



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

February 18, 2008

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Good morning. Happy President's Day! Today I write from the 95th annual meeting of the Lutheran college presidents and spouses, where I always enjoy being with colleagues from around the country. It serves as another reminder of the strong links we have to our sister institutions and the proud tradition of Lutheran higher education of which we are a part.

This week also brings reminders of how our common work together is always focused on students, whether by reaching into the community to connect and engage students, by helping prospective students decide if Augsburg is the best place for them, or by offering our current students everything we can to prepare them for responsible global citizenship.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, Music Department chair **Bob Stacke and Augsburg's jazz ensemble will participate in WITNESS, an annual program sponsored by VocalEssence, that partners with nearly 50 area schools** to present music from the African-American tradition. This year, WITNESS explores the work and influence of Duke Ellington in two concerts that bring school kids to the Ordway Center for Performing Arts.

Bob Stacke is directing a High School All Star Jazz Band, which will be joined by the Augsburg Jazz Ensemble. It's a wonderful example of community partnership, with Minneapolis high school band members gaining great experience and Augsburg jazz students serving as mentors. A community concert at Hopkins High School Sunday afternoon, Feb. 24, at 4 p.m. will repeat the Ordway program, organized like an old-time radio show. For more information, go to <http://www.vocalescence.org>. Both Randall Davidson (fine arts manager) and I serve on the VocalEssence board, and we are excited about programs and partnerships like this that engage youth in the community.

Next weekend, Friday evening and Saturday, Augsburg hosts Scholarship Weekend, when prospective students come to campus to interview for honor scholarships and audition for fine arts scholarships. This year 120 students are competing for President's Scholarships—an Augsburg record number!—and 76 students for the Fine Arts Scholarships (which includes 27 students vying for both). I hope you will welcome these future Auggies and their parents and help them learn about our campus.

For the third year, **the financial aid office is sponsoring "dollar/sense,"** a series of eight sessions to educate students about financial literacy and encourage responsible money choices. I encourage students to take advantage of these informal, fun sessions Monday-Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m., this week and next week. Check the calendar and digital screens for the schedule of topics; if you have questions, e-mail Cody Warren at warrenc@augsborg.edu.

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CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

President's Higher Education Honor Roll for Community Service

For the second year in a row, **Augsburg was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction.** This Honor Roll recognizes institutions of higher education that support innovative, effective, and exemplary community service programs. It considers the scope and innovation of service projects, the percentage of student who participate, and the extent to which service-learning courses are offered.

Of the 528 colleges named, Augsburg was among 127 that were specially honored "with distinction." In addition, nine colleges received special awards for extraordinary service and special achievement.

The Honor Roll is sponsored jointly by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA Freedom Corps, Campus Compact, and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

Ask head coach Tim Brewster on KAUG

Minnesota Gophers **football head coach Tim Brewster will take part in an interview on KAUG on the Dave Kelly Show**, Tuesday, Feb. 26, from 9–10 p.m. KAUG welcomes anyone to visit the KAUG studio to talk with the coach. If you have any questions, contact David Kelly at kelly1@augsborg.edu.

KUDOS

Many thanks to **Adam Nelson, president of the Augsburg History Society, and faculty adviser Michael Lansing**, for their work on this year's Carl Chrislock Memorial Lecture about history of the Upper Midwest. Annette Atkins, professor of history at St. John's University, presented "The State We're In: Thinking about Ourselves in Place and Time," which explored how the teaching and study of state history has changed toward a much broader look at how "average people" live and shape their values.

Many thanks also to those who planned the first Augsburg for Adults convocation that featured Dr. Ned Hallowell. Thanks to the Center for Counseling and Health Promotion and CLASS Office for funding, and to **Nancy Guilbeault and committee members Dianne Detloff, Lori Peterson, and Jessica Fox-Wilson**; and to **Lori Peterson and Rosemary Link** for their participation in the programs.

Kudos to senior **Joshua Harris** for the informational sheets on people and topics that he prepared, printed, and distributed to help celebrate Black History Month.

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Congratulations to new student senate members: first-year students **Robert Spalding, Maxwell Cody, and Samuel Smith.**

Correction—Last week's note about staff participation in College Goal Sunday at the Brian Coyle Community Center incorrectly identified Jennifer Oliver. Our apologies to her.

NOTABLE EVENTS

February 19, 20, 24

"WITNESS: The Duke Ellington Effect," with Augsburg Jazz Ensemble working with VocalEssence

Feb. 19-20, Ordway Center for Performing Arts

Feb. 24, 4 p.m., Hopkins High School

February 22-23

Scholarship Weekend, including "Brushin' Up on Beats," live painting show by Inkproof with music, 8 p.m., TV Studio, Foss Center

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.

Tues., Feb. 19—Black history chapel, Rev. Kelly and Babette Chatman

Wed., Feb. 20—Vocatio Chapel, Ruth E. Johnson, MD '74

Thurs., Feb. 21—Focus on Lutheran camps

Fri., Feb. 22—Black history chapel, Babette Chatman

Mon., Feb. 25—Hans Wiersma, Religion Dept.

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

Have a great week!