



# PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

November 27, 2006

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**Good morning!** Welcome back from your gatherings with family and friends over this Thanksgiving weekend. We will hardly have time this week to take a breath before diving right into the Advent season, with Velkommen Jul on Friday and Advent Vespers on Friday and Saturday. These services, which often attract 10,000 people, are an enormous undertaking, with many of us involved in music ensembles and choirs, and in the liturgical party. The **27th annual Advent Vespers**, “Inscribe Our Hearts,” is a wonderful showcase for the gifts and talents of our music program and campus ministries program. On Friday evening, we also host the annual Advent Vespers dinner for donors—our largest donor event, which we will hold on campus this year.

Also, don't forget that the 25th Advent Vespers (2004) will be broadcast again this year on public television—go to [www.augsburg.edu/vespers/](http://www.augsburg.edu/vespers/) for the schedule.

On Friday, our annual **Velkommen Jul** also brings many alumni, families, and friends to campus (sporting their Norwegian sweaters) for this long-standing Augsburg holiday tradition. At 10:15, the chapel service features the familiar Nordic Christmas songs and Augsburg's annual visit from St. Nicholas. Following the service, the Augsburg Associates host the wonderful celebration of Scandinavian foods, music, and gifts. We are grateful to them for this unique celebration each year—please take time to visit Christensen Center and greet the Associates and other visitors between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

## CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### The air structure is up

You've probably noticed our new air structure that went up during the week, but you may not realize what a busy place it is all winter. **On weekdays**, classes are held some mornings, and the facility is open to faculty, staff, and students between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. for walking, running, etc., as well as for alumni to practice golf between noon and 1 p.m. Augsburg and other athletic teams practice in the dome during afternoons. **Weekday evenings** host outside sporting events and leagues, such as soccer, golf, lacrosse, and football. **On weekends**, outside groups rent the space during the day, and Augsburg intramural sports take over at night. **During the holiday break**, a number of softball and baseball clinics are held, as well as soccer tournaments. Each December, the Health and Physical Education Dept. hosts the **Sports Extravaganza**, inviting local children with disabilities to play games and have fun with Augsburg students. When spring comes, **softball home games** are held in the dome.

### New staff sabbatical program

I am very pleased to announce that the President's Cabinet has approved a staff sabbatical program, allowing staff to apply for up to three months of focused work and/or research away from campus, with continuing salary and benefits. Staff must have worked at Augsburg for seven years continuously at least three-quarters time to qualify and must

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submit a proposal to their supervisors for review. Final approval is granted by the President's Cabinet. The staff person must return to Augsburg and work at least one year following the sabbatical. You will hear more about this program from Human Resources—I encourage staff to take advantage of this new program.

## KUDOS

**Kudos to Nancy Steblay**, Psychology Department, for another peer-reviewed publication—"Memory Distortion in Eyewitnesses: A Meta-Analysis of the Post-Identification Feedback Effect," in the November issue of *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, co-authored by Amy Douglass (Bates College) and Nancy Steblay.

**Kudos also to Beth Alexander and Dawn Ludwig**, Physician Assistant Studies, for a comparison of teaching models, "Theory vs. Application Via Cooperative Learning," in *The Journal of Physician Assistant Education* (2006, Vol. 17, No. 3)

## NOTABLE EVENTS THIS WEEK

December 1

**Velkommen Jul Chapel**

10:15 a.m.—Hoversten Chapel

**Velkommen Jul celebration**

11 a.m.–1 p.m.—Christensen Center

December 1–2

**Advent Vespers services**

5 and 8 p.m., each night—Central Lutheran Church

December 4

**Student Chamber Music Recital**

7 p.m.—Sateren Auditorium

## DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS THIS WEEK:

Tues., Nov. 28—Mary Lowe, Religion Dept.

Wed., Nov. 29—Lori Brandt Hale, Religion Dept.

Thurs., Nov. 30—"Spirituality in the Arts," Dean Seal, Religion Dept.

Fri., Dec. 1—Velkommen Jul Chapel

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

Have a great week!