



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

October 22, 2007

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Good morning. This past week ended on a sad note as we learned of the death of **Professor Emeritus Joel Torstenson**, at age 94. In addition to his role as the “father of sociology” at Augsburg, his work and collaboration in the 1960s with President Oscar Anderson forged Augsburg’s mission as a college of the city. As urban areas across the country were being torn by racial and social unrest, Torstenson studied the role a liberal arts college could take and created programs for students to understand and experience social issues within the context of the city.

A memorial service for Professor Torstenson will be held on Saturday at 5 p.m. in Hoversten Chapel. We are also making plans to gather as a campus community to celebrate and lift up Torstenson’s life as a distinguished alumnus who became one of the leading figures in Augsburg’s history.

On Friday, October 26 (when many of you are away on fall break!), the annual meeting of the Augsburg Corporation Governing Board will be held on campus. The Augsburg Corporation represents the ELCA’s constitutional support to the College from Augsburg’s four designated synods—Minneapolis, Saint Paul, Southeastern Minnesota, and the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin. The Governing Board includes representatives from congregations in the four synods, and Augsburg’s Board of Regents, faculty, college administrators, and students.

The Governing Board’s primary task is to represent the ELCA for the purpose of electing Augsburg’s Board of Regents, the official governing entity of the College. The regents are entrusted with the task of electing Augsburg’s president. The Governing Board meets annually to elect regents, as well as to keep current about the College in order to lend ongoing spiritual and other support to the College.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

“Singing the Faith” at Luther Seminary

For 20 years, Luther Seminary professor of rhetoric Gracia Grindal ’65 has created a Reformation Sunday service around hymns and Luther’s Small Catechism. **On Sunday evening, “Singing the Faith” will be an Augsburg night, as the Augsburg Choir will sing newly-commissioned music** for the German hymn, “Befiehl du deine Wege,” (Trust in God) to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the birth of Paul Gerhardt, the hymn’s writer. Peter Hendrickson ’76 will be both choir conductor and organist, and Grindal will add a new, more poetic translation of the text. I will also take part in the program as a reader. This new music was composed by Dawn Sonntag, director of music at Mindekirken, the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church.

“Singing the Faith” takes place on Sunday, Oct. 28, at 7 p.m. in Olson Campus Center at Luther Seminary. At 5:30 a German dinner (cost: \$15) will benefit the Lutheran Seminary Friends program and raise money for scholarship. For information, call 651-641-3451.

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Frida Kahlo art salon

On Thursday, from 5-7 p.m., students, faculty, and staff are invited to join Abigail and myself at an Augsburg House Art Salon to learn about Mexican painter Frida Kahlo. Magdalena Paleczny-Zapp, Business Administration Department, will offer a multimedia presentation about Kahlo's work, her turbulent life, and her marriage to muralist Diego Rivera. Darcey Engen, Theatre Arts Department, will read from Kahlo's diary, and CGE program assistant Dulce Olive Monterrubio will read from a book by Rivera's daughter. Please join us for an opportunity to learn, engage in discussion, and sample tasty fare from Manny's Tortas. Augsburg House is located at 2848 West River Parkway, in Minneapolis. For information, contact Leslie Larson, at x1019.

KUDOS

Many thanks to **Brian Noy from the Center for Service, Work, and Learning** for his part in organizing the The Campus Kitchen Project's fourth annual conference, held at Augsburg Thursday through Saturday, which brought more than 60 students from current Campus Kitchen campuses and prospective campuses. In their "Urban Plunge" service project, they prepared meals in Augsburg's kitchen and served them in our neighborhoods.

Thanks to **Kasidy Moore, Bao Thao, Emiliano Chagil, Mohamed Sallam, Jennifer Simon, Event Services, and Sodexo** on a great celebration for the recipients of the students of color leadership scholarships.

Congratulations to the **Convocation Series Committee for a very successful lecture held last Wednesday. Special thanks to Robert Tom, Department of Art, and Michael Lansing, Department of History**, for their efforts to bring Peter Bisanz to campus for a lecture that reached the audience at many different levels.

Kudos to **Augsburg's football team** for their 38-16 victory over Carleton on Saturday, in which several school and conference records were broken. Junior wide receiver **Royce Winford** broke both Augsburg and Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) records for single-game receptions, with 20 passes, 235 yards, and three touchdowns. Quarterback **Jordon Berg** also set or tied four school records for passing, yardage, and offense.

NOTABLE EVENTS

October 21-23

National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), Committee Site Visit

October 25

Fall All-Staff Gathering

3:30pm to 4:30pm, East Commons, Christensen Center

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October 25-26

Education Wisconsin days for prospective day students

October 26

Midterm break for Day School—no classes

Augsburg Corporation Governing Board meeting

8 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center

October 28

“Singing the Faith,” Reformation Sunday program, featuring the Augsburg Choir

7 p.m., Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary

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. 23—Lynne Lorenzen, Religion Dept.

Wed., Oct. 24—Vocatio Chapel, Dr. Paul Quie, Pediatrics Infectious Disease, University of Minnesota

Thurs., Oct. 25—Charlie Ruud, Luther Seminary intern pastor

Fri., Oct. 26—No chapel, Augsburg Corporation meeting

Mon., Oct. 29—Reformation Week, featuring Russell Kleckley, Mark Tranvik, and Hans Wiersma

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

Have a great week!