



# PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

January 22, 2007

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**Good morning.** Over the weekend we hosted the winter meeting of the Augsburg Board of Regents, meeting for the first time in the Kennedy Center. What a wonderful new space for our college community. Assistant dean and wrestling coach Jeff Swenson offered the regents a great tour of the new facility. Very impressive!

## BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING

Four initiatives were the primary discussions items for the Board of Regents meetings:

- Recommendations for [tuition/room and board fees for 2007-08](#)—News of the final recommendations will be shared in the next couple of weeks.
- [Capital improvements](#)—At the beginning of 2006, following a facilities audit, the Board of Regents committed to allocate \$900,000 over three years in addition to annual operating funds to complete a schedule of the highest priority capital needs.
- For 2006-07, a new roof for Memorial Hall, the installation of the new field dome, and the repair of the Urness balcony have been completed. Over the spring and summer 2007, the Christensen Center elevator will be replaced.
- During summer 2007, the FY '08 projects will include roof work on Urness, Mortensen, Melby, and Christensen; the elevators in Urness will be upgraded; and the Melby fire alarm system will also be upgraded.
- Summer 2008 projects, for FY '09, include new roofs on Murphy, Music, and Christensen; elevator modernization in Mortensen; and mechanical work in Melby and the Ice Arena.
- [Five-year enrollment plan](#)—the board also discussed an initial draft of a Five-Year Enrollment Plan for the College, which was prepared and presented by Julie Olson, vice president for enrollment management. The enrollment plan will be the focus of many community conversations in the next few months.
- [Dashboard of Indicators](#)—The board considered the draft of an Institutional Dashboard that includes various indicators to track our well-being as we move forward. Examples of the indicators include student retention and graduation rates, alumni giving, student-faculty ratios, and many others. Another important aspect of the dashboard is defining a new peer group of colleges and universities similar to us in make-up of student populations, urban location, financial model, etc., with whom we can compare ourselves more accurately. We appreciate the assistance of several faculty and staff members in determining this new peer comparison group.

## CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### AQIP site visit

Please mark your calendars for the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) [Checkup Visit to be held February 7-9](#). The AQIP reviewers from the Higher Learning Commission are Lynn Onken (San Juan College, New Mexico) and Warren Roby (John Brown University, Arkansas). We will kick off the Quality Checkup during the First Wednesday Community Lunch on February 7 from noon-1 p.m., with a short program at 12:40.

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The [AQIP Quality Checkup](#) is a very important event for the College. This formative review will prepare the College for the final stage of the seven-year accreditation cycle, the Reaffirmation of Accreditation. The AQIP reviewers would like to speak with faculty and staff from across the institution. They will affirm the accuracy of the College's Systems Portfolio, review organizational actions and processes that demonstrate Augsburg's commitment to quality initiatives, and conduct a federal compliance review.

I invite you to review Augsburg's AQIP webpage at [www.augsburg.edu/aqip/](http://www.augsburg.edu/aqip/) to learn more about AQIP and Augsburg's participation in this relatively new process through which a college can maintain its accredited status with the Higher Learning Commission.

Thank you in advance for participating in the AQIP Quality Checkup. We have a great story to share with the AQIP reviewers!

## ASAC All-Nighter

ASAC's annual All-Nighter is back—on Friday, Jan. 26, from 10 p.m.–3 a.m.—and I plan to join the students during the evening. I'd love to see many of you there as well! The [theme this year is "Carnival,"](#) complete with free midway games, prizes, food, drinks, henna tattoos, sumo suits, caricatures, and fortune tellers. The grandstand will feature performances by ventriloquist Lynn Trefzger and a cappella group Marcoux Corner.

## Two Commencements

Once again, I'd like to remind you about the change to two separate Commencement ceremonies this year—May 5 for day and physician assistant students (following spring semester) and June 24 for weekend, United, Rochester, and the other grad programs (following spring trimester).

The commencement speaker on May 5 will be Eboo Patel, from Interfaith Youth Core in Chicago, and on June 24 our speaker will be Rev. Martin E. Marty. At the May commencement, honorary degrees will be conferred upon Augsburg president emeriti Charles Anderson and William Frame. In June, Martin Marty will receive an honorary degree.

The Honors Convocation this year will be on April 20, at the end of the annual Zyzzogeton events.

## KUDOS

Kudos to [Larry Handsuch](#) in the Department of Public Safety for the massive project he led to change all the exterior door keys and many interior ones, following the loss of a high-level key ring. Implementing the back-up key system for such an emergency, he changed all the locks, redesigned the key system, and reissued keys—all with the help of other public safety officers and student dispatchers, and all in a very short time period.

My thanks to [Laura Soler](#), Barnes & Noble bookstore manager, for her efficiency and seamless process of ordering books for faculty each term.

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Congratulations and welcome back to those who traveled on [Augsburg short-term international programs](#) in January:

- The Sights and Sounds of Europe (England, France, Germany), led by Roberta Kagin and “Gabe” Gabrielsen
- Vocation and Christian Faith (in El Salvador), led by Bev Stratton
- Guatemala: Indigenous Issues, led by Elise Marubbio

## NOTABLE EVENTS

January 26

[ASAC All-Nighter](#)

10 p.m.-3 a.m.—Christensen Center

January 27

[MAL 20th anniversary celebration](#)

5-7 p.m.—Foss Center

January 30

[Community Time with President Pribbenow](#)

3:30 p.m.—East Commons

January 30

[2006-07 Convocation Series](#)

[Cindy Sheehan, “One Person Can Make a Difference”](#)

11 a.m.—Hoversten Chapel

## DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS THIS WEEK:

Tues., Jan. 23—Introduction to new hymn book

Wed., Jan. 24—Vocatio Chapel, Sven Sundgaard, KARE 11-TV meteorologist

Thurs., Jan. 25—Jeanette Clark, senior speaker

Fri., Jan. 26—ELCA “Mercy Seat”

Mon., Jan. 29—Mary Lowe, Religion Dept., “Galatians”

Tues., Jan. 30—Convocation Series, Cindy Sheehan

**Sports schedule**—[www.augsburg.edu/athletics/schedules/winter0607.html](http://www.augsburg.edu/athletics/schedules/winter0607.html).

Have a great week!