



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

May 5, 2008
Page 1

Good morning. On Saturday, we celebrated May Commencement with 392 Day College students and 26 physician assistant master's degree students, together with their families and friends. Professor Jack Weatherford's engaging talk challenged us to consider Augsburg's cultural identity as continually evolving and shaped by the ideas and identities of everyone who becomes part of it. I had the pleasure of conferring an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree to Professor Weatherford.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Augsburg Board of Regents spring meeting

At their spring meeting on Friday, the Augsburg Board of Regents pursued a full agenda. Among the highlights of the meeting were:

- Report on an updated campus master plan, to be completed in early fall 2008;
- Review and approval of the College's operating budget for 2008-09;
- Election of new officers for the board, including Mike Good '71 as the new chairman; Dean Kopperud as vice-chairman; Dan Anderson '65 as treasurer; and Jodi Harpstead as secretary. The board also said good-bye to regents Gary Benson, Ron Nelson, and Ted Grindal, whose terms ended after 12 years of distinguished service.
- Presentation of plans for the new Center for Science, Business, and Religion; and,
- Presentation of campaign plans to help fund the new center and other important college priorities.

I am extremely grateful to the Augsburg regents for their engagement and commitment to the well-being of our college. It is a pleasure to serve with them on Augsburg's behalf.

Studying options for child care

A group of faculty and staff has begun a serious study of child care options for our students, faculty, and staff in the neighborhood. With my full support, they are seeking expressions of interest to explore options, offer ideas, and/or show support for this exploration. Contact either Jessica Nathanson, at x1528 or nathanso@augsborg.edu, or Sandra Hokanson, at x1783 or hokanson@augsborg.edu, with your interests or ideas.

Auggies leave for travels near and far

Yesterday, the Augsburg Choir left on a 10-day tour through the Midwest to the Mid-Atlantic coast. They will sing in Illinois, Ohio, North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. We wish the choir safe travels and a great time sharing their music and spirit!

Today, the first of our faculty-led short term courses begins as Professor Kathy Swanson (English) leaves with a group of students for Thailand for two weeks to study education and culture. On Saturday, Professors Bob Cowgill (English) and Jacqui deVries (History) lead a

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

May 5, 2008
Page 2

group to Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic to study the World War II era through history, film, and literature. Additional faculty-led courses will depart in July. We wish safe travels to all participating in these courses.

Hot Topics series

The Faculty Senate and Center for Teaching and Learning are presenting a series of sessions on “hot topic” issues of interest to both faculty and staff. Watch for A-mail announcements or go to www.augsburg.edu/ctl for further information.

May 7, noon, and May 8, 2 p.m.—“Enrollment and Retention,” Julie Olson (OGC 100)
May 14, noon—“Augsburg for Adults,” Rosemary Link (OGC 100)
May 15, noon—“Healthcare Benefits HSA,” Sandra Hokanson (OGC 100)
May 16, 1 p.m.—“Where are We Headed?,” Paul Pribbenow (OGC 100)
May 19, 3:30 p.m.—“Campus Climate and Student Needs,” Ann Garvey (Minneapolis Room)
May 22, 3:30 p.m.—“The Horizon in Institutional Advancement,” Jeremy Wells (Minneapolis Room)

WEC elections coming

From May 15–19, Weekend College will hold elections for its Student Senate and elected positions. This is a great opportunity for WEC students to become more engaged in campus life and represent their interests in decision-making and activities of the College.

Weekly update schedule

This is the last weekly issue for this academic year. Through spring trimester and our June Commencement, watch for Weekly Updates every two weeks—on May 19, June 2, June 16, and June 30. After that the Update will be in hiatus throughout the summer.

KUDOS

Congratulations to **Beth Florence**, this year’s recipient of the Marina Christensen Justice Award. During her time at Augsburg, she has demonstrated the caring and service to others in the community found at the core of Augsburg’s mission.

Many thanks **to everyone who helped to make the May Commencement a memorable event** for our graduates and their families, including Events Services, Sodexo Food Service, Public Safety, Campus Ministry, Augsburg Choir and Gospel Praise, and all the faculty and staff who participated in this festive weekend.

Congratulations to **Professors Karen Sutherland and Ken Erickson**, who were approved as Augsburg faculty emeriti by the Board of Regents as they retire this year. We are grateful for your commitment to student learning and your many years of service to Augsburg.

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

May 5, 2008
Page 3

Congratulations to **Professor Ngong Tiong Tan** (Social Work) and **robert k. tom** (Art), who were granted tenure; to **Kathryn Schwalbe** (Business Administration), who was promoted to rank of professor; and to **Tracy Bibelnieks** (Mathematics), **Darcey Engen** (Theatre Arts), and **Lynn Lindow** (Education), who were granted tenure and promoted to associate professor.

Kudos to the **women's softball team**, who played in the MIAC playoffs this weekend. It was the team's first appearance in MIAC playoffs, which were initiated five years ago, and it's the first time the team has played in the postseason since 1984. On Saturday, Augsburg lost to St. Thomas, 8-0, and won over Gustavus, 7-6. Yesterday the Auggies' season came to an end, however, as they fell to Hamline, 5-0.

Congratulations to the Lilly Scholars of 2007-08: **Kari Aanestad, Joanna Flaten, Michael Gyura, Kristen Hoyles, Katie Kaiser, Ben Kimball, Christina Quick, Joe Skogmo, Emily Tischer**, and **Cody Warren**. Four students will attend seminary (all with full scholarships), two will go on to law school, one is entering the Lutheran Volunteer Corps, one will work in congregational youth ministry, one will go to graduate school in social work, and one has decided his calling for the present time is to be a full-time father.

Kudos to Professors **Tracy Bibelnieks** and **Matthew Haines**, Mathematics, who presented a workshop, "On Elementary Education Mathematics Courses," at the joint meetings of the Minnesota Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (MinnMATYC) and Minnesota Council of Teachers of Mathematics (MCTM) in Duluth. Kudos also to Professors **Jody Sorensen, John Zobitz**, and **Su Dorée**, who attended the spring meeting of the North Central Section of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) at the College of St. Benedict in April.

Kudos to the **space physics group** for their paper, "Temporal and Spatial Characteristics of Pc 1 Waves Observed by ST5," that has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Geophysical Research*. Among the coauthors are M.J. Engebretson, Augsburg alum J. L. Posch, and seniors Ashley Westerman and Nate Otto.

NOTABLE EVENTS

May 4-14

Augsburg Choir tour through Midwest and Mid-Atlantic states

May 15-19

WEC Student Senate elections

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

May 5, 2008
Page 4

DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS

Chapel services Monday through Friday will resume in September; WEC chapel (when weekend classes meet) is at 7:40 a.m.

Sat., May 10—WEC Chapel, Ray Makeever

Sat., May 17—WEC Chapel, Ray Makeever

For Augsburg athletic news, scores, and schedules: www.augsburg.edu/athletics/

Have a great two weeks!