



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

October 8, 2007

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Good morning. Homecoming Week has arrived, and the “Auggie Adventure” is beginning. **It’s a joy to welcome our alumni and friends back to campus** during the week; please greet them and help them explore the campus.

Homecoming is a chance for alumni to renew and strengthen the connections they have to their alma mater. It also gives us a chance, as a campus community, to showcase what makes us truly distinctive.

Even more important, alumni at Homecoming have opportunities to connect with current students, our future alumni. They are at the center of our work, and many wonderful stories develop from relationships that grow between alumni and current students. Lots of activities this week will bring them together.

Each year we honor alumni and friends who have distinguished themselves in their lives and careers. This year at the Homecoming Convocation on Friday we honor:

- Distinguished Alumni Awards—James L. Pederson ’56 and Dr. Bruce Amundson ’60
- First Decade Award—Jasmina Besirevic-Regan ’97
- Spirit of Augsburg Award—Professor Emerita of Nursing Beverly Nilsson

On Thursday Augsburg alumni athletes will be inducted into the Augsburg Athletic Hall of Fame: Mike Berry ’86, Fred Breitling ’87, Jeff Dahl ’74, Bruce Johnson ’68, Rebekah Ormsby ’97, Jeff Stoks ’82, Janel Schmidt Wahlin ’92, Steve Yeazle ’81, and the 1957 undefeated women’s basketball team (inducted as a team).

On Saturday, Auggie spirit will soar as our football team—fresh from this past week’s stunning, come-from-behind win at Wartburg—takes on St. Thomas on our home field in front of fellow students, alumni, parents, and friends, as well as a number of Tommies, I suspect.

On Friday we look forward to a special, dual celebration—successful completion of our \$55 million campaign, *Access to Excellence: The Campaign for Augsburg College*, and the dedication of the Oren Gateway Center. The celebration begins in Hoversten Chapel at 2 p.m., and continues in Oren Center, followed by a reception at 3 p.m. and a neighborhood and community celebration from 4–6 p.m. Faculty and staff were an important part of the success of Access to Excellence, and I look forward to celebrating these milestones together as a campus community.

There are many other events scheduled during the week, some marking anniversaries and annual celebrations. For the full schedule of Homecoming Week, go to <http://smaug.augsburg.edu/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?&pid=324&srcid=257>.

I hope to see you during the week at these events... and don’t forget to wear your Auggie gear. Go Auggies!

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CAMPUS INITIATIVES

Disability Awareness Month

Congress has designated each October as **National Disability Employment Awareness Month**, and in recognition of that, the CLASS Office and Access Center are offering opportunities for faculty and staff to learn more about issues related to disability services. Since 1971, Augsburg has been committed to ensuring that our campus and curriculum are accessible to students with differing abilities, and as a result, there are about 400 currently-enrolled Augsburg students who have contacted CLASS or Access about services for a disability.

This month, CLASS and the Access Center are hosting several events:

- Friday, Oct. 19, 3–5 p.m. in Lindell Library 301—CLASS is leading a Friday faculty/staff forum about college students with Asperger Syndrome.
- Wednesday, Oct. 24—CLASS and Access are inviting high school seniors to visit campus to hear from current students what it's like to be a student with a disability at Augsburg.
- Tuesday, Oct. 30—CLASS and Access are hosting an ice cream social in the Groves Lab, Foss 17A, for faculty and staff to see adaptive technology in action.

The CLASS office is also sponsoring a poster contest to promote awareness of disabilities on campus in a positive and collegial format, including a slogan or phrase to best convey understanding and acceptance for each individual's unique contributions. The deadline is October 26. For information, see the October 3 A-mail, or e-mail Rebecca Lund at lundr@augsborg.edu.

KUDOS

Congratulations to the **new senators in the Day Student Senate**, who were elected to fill the four first-year positions and empty seats in other classes. The students elected are: Adam Nelson, senior class; Travis Skoog, junior class; and Mai Yer Vang (class president), Juventino Meza, Ali Fitzpatrick, and Bri Linde, first-year representatives.

Congratulations also to **Jacqueline deVries**, history, for her recently-published book, *Living Faith: Stories from the First 150 Years of Westminster Presbyterian Church*. Co-authored with Cheri Register, this book places Westminster within the wider contexts of regional and transnational religious history. During the past year, she also made presentations at the annual meetings of the American Historical Association and the North American Conference on British Studies, and published reviews in *Victorian Studies* and the *Journal of British Studies*.

NOTABLE EVENTS

October 8–13

Homecoming 2007—"Auggie Adventure" highlights

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For complete schedule:

<http://smaug.augsburg.edu/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?&pid=257&srcid=186>

October 8

Student Kick-Off—Coronation and Pep Rally

7:30 p.m., Melby Hall

October 9

“Destination Wellness”—Annual Counseling and Health Promotion Fair

11:30 a.m.–2 p.m., Quad

ASAC Homecoming Variety Show

7 p.m., Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center

October 11

Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet

5:30–8:30 p.m., East Commons, Christensen Center

October 12

1957 Reunion Celebration

9 a.m., Arnold Atrium, Foss Center

Homecoming Convocation

10–11 a.m., Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center

Homecoming Luncheon

12:30–2 p.m., East Commons, Christensen Center

Campaign Celebration and Dedication of Oren Gateway Center

2 p.m., Celebration program and Dedication, Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center and
Oren Gateway Center

3 p.m., Reception and tours, Oren Gateway Center

4–6 p.m., Community Celebration/Open House, Oren Gateway Center

Department of Sociology Alumni Symposium and 60th-Anniversary Celebration

4–5:30 p.m., Alumni Symposium—Hoversten Chapel Back Concourse, Foss Center.

5:30–8 p.m., Arnold Atrium, Foss Center

The Sammy Project—Jen Janda '08, original art from Sammy's Story, a children's book

5:30–7:30 p.m., Student Art Gallery, Christensen Center

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October 13

A-CHAMPS—athletic meeting for prospective day students

8–11:45 a.m., Melby Hall

Picnic in the Park

11 a.m.–1 p.m., Murphy Square

Football Game vs. University of St. Thomas

1–3:30 p.m., Edor Nelson Field

Auggie Block Party

3:30–5:30 p.m., between Christensen Center and Urness Hall

ASAC and PASU Homecoming Dance

8 p.m.–midnight, East Commons, Christensen Center

October 9–10

National College Fair for prospective day students

Minneapolis Convention 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)–8 a.m.

Tues., Oct. 9—Brad Holt, Religion Dept.

Wed., Oct. 10—Jenni Lilledahl '87, Brave New Workshop

Thurs., Oct. 11—Jeroy Carlson '48, “Mr. Augsburg”

Fri., Oct. 12—Homecoming Convocation

Mon., Oct. 15—President Paul Pribbenow

Sports schedule— <http://www.augsburg.edu/athletics/schedules/fall0708.html>

Have a great week!