



# PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

November 5, 2007

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**Good morning.** As you read this during the week, **I am in China, representing the Minnesota Private College Council** in connection with our partnership with the United International College (UIC) in Zhuhai. As part of UIC's first annual Presidential Lecture Series on the Liberal Arts, I will speak on "A Civic Education: Wisdom and Citizenship." I look forward to telling you more about it when I return.

On Tuesday evening and Wednesday, **we welcome Dr. Carter Lindberg to Augsburg for the annual Founders' Day lectures.** Beginning this year, we are expanding the themes of the Founders' Day from a focus on Reformation scholar Philip Melancthon to wider themes of the Augsburg Confession and early Reformation. Lindberg will present two lectures on "Luther: The Revolutionary." On Tuesday, Nov. 6, at 7 p.m., his focus will be "Luther on Capitalism," and on Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 10:45 a.m., it will be "Luther on War." I encourage you to attend these lectures as we explore our connections to Lutheran traditions and history. If you are interested in attending either a dinner preceding the Tuesday evening lecture or a luncheon following the Wednesday lecture, contact Hans Wiersma, Religion Department, at [wiersma@augsborg.edu](mailto:wiersma@augsborg.edu) or 612-330-1205.

## CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### **Rick Steves lecture on Nov. 9**

Noted travel expert and public television host Rick Steves will speak at Augsburg on Friday at 11 a.m. in Hoversten Chapel. His visit to Augsburg comes in connection with the Center for Global Education's 25th anniversary celebration this year.

Steves' talk is titled **"Travel as a Political Act,"** about how travel has changed his perspectives on the United States' role in the world. He has traveled on three trips organized by CGE, and considers them among the best travel experiences he has enjoyed.

In its 25 years, the Center for Global Education has hosted more than 10,000 people in semester and short-term programs in more than 40 countries around the world. It was a pioneer in creating programs that educate participants about issues and people in local communities, primarily those who are not represented in mainstream media. In 2003, CGE was recognized by the National Society for Experiential Education as its Program of the Year.

Throughout this academic year and at our two commencement ceremonies, we will have additional opportunities to focus on global learning and the programs of CGE. For more information on Rick Steves' lecture and on CGE and its 25th anniversary, go to [www.augsburg.edu/global/25thanniv.html](http://www.augsburg.edu/global/25thanniv.html).

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## KUDOS

**Reaffirmation of Accreditation for BSW and MSW**

At its October meeting the **Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)** voted to reaffirm Augsburg's MSW and BSW combined program accreditation for eight years, the maximum period allowed. The successful reaffirmation of accreditation of both programs is the culmination of a self-study process that covered a two-year period, including the development of three volumes of narrative and supporting documents, a three-day site visit last April from leading social work educators from across the country, and the deliberation and review by the Commission.

**Congratulations to department chair, Tony Bibus, and the entire Social Work Department** on this excellent news from CSWE, and thank you for the department's important contributions to teaching and learning.

Congratulations to **Tom Ruffaner, Custodial Services, who has been awarded the Individual Achievement Commuter Choice Award by MetroTransit Rideshare**. This is awarded to persons who promote commuter benefits and alternate modes of transportation in their workplace. He will be recognized at a luncheon on November 14. Many thanks to Tom for strong commitment and leadership on the Environmental Stewardship Committee; and for helping Augsburg understand the need and benefits of alternative transportation and making it easier for faculty, staff, and students to take advantage of it.

Kudos to **students in Joe Underhill's Environmental Connections course, whose "midterm exam" consisted of researching, planning, and installing three rain gardