Dear Augsburg Student,

Beginning in the 2013-14 academic year, new federal regulations will require Augsburg College to change how we schedule class meetings, record credits on your transcript, and plan the academic year. We are writing to tell you what will change and how the changes will affect you. We also want to assure you of the college’s commitment to support you through these changes.

**What will change?**
First, class meeting times will change to become more consistent across our different programs and offerings. Most classes will last a few minutes longer.

Second, all Augsburg programs will move to a semester-credit-based academic system. In the current system one Augsburg course = 1 Augsburg course credit, but in the new system courses will earn a variable number of semester credits (usually 3 or 4) instead of single course credits. The semester credit system is used by most other colleges.

Finally, the College will move to a single semester-based calendar beginning fall 2013, instead of offering both semester-based and trimester-based calendars.

**How will this change affect you?**

**Traditional Day:** Traditional day undergraduate students will see small changes to the current weekly class schedule. For example, class periods on Tuesday/Thursday will begin at 7:50 a.m. rather than 8 a.m., and evening classes will begin at 6 p.m. Most classes scheduled for Monday, Wednesday, and Friday that currently meet one hour will be scheduled for 70 minutes; Tuesday-Thursday classes that currently meet for 90 minutes will meet for 100 minutes.

For financial aid purposes, you will be able to maintain full-time status by enrolling in a minimum of 12 semester credits (three courses) and half-time status with 6-11 semester credits (two or three courses). ‘Banded’ tuition will be in effect for full-time students with between 12-18 semester credits.

After summer 2013, the courses listed in the course catalog, the registration system, and your transcript will carry the appropriate number of semester credits instead of a single Augsburg credit each.

**Adult Undergrad/Minneapolis and Rochester:** Adult undergraduate students in Minneapolis and Rochester will see some changes in the language of the academic calendar. Beginning in the fall of 2013 we will have a fall semester, a spring semester, and two summer terms instead of fall, winter, and spring trimesters. To be clear, transitioning from trimesters to semesters will not affect the number of courses you can enroll in throughout the year. It will mean that the winter trimester
period will become *spring semester*, and spring *trimester* will in many cases become the *first summer session*.

Depending upon your program, you should see greater opportunities for enrolling in *hybrid courses*, a combination of face-to-face class sessions with online/experiential learning, and/or courses of varying lengths (5, 7, or 8 weeks).

For financial aid purposes, full time status will be a minimum of 12 semester credits and half-time status 6-11 semester credits.

After summer 2013, all courses in the course catalog, on the registration system, and on your transcript will reflect semester-based credits instead of 1 Augsburg credit.

**Graduate programs currently on the trimester system in Minneapolis and Rochester:** Graduate students currently on a trimester schedule will see changes to the terms used to describe the academic calendar. Beginning in the fall of 2013, we will have a fall semester, a spring semester, and two summer terms instead of fall/winter/spring trimesters. To be clear, transitioning from trimesters to semesters will not affect the number of courses you have the opportunity to enroll in throughout the year. It will only mean that the winter trimester period will become *spring semester*, and spring trimester will in many cases become the *first summer session*.

Depending upon your program, you will see greater opportunities for enrolling in *hybrid courses*, a combination of face-to-face class sessions and online/experiential learning, and/or courses of varying lengths (5, 7, or 8 weeks).

For financial aid purposes, full time status will be a minimum of 6 semester credits and half-time status 3-5 semester credits.

After summer 2013, all courses in the course catalog, on the registration system, and on your transcript will reflect semester-based credits instead of 1 Augsburg credit.

**Graduate programs currently on the semester system in Minneapolis and Rochester:** Graduate students currently on a semester schedule may see slight modifications to the daily class schedule. Depending upon your program, you may see greater opportunities for enrolling in *hybrid courses*, which combine face-to-face sessions with online/experiential learning, and/or courses of varying lengths (5, 7, or 8 weeks).

For financial aid purposes, full-time status will be a minimum of 6 semester credits (usually two courses) and half-time status 3-5 semester credits. After the conversion in summer 2013, the courses listed in the course catalog, on the registration system, and on your transcript will reflect semester-based credits instead of 1 Augsburg credit.
How will you be supported through this change?
Beginning in January 2013, the College will host a series of student information sessions designed to answer your questions and prepare you for registration for the 2013-2014 academic year. Expect to see announcements regarding these information sessions beginning in mid-December.

For now, please be assured that while these changes to the schedule will require some adjustments, the College will seek to keep these as minimal as possible, believing this is the best way to assist you in completing your degree.

Please check the College’s website at http://inside.augsburg.edu/creditcalendar/ for FAQs and updates as they become available.