

## From the President

To the December graduates of MLC:  
**It's all about grace!**



*I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me, the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace. (Acts 20:24)*

This was a sermon of grace indeed. As a public servant of the gospel, you might think grace is evident in your lesson or devotion, in your sermon or in counseling. But what does grace look like in *you*?

Lord, for the sake of your Son, pour out the Spirit's omnipotence to change us. And you are dear graduates. You were changed not just by four years of studying and working and experiences. It was more than that. It was four years of gospel grace and the Spirit's work on your heart and soul, so that you go forth as instruments in word and deed of the profound grace of God in Christ.

And though life will bring some tearful goodbyes, you and I know the eternal reality. It's all about grace, the grace of God in Christ Jesus is your identity.

## MLC Earns High Rankings

Though tuition, room and board at Martin Luther College is rising every year—as it is rising at all colleges across the country—the net price our MLC students pay has risen very little. This is due to your generosity! Your gifts allow us to award need-based and merit-based grants and scholarships to our students – in addition to the financial

aid they receive from the government and other sources.

Because of your generosity, MLC has received national recognition again this year by several different organizations. Our Master of Science in Education earned Affordable College's #1 in America Best Value, and #3 in America for Most Affordable Online Master's Degree. Our undergraduate degree program was ranked in the top 1% – #3 in America – for 2018 Best Value by *College Factual*. And *MONEY* magazine ranked our undergrad program #1 in Minnesota as a Best College for Your Money. Thank you for helping MLC provide a high-quality education at an affordable price. Thank you for partnering with us as we prepare these young men and women to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.



## Daylight Provides Ministry Experiences

At MLC, experiential learning allows our students to take what they have learned in the college classroom and apply it in real-life settings. Some of that experiential learning occurs in the MLC Daylight program. The Daylight program matches future pastors, teachers, and staff ministers with WELS/ELS congregations who request help in reaching out to their communities. In groups of various sizes, MLC students assist with sports camps, vacation Bible school, neighborhood canvassing, and other outreach and worship activities. Starting this school year, MLC's goal is that every graduate will participate in a Daylight short-term mission during their time at MLC. "This experience gave me a taste of what the called servant's life is all about," said one MLC student. "I learned so much about the impact a teacher has on a child. Seeing their development was the most rewarding experience I could have asked for." To request MLC students to assist in your ministry, contact Campus Pastor John Boeder.

## Master Plan Study

MLC will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020. In preparation for that celebration, the MLC Strategic Plan directs our administration to update the Campus Master Plan.

That Master Plan will also be an element of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Capital Campaign set to be introduced in the summer of 2019. To establish a comprehensive analysis of our campus use, needs, and potential, representatives from Credo Higher Education Consultants have been conducting fact-finding workshops with MLC faculty, staff, and students.

That process will continue this semester with the investigating of space and place requirements, introducing scenarios to the campus family for feedback, and developing an action plan for implementation.

Watch for continuing updates on this process as we seek the best use of all our resources for the benefit of our students and our ministry.



## MLC Promotes Financial Literacy

In order to provide important financial information to students on campus, MLC has partnered with CashCourse – a non-profit organization that provides financial education courses. Students have different topics to complete online each year, and the application of these resources helps them to make better financial decisions. Last year over 300 students – in small groups or individual consultation – were served with important financial information through the work of MLC's Financial Literacy Coordinator, JoElyn Krohn.



Each year CashCourse tracks the schools that utilize these resources. Once again MLC has made the national top 10 list for web engagement and has also been granted the 2018 Reimbursement Program to help promote the CashCourse resources. This spring the financial literacy program will offer monthly drawings to encourage students to increase their financial literacy.

## Ladies' Auxiliary Funds Many Departments

MLC Ladies' Auxiliary funded an extensive number of requests from many MLC departments last year totaling over \$24,000. These projects funded non-budgeted needs, including outreach opportunities, international programs, classroom materials, technology needs, and audio-visual improvements. This year's projects include travel assistance for student teachers, a 3-D printer, a baseball pitching screen, instrument microphones, dinnerware for events, and many more - totaling about \$26,000 for all the projects. The Auxiliary is especially grateful for the generosity of our supporters as we start this project season. Already funded are nine projects with a value of almost \$14,000! Thank you! If you are interested in these worthwhile projects, or in donating toward the Ladies' Auxiliary annual Bingo Night scheduled for February 15, visit [mlc-wels.edu/ladies-auxiliary/projects](http://mlc-wels.edu/ladies-auxiliary/projects).

## MLC Day Planned for May 2, 2018

Save the date on your social media calendar for our annual MLC Day, Wednesday, May 2. With an emphasis on communication through social media, MLC Day will allow supporters, including many schools across the globe, to join in our activities. One of our most exciting developments during this annual event is seeing posts from pre-primary, elementary, and high schools holding their own MLC Days! We're excited to see that catch on! Watch for more information coming soon.

If you have questions related to this report or other matters related to our ministry at Martin Luther College, contact us at [mlcinfo@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:mlcinfo@mlc-wels.edu).

facebook.com/mlcwels  
twitter.com/connect2mlc  
vimeopro.com/martinluthercollege/promotional-videos  
instagram.com/martinluthercollege

