

Parent & Family Council Minutes
Thursday, November 3, 2011
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Oren Gateway, Room 100

Present: Director of the Office of Parent & Family Relations: Sally Daniels
Co-Presidents: Tim & Elaine Matyi
Co-Vice Presidents: Absent
Co-Secretaries: Debbie Connolly & Kerry Muerhoff

Guest Speakers: Sheila Anderson: Director of Academic Advising
Dianne Detloff: Admin. Asst. in Counseling & Health Promotion
Sonja Hagander: Associate College Pastor
Jeff Swenson: Athletic Director
Paul Terrio: Director of Student Financial Services
Dave Wold: Campus Pastor & Director of Ministries

Parents Present: Rick Swanson, Jan Swanson, Faye Vroman, Mark Frey,
Mona Walden-Frey, Carol Larson, Lois Ziolkowski,
Tim Matyi, Elaine Matyi, Kerry Muerhoff, Al Muerhoff,
Debbie Connolly, Dennis Connolly

We had another interesting “speed networking” opportunity with additional Augsburg administration. They explained what each of their departments did as they moved from one parent table to another.

A sampling of what we heard:

Sheila Anderson (Academic Advising): Reported that close to half of the incoming first year freshman class took advantage of the opportunity to meet with academic advising to learn how the spring registration process works. They are also now doing senior advising to make sure graduating seniors have met all requirements for college graduation. Eventually, Academic Advising will be located in the new Gage Center for Academic Enrichment on the second floor of Lindell Library.

Diane Detloff (Counseling & Health Promotion): The three primary reasons they see students are for depression, anxiety, and sleep problems. Each student has 10 free visits annually with one of the staff psychologists or social workers. Augsburg does not require students to carry health insurance, and has contracted with Smiley Clinic for basic health visits available to students for a \$5 copay per visit. Their office is also responsible for alcohol education and sanctioning. She mentioned a light box is available for student use on the 3rd floor of Lindell Library. Resources for stress management include mindfulness training, free yoga classes twice a week, and therapy dogs who visit on site.

Dave Wold / Sonja Hagander (CampusMinistry): Campus ministry events are usually posted on Inside Augsburg. The Buckner Family of Gospel Singers was an upcoming event. There are usually three non-course related opportunities during Spring Break, one of which is a ministry-sponsored trip to Mobile, Alabama from March 18-24, 2012 to help rebuild the Gulf Coast. The cost is \$300, including subsidized air fare, and is sponsored by Campus Ministry, Bonner Leaders Program, and Augsburg College Center for Faith & Learning. The trip can accommodate 30 – 40 students.

Jeffrey Swenson (Athletic Director): He stressed that academics are their #1 priority, as athletes are required to maintain a 3.25 overall GPA. There are 20 sports available to students at Augsburg. About 430 students are participating in sports this year, in addition to 564 participating in intramural sports. In 1991, Augsburg's wrestling team won the Division III National Championship. They proceeded to win 10 National Wrestling Championships overall. The Kennedy fitness center is open from 6:00 AM until 10:00 PM Monday – Friday, and from Noon until 6:00 PM on Saturday - Sunday. An individual fitness trainer is available to all students, not just the athletes. He mentioned a personal goal of having a recreation center with nine lane indoor track and wrap-around dormitories in place by 2024.

Paul Terrio (Student Financial Services): This year they moved to on-line statements and no longer produce the paper version. Students must give parental access, and parents can sign up to receive an e-mail notification that the statement is coming. Spring registration begins Nov. 14; there cannot be a balance outstanding on their account in excess of \$500, or registration will be blocked. A complete file including the FAFSA, tax return, and application is required, starting Jan. 1, to apply for student aid for the 2012 -20 13 school year. The priority deadline is Mar. 1 to learn of their award prior to leaving campus for the summer. The final deadline (for complete, non-discounted award amount) is May 1st. Hint: “like” Augsburg and Student Financial Services on Facebook to get most of the information Augsburg sends to students. Also new, the Stafford loan interest subsidy is no longer available for graduate students.

Sally noted the following upcoming events:

Strommen Speaker Series event on Thursday, Nov. 17 from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM featuring Augsburg alumnus Steve Wehrenbert (‘78), CEO of Campbell Mithun, speaking about ethical marketing.

Velkommen Jul (Welcome Christmas) on Friday, Dec. 2, from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM in the Christensen Center for a taste of Augsburg's Norwegian beginnings.

Advent Vespers on Dec. 2nd and 3rd, with Friday services at 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM, Saturday services at 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM, and 8:00 PM, at Central Lutheran Church in downtown Minneapolis. This event carries forth the great Lutheran college musical tradition, and is “Augsburg's gift to the Twin Cities” per Sally. There is no charge, but admission tickets are needed. Groups of 20 or more can obtain reserved seats at the Saturday 2:00 PM service only. **Ushers are needed for all services. Hosts are needed for the reception. Contact Sally if you'd like to help.**

Our next meeting is Thursday, February 23, 2012, with plans for further Augsburg “networking”!

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Connolly and Kerry Muerhoff, Co-Secretaries