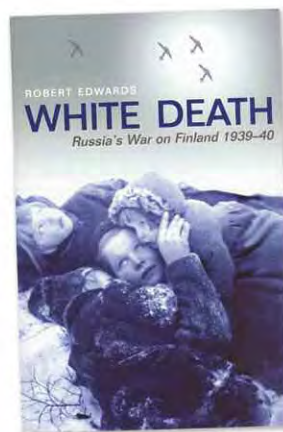
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