

# Report from Capital University Indiana-Kentucky Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**Rev. Dennis C. Asp, Director of Church Relations**

**June 5 – 7, 2008**

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## ***Celebrating our Heritage and Renewal***

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On Oct. 12, 2007, the Capital University community came together with pageantry and excitement reserved only for the inauguration of a new president.

A lifelong Lutheran, Dr. Denvy A. Bowman initially joined the “Cap Family” in 2003, following a national search for a new dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. In March 2006, he was chosen to be provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. Exactly one year later, Dr. Bowman was named the 15th president of Capital University.

The new president’s inaugural address was titled “Celebrating Our Heritage and Renewal.” While reflecting on the values and sense of community that Capital was founded upon, Dr. Bowman proposed that we now must “renew our sense of belonging and commitment ... renew our sense of purpose and determination. And most importantly, we renew our shared vision for the future.”

In addition to President Bowman’s inauguration, Capital University had some 3,850 other reasons to be proud in 2007 – the accomplishments of every one of our students, faculty and staff! Highlights included:

- Capital students traveled across town and around the world to serve others. Students collected coats for the homeless and touches of home for the troops. They helped rebuild New Orleans, provided friendship for the lonely, tutored inner city children, cleaned up the community, donated blood to the injured, collected food for the hungry and served on a mission team to care for the poor in Mexico.
- Jacqueline Bussie, assistant professor of religion, was awarded the Trinity Prize for her book “The Laughter of the Oppressed.” The Trinity Prize recognizes an emerging writer or scholar whose work offers new perspectives on biblical, cultural, ethical, theological or religious issues.
- Capital’s Law School faculty ranked sixth among peer institutions in a study of the scholarly productivity.
- A team of students from a senior level business policy and strategy class beat out 150 teams worldwide to win the spring Foundation Challenge hosted by Management Simulations Inc.
- WXCUC, Capital’s online campus radio station, was named best student run Internet-only station in the country by the College Music Journal.
- Nursing Professor Laurel Talabere received a prestigious Fulbright award – her second – as a senior specialist for faculty and curriculum development at the University of the West Indies School of Nursing.
- Law School alumni achieved an 89 percent first time passing rate on the July 2007 Ohio bar exam. This is a two per cent increase over the previous year and above the state average for first time takers.
- The ROTC program received national recognition for being in the top 15 percent of all ROTC programs in the nation. Additionally, Task Force Crusader was recognized as the Best Small Battalion and Most Improved Battalion within 7th Brigade’s footprint, which includes all of Ohio and Kentucky.
- The Class of 2011 (first year students in the 2007-08 academic year) was the second largest first year class in Capital’s history (631 first year students and 90 new transfer students).

- Six Capital coaches earned Ohio Athletic Conference “Coach of the Year” honors (football, women’s soccer, men’s basketball, women’s basketball, golf and baseball).

Yes, 2007 made us proud of our heritage and excited for Dr. Bowman’s promised renewal. I invite you to celebrate these accomplishments and many more by visiting our Web site at [www.capital.edu](http://www.capital.edu).

With the shared commitment of the ELCA to providing quality Christian higher education in the Lutheran tradition, Capital University has a strong future ahead of it. We are proud of our partnership with the Indiana-Kentucky Synod. As always, your prayers, your students and your financial support are deeply appreciated.

