



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

January 7, 2008

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Good morning. This week brings most faculty and staff back to work after time off during the Christmas break, as the campus prepares to welcome students for classes next week. Orientation will take place tomorrow for new students in the weekend and graduate programs, and new and transfer day students will attend "Transformation" on Friday.

This week Congressman Keith Ellison, Frankie Shackelford, Jeremy Wells, and Lois Quam are in Norway, learning about Norwegian culture and Norwegian leadership in areas of peace negotiation, environmental policy, and healthcare issues.

Next Monday, Jan. 14, from 4-5 p.m. in Hoversten Chapel, in follow up to the trip, Ellison will hold a community presentation on issues studied during the week, and faculty, staff, students, and guests are encouraged to attend. He will also be at a luncheon and meet with two classes on campus that day.

The **Augsburg Symphony Orchestra**, on tour in Florida, performs tomorrow evening in Ft. Myers Beach and Thursday evening in Naples. It's a great opportunity for alumni who live in these areas to stay connected with the College, and for our 50 student musicians to share their music. Tomorrow's concert is at 4 p.m. in Times Square, Ft. Myers Beach, and on Thursday in Naples at 7 p.m. at Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church.

The **women's hockey team** is traveling in Italy this week, competing against local club teams. Follow their trip with diaries submitted by coaches and student-athletes at www.augsburg.edu/athletics/whockey/2008europe/index.html.

Our thoughts have been with junior **Bethany Hellerich**, who has been studying in Nairobi, Kenya, on a program sponsored by the University of Minnesota. A front-page article in the *Star Tribune* on Saturday reported on e-mail messages from her about the violence and rioting occurring throughout Nairobi, including the neighborhood where she is staying.

She has decided to return back to Augsburg for spring semester because the university has not yet made a decision about whether the program will continue when spring semester begins at the end of January. There is also question about whether she'd be able to carry out her internship at a large medical center as planned.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

"Navigating College"

Augsburg College is one of seven institutions in the state participating in **Navigating College, an initiative of Minnesota Campus Compact that aims to improve access to higher education and retention of students from underserved populations such as first-generation, low income and students of color.** This initiative was launched last summer with a conference on the impact of mentoring and coaching on student success.

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Augsburg's project is to develop a process for reaching out to each of our enrolled students and to document those contacts. Student service staff will connect with students at least once each term to identify their challenges and to provide additional support as needed. The project will also include enhancements to the student information system so that results can be tracked.

ACTC Student Affairs workshop

On Thursday, Augsburg will host the 2008 ACTC Student Affairs professional development workshop, which has been a collaboration of the five ACTC colleges for more than 20 years. This year's topic, "Critical Thinking: How We Are Role Models for Students," will be presented by Stephen Brookfield. This event bring together 150 student affairs professionals from the ACTC colleges and other area colleges and universities.

KUDOS

Congratulations and kudos to **Dave Conrad**, assistant director of the MBA program in Rochester, for a successful launch last Thursday of a series of innovative learning events in Rochester, "Connecting with the Community." The event, "Leadership: Challenges and Lessons Learned," held at Bethel Lutheran Church attracted more than 60 alumni, current students, and members of the community. Speakers included Lori Peterson, director of Augsburg for Adults; Barbara Porter, administrator for Academic and Student Affairs at the Mayo Medical School; Gus A. Chafoulis, a local business person and developer; and Jeff Korsmo, chief administrative officer for Mayo Clinic Rochester.

Kudos also to **Meagen Swartz** and **Chris Stedman**, who have been interning at *The Bridge* and wrote a story for publication last week about Augsburg's Center for Service, Work, and Learning. *The Bridge* is the neighborhood paper serving several neighborhoods in south Minneapolis along the Mississippi River.

NOTABLE EVENTS

January 8

New student orientation, Augsburg for Adults, 4 p.m.

January 10

ACTC Student Affairs workshop, "Critical Thinking: How We Are Role Models for Students," presented by Stephen Brookfield.

January 11

Transformation, new and transfer student orientation, day program

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NOTABLE EVENTS (continued)

January 11-13

Weekend undergraduate and graduate programs in leadership, education, nursing, and social work begin classes winter trimester.

January 14

Spring semester classes begin in the day program.

DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS

M,W,F-10:20 a.m.; T-Th-11:20 a.m.; Wed-9:09 p.m., Communion; Sat (when weekend classes meet)-7 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 12—Chapel service at 7 a.m.

Weekday chapel services resume on January 14.

Sports schedule— www.augsburg.edu/athletics/schedules/winter0708.html

Have a great week!