



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

January 16, 2007

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Good morning. This year marks the 20th anniversary of Augsburg's first graduate program, the Master of Arts in Leadership. MAL is a wonderful example of a program advancing our mission. In MAL's "advancing the mission" paper (www.augsburg.edu/president), MAL director Norma Noonan wrote: "With its roots in the liberal arts and its commitment to developing and nurturing leaders for the community and world, the MAL programs stands firmly at the heart of the mission of Augsburg College." The leadership model it uses, its cross-disciplinary nature, and the quality of classroom teaching and learning, clearly make it one of our distinctive programs.

A 20th anniversary celebration will be held on Jan. 27, with guest speaker Ryan LaHurd, former dean of Augsburg. He, along with Rick Thoni and Tom Morgan, were key figures in MAL's development.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Welcome, students!

I am pleased to welcome all students—both new and returning—back to classes. In the undergraduate day program, we have 105 new and 1,568 returning students for spring semester. In Weekend College, we have 160 new and 626 returning students in Minneapolis and 29 new and 236 returning students in Rochester, all beginning their winter trimester.

Kennedy Center for Sports and Recreation

The Kennedy Center for Sports and Recreation has opened for classes and HPE staff and coaches have moved into their new offices, even while the finishing touches are being put in place. The campus community is invited to an open house in the Kennedy Center on Wednesday, Feb. 7, from 1–3 p.m.

United Way campaign totals

I am very pleased to report the totals I received from Sally Daniels for our United Way and Community Solutions fund drive.

This year we raised \$22,033—an increase of 288% from last year's total (\$7,640)! My heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed, and to the United Way campaign leaders: Sally Daniels, Mark Tranvik, Terry Martin, Shannon Luckert, Sandy Tilton, and student ambassador Cody Warren.

KUDOS

A special thanks to everyone on the Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation planning committee for yesterday's 19th annual convocation—Trena Bolden Fields, Mohamed Sallam, Sadie Curtis, Mary Laurel True, Alice Kloker, Amanda Storm, Richard Webb,

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Brenda Hemmingsen, Kasidy Moore, Carrie Carroll, and Will O'Berry. Also, thanks go to the Office of Public Safety for assistance with parking. Special thanks also for the projects created responding to Martin Luther King's World House essay: [Tara Sweeney](#) and her art students for the works hanging in the Student Art Gallery and the Arnold Atrium, and to [Mary Laurel True](#) for organizing the three campus discussions around themes of poverty, racism, and militarism.

Thank you also to [Randall Davidson](#) for his vision for the Christmas trees that brought light and holiday cheer to our Quad during December, despite the absence of snow.

Congratulations to [Jeff Swenson and the Auggie wrestlers](#) who won the Division III NWCA National Dual Championships this weekend, defeating Wartburg in the title match, 22-10.

NOTABLE EVENTS

Tuesday, Jan. 16
[Classes begin for spring semester](#)

Friday, Jan. 19–Saturday, Jan. 20
[Board of Regents meetings on campus](#)

DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS THIS WEEK:

Tues., Jan. 16—[President Paul Pribbenow](#)
Wed., Jan. 17—[Intro. to the new hymnal](#)
Thurs., Jan. 18—[Pastor Sonja Hagander](#)
Fri., Jan. 19—[Bishop Huck Usgaard, Southeastern Minnesota Synod, Augsburg regent](#)

Sports schedule—www.augsburg.edu/athletics/schedules/winter0607.html.

Have a great week!