



CONCORDIA
University College of Alberta

Presidential Inauguration

September 29, 2007

INAUGURATION

of

DR. GERALD S. KRISPIN

as

Seventh President

September 29, 2007



Dr. Gerald S. Krispin became Concordia's 7th President on July 1, 2007. He accepted the call to the presidency extended by the Board of Regents on April 13, 2007, following a search that began in the fall of 2006 after Dr. Richard Kraemer announced his plan to retire at the end of the 2006-2007 academic year.

Dr. Krispin was born in Germany in 1956 and emigrated with his family to Canada and the Bonnie Doon area in Edmonton, where he has lived since 1965. He attended local elementary and secondary schools and in 1981 graduated from the University of Alberta with a B.A. in Greek and Classics. Following an M.Div. from Lutheran Theological Seminary in Saskatoon in 1983, he entered the parish ministry as Associate Pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in Vernon, British Columbia. Encouragement from church leaders led him to pursue theological credentials that would position him for a teaching role in Lutheran Church-Canada institutions; he received the S.T.M. degree from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1987, followed by the Th.D. degree in 1992.

Dr. Krispin's career as a professor in the Religious Studies department at Concordia began in 1987. In addition to his classroom responsibilities, he has provided leadership as Chair of the Religious Studies Division, and as a member of the University Academic Council, the Graduate Policy Committee, the Academic Research Council, and the Faculty Personnel Committee. He has also served the wider community in various capacities.

Gerald Krispin is married to Helen (née Tabor); they have six children – Daniel, Benjamin, Rebecca, Elizabeth, Rachel, and Joanna.

ORDER OF PROCESSION

Crucifer

Concordia Faculty

Student Council

Delegates of Other Institutions

Board of Regents

Past Presidents

Convocation Officers

President

INAUGURAL CONVOCATION

Pre-convocation Music

Fanfare Wendy Grasdahl

Processional Hymn "Thy Strong Word"

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

From the cross Thy wisdom shining
Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!

God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

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National Anthem "O Canada"

O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all thy sons command,
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The true north, strong and free!
From far and wide, O Canada,
We stand on guard for thee.

God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee,
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

Invocation

Rev. Dr. Garry L. Dombrosky
Campus Chaplain

Welcome / Introduction of Speaker

Dr. Richard A. Willie
Vice-President Academic & Provost

Inaugural Address

**Educating for *Concordia*:
The Challenge of Faith-based Education**

Dr. J. Harry Fernhout
President, The King's University College, Edmonton
Chair, Private Accredited Post-secondary
Institutions Council

Choir Anthem *Our Soul Waits* (Schalk)

Greetings

Dr. Harry Fernhout, Association of Universities and
Colleges of Canada / PAPIC Institutions
Dr. Harald Tomesch, Lutheran Church-Canada Districts
Dr. Martin Zeuch, Lutheran Church Canada Institutions

Choir Anthem *Sing Praises* (Telfer)

Greetings

Dr. Donald Schweyer, Concordia Faculty
Scott Gamble, Concordia Students

Hymn "For the Splendor of Creation"

For the splendor of creation that draws us to inquire,
for the mysteries of knowledge to which our hearts aspire,
for the deep and subtle beauties which delight the eye and ear,
for the discipline of logic, the struggle to be clear,
for the unexplained remainder, the puzzling and the odd:
for the joy and pain of learning, we give you thanks, O God.

For the scholars past and present whose bounty we digest,
for the teachers who inspire us to summon forth our best,
for our rivals and companions, sometimes foolish,
sometimes wise
for the human web upholding this noble enterprise,
for the common life that binds us through days that soar or plod;
for this place and for these people, we give you thanks, O God.

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Holst, 1874-1934, public domain)

Inaugural Ceremony and Investiture

Mr. Alan Huehn, Chair
Concordia Board of Regents

Duet: Psalm 121 – *I Will Lift My Eyes to the Hills* (Mitchell)

Eva Bostrand and Dr. Joy Berg

President's Response

Dr. Gerald S. Krispin, President

Choir Anthem *Create in Me* (Freylinghausen)

Benediction

Dr. Garry Dombrosky

Recessional "Forth in the Name of Jesus"

Forth in the name of Jesus, forth to a world that waits;
With lifted cross before us we leave Thy temple's gates.
Thy Spirit calls us forward; Thy promise will not fail.
No foe however fearsome against Thee can prevail.

No easy task is left us, no burden lightly borne.
The Cross our pilgrim garment before the crown is worn.
Yet, with those ancient martyrs, whose blood the seed did sow,
Crowned with the Cross of Jesus we to the conflict go.

No merit makes us worthy God's Word of grace to speak.
Our foolish wisdom fails us; our own strength leaves us weak.
But in the wounds of Jesus we're washed as white as snow.
Our tongue the seraph touches and asks, "Now who will go?"

