



# PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

January 21, 2008

Page 1

**Good morning.** I've just returned from Phoenix (a good decision on the coldest weekend of the year!), where **several members of the Augsburg faculty and I attended the annual meeting of the Western Mission Network of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).** The meeting involves ELCA-related organizations in the western half of the U.S. whose missions include theological education. We were joined by representatives of seven other ELCA colleges, Luther and Pacific Lutheran seminaries, various synodical education programs, and related organizations for two days of consultations on ways we can strengthen our partnerships around theological education for the church. I continue to be impressed by our church's deep commitment to education.

On Friday and Saturday, **our Board of Regents comes together for its winter meeting. The board's primary strategic discussion will provide them an opportunity to explore the vision for Augsburg's new signature academic building, the Center for Science, Business, and Religion,** which will house natural sciences, psychology, mathematics, religion and business departments, as well as interdisciplinary programs that help prepare students as effective citizens. We will be joined by architects from Holabird & Root who will provide a preview of plans for the new building.

**A second board initiative for this winter meeting includes new opportunities for board members to meet and spend time with students.** At Friday's luncheon, students will enjoy "Table Talk" with the regents; later on Friday regents will have a chance to meet and talk with student-athletes at dinner prior to attending either the wrestling match against Wartburg College or the men's hockey game against St. John's University.

## CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation today

**This afternoon at 1 p.m. we gather for the 20th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation.** Our speaker is Ekwueme Michael Thelwell, professor of African-American Studies at the University of Massachusetts, who will speak on "Visions of a Just Society: Dr. King's Legacy." I hope you plan to attend this important commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and legacy.

## KUDOS

Congratulations to all **students who earned places on the Dean's List for day fall semester and weekend/evening trimester**—a total of 632 day students and 337 weekend/evening students. Full-time students who have at least a 3.5 grade point average qualify for the Dean's List. Special kudos to the 55% of Residence Life student staff and 44% of the student orientation leaders/coordinators who earned Dean's List honors.

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January 21, 2008  
Page 2

## NOTABLE EVENTS

**January 21**

**2007-08 Convocation Series—20th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation**

“Visions of a Just Society: Dr. King’s Legacy,” Ekwueme Michael Thelwell, University of Massachusetts

1 p.m., Hoversten Chapel

## 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)—7:30 a.m.

**Mon., Jan. 21**—Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation, 1 p.m.

**Tues., Jan. 22**—Justin Dittrich, intern pastor, Luther Seminary

**Wed., Jan. 23**—Vocatio Chapel, Alan Padgett, professor systematic theology, Luther Seminary

**Thurs., Jan. 24**—Joanna Flaten, senior speaker

**Fri., Jan. 25**—President Paul Pribbenow, followed by community time with the Board of Regents

**Sat., Jan. 26**—Justin Dittrich, intern pastor, Luther Seminary, 7:30 a.m.

**Mon., Jan. 28**—Chuck Lindquist, director, World Mission Prayer League

**Sports schedule**— <http://www.augsburg.edu/athletics/schedules/winter0708.html>

Have a great week!