



# PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

April 7, 2008

Page 1

**Good morning.** It was a great weekend on campus as we celebrated our annual Scholarship Donor Brunch, which brings together the alumni and friends of the college who support scholarship funds along with the students who receive them. More than 400 people gathered on Sunday afternoon to celebrate the important contributions of our scholarship donors. Among the highlights of the event was recognition of 16 new endowed scholarships established in the past year, including two new Presidential Scholarships funded by E. Milton Kleven and his family. We give thanks for the generosity of our hundreds of scholarship donors. We also celebrate the continuing achievements of Augsburg students whose education has been made possible through scholarship support!

## CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### Welcome to educators from Russia

Today we welcome to Augsburg **Dr. Michail Ioffe, rector, and Dr. Larissa Kartashova, deputy rector, of the Sinerghia Finance and Economic Institute, in Moscow.** During this week on campus they are meeting with Augsburg faculty and administration to explore opportunities for cooperation between the two institutions regarding faculty exchanges and an Augsburg MBA initiative in Moscow.

### Augsburg's Urban Debate Program Expands

**The Minnesota Urban Debate League (MNUDL), an Augsburg program housed within the Communication Studies Department and led by Professor Bob Groven, has added new schools and sponsors,** and now attracts annual grants and donations totaling around \$100,000 per year to the College. The MNUDL sponsors six high school programs and three junior high school debate programs in Minneapolis and St. Paul, and serves several hundred students, teachers, and coaches. The MNUDL is an important partner in Augsburg's work in the city.

Debaters from several Urban Debate League schools have enjoyed recent success in regional and national tournaments. Top debaters from St. Paul Central qualified for a national debate tournament. Minneapolis South's top MNUDL debaters advanced to the semifinal round at a tournament in Atlanta that attracted teams from 14 cities across the country.

## KUDOS

**Many congratulations to Ashley Stoffers and Erin Olsen, who have been awarded Fulbright teaching assistantships for 2008-09.**

Ashley Stoffers, a senior biology major with a chemistry minor, will spend a year in Korea, teaching at a secondary school and living in a Korean homestay.

## PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

April 7, 2008  
Page 2

Erin Olsen, a senior international relations major, received a teaching assistantship to travel to Venezuela.

**Congratulations to the recipients of the 2008 Distinguished Contributions to Teaching and Learning Awards**, given by the Center for Teaching and Learning and the Office of the Dean. The recipients are: Ann Lutterman-Aguilar for program leadership in Augsburg's Center for Global Education site in Cuernavaca, Mexico; Ken Erickson, Department of Physics, for mentoring and advising; and Lars Christiansen, Department of Sociology, for teaching.

**Congratulations also to staff who were recognized on Thursday for length of service and outstanding contributions in their work.** Employees were recognized for milestones of 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of service at Augsburg College.

Six staff employees, one from each division, were recognized with **Outstanding Employee of the Year** awards for their contributions that exemplify the mission statement of the College and consistently provide exceptional service to others and/or make innovative and outstanding contributions. The recipients are: **Sheila Anderson**, Academic Advising; **Brenda Hemmingsen**, Undergraduate Day Admissions; **Dennis Revier**, Custodial Services; **Jim West**, Information Technology; **Kevin Healy**, Advancement Services; and **Dianne Detloff**, Center for Counseling and Health Promotion.

## NOTABLE EVENTS

**April 7**

**Spring trimester classes begin on the Rochester Campus**

**April 8-9**

**Sneak Preview, incoming students visit campus**

3-8 p.m., Christensen Center

**April 11-13**

**Spring trimester classes begin for WEC, MAE, MAL, MAN, and MSW**

**April 11-20**

***Top Girls*, by Caryl Churchill, directed by Darcey Engen**

April 11, 12, 17, 18, 19 at 7 p.m.; April 13 and 20 at 2 p.m.

Tjornhom-Nelson Theater

**April 13**

**Spring Honors Banquet**

6 p.m., East Commons

# PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

April 7, 2008  
Page 3

## April 14–15

**2007-08 Convocation Series, Sverdrup Visiting Scientist Lecture, Steve Squyres, Cornell University**

April 14—"Roving Mars: Spirit, Opportunity, and the Exploration of the Red Planet," 7:30 p.m., Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center

April 15—"Exploration of the Solar System: Past, Present, and Future," 11 a.m., Hoversten Chapel, 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)–7:40 a.m.

**Tues., April 8**—Genia Voitsekhovskaya, senior speaker

**Wed., April 9**—Vocatio Chapel, "Science as Vocation," Fardin Oliaei, environmental scientist, formerly with Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

**Wed. eve**—Babette Chatman

**Thurs., April 10**—Kari Aanestad, senior speaker

**Fri., April 11**—Spring break mission trip reflections

**Saturday, April 12 WEC Chapel**—Ray Makeever, campus ministry associate

**Mon., April 14**—Garry Hesser, Metro-Urban Studies

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

Have a great week!