The harvest fields have ripened; the Bridegroom soon returns.
Earth's destined day is dawning; the waiting Father yearns.
From frozen northern wastelands to pleasant coastal sands,
We herald to the nations our Lord for ev'ry land.

Grant us Thy strength, O Father, fill us with love, O Son,
Bestir us, Holy Spirit, as Thee, may we be one
Till kindreds, tongues and nations around Thy throne shall stand
And without ceasing bless Thee, our Lord for ev'ry land.

(Text: Edwin Lehman, permission to use from text writer; Tune: *Lancashire*,
Henry Smart, 1836, public domain)

DELEGATES of OTHER INSTITUTIONS

- 1839 Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri
Dr. Wallace Becker, Director, Student Services
- 1843 Bishop's University, Sherbrooke, Quebec
Mr. Glyn Edwards, Alumnus
- 1874 St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota
Prof. Gordon Hafso, Alumnus
- 1877 University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba
Dr. Efa Etoroma, Alumnus
- 1941 Ambrose University College, Calgary, Alberta
Dr. George Durance, President
- 1964 Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario
Dr. Stewart Brown, Alumnus
- 1965 Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon, SK
Dr. Kevin Ogilvie, President
- 1968 Newman Theological College, Edmonton, Alberta
Michael Bryn Kulmatycki, President
- 1976 Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary,
St. Catharines, Ontario
Dr. Harald Tomesch, President
- 1979 The King's University College, Edmonton, AB
Dr. Harry Fernhout, President
- 1984 Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, Alberta
Dr. Manfred Zeuch, President
- 1986 St. Mary's University College, Calgary, Alberta
Dr. Terrence Downey, President

BOARD OF REGENTS

Susan Beiderwieden, Calgary, Alberta (Vice-Chair)
Rev. Carl Bogda, Taber, Alberta
Kathleen Defoe, Regina, Saskatchewan
Al Gerdung, Rumsey, Alberta
Scott Gamble, Edmonton, Alberta (Student Advisory)
Joel Haberstock, Vernon, British Columbia
Alan Huehn, Calgary, Alberta (Chair)
Cheryl Jurke, Lloydminster, Saskatchewan
Rev. Thomas Kruesel, Campbell River, BC
Rev. Roland Kubke, Stony Plain, Alberta (Secretary)
Cam McNeil, Kanata, Ontario
Dr. Martin Mueller, Gibbons, Alberta
Rev. Thomas Prachar, Regina, Saskatchewan
Rev. Donald Schiemann, Edmonton, Alberta
Edna Schutz, Regina, Saskatchewan
Dr. Donald Schweyer, Edmonton, Alberta
Gordon Toole, Winnipeg, Manitoba

PAST PRESIDENT

Rev. Dr. Richard W. Kraemer
Ardrossan, Alberta

Sixth President
1991 - 2007

MARSHALS

Dr. Deborah Hemmerling, Associate Professor, Biology/
Environmental Science
Dr. Neil Querengesser, Professor, English
Dr. Dorothy Steffler, Associate Professor, Psychology

MUSICIANS

Dr. Joy Berg, Assistant Professor of Music
Eva Bostrand, Sessional Instructor of Voice
Wendy Grasdahl, Trumpet
Dr. W. John Hooper III, Director, Concordia Concert Choir

CRUCIFER

Darren Dressler

BRIEF HISTORY OF CONCORDIA

Concordia's work in developing leaders for the church and society began in 1921, when the institution was founded to prepare young men for preaching and teaching ministries in the Lutheran church. In 1939, Concordia expanded to include women and to offer general courses of study and an accredited high school program. In 1967, Concordia began offering first-year university courses in affiliation with the University of Alberta.

Concordia became a degree-granting institution in 1987 and conferred the first undergraduate degrees upon the 1988 graduating class. Today, Concordia offers three- and four-year Bachelor of Arts degrees, three- and four-year Bachelor of Science degrees, a four-year Bachelor of Management, a Bachelor of Education (After Degree), a Bachelor of Environmental Health (After Degree), a Master of Information Systems Security Management, a Director of Parish Services program and colloquy programs for the church, as well as extensive professional and continuing education programs.

Throughout its history, Concordia has remained grounded in the belief that the Christian faith gives purpose to life and that success depends upon spiritual maturity. Concordia fosters a Christian lifestyle on campus and encourages a dual commitment to academic excellence and religious vitality.

An institution of Lutheran Church-Canada governed by an elected Board of Regents, Concordia has been shaped by the philosophy expressed in its motto: *Initium Sapientiae Timor Domini - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*

Dr. Gerald S. Krispin is Concordia's 7th president. His predecessors in the presidential office were Dr. Richard W. Kraemer (1991-2007), Dr. Orville C. Walz (1981-1990), Dr. Alfred R. Roth (1975-1979), Dr. Roland A. Frantz (1960-1974), Dr. Walter M. Wangerin (1955-1959), and Dr. Albert H. Schwermann, the founding president (1921-1954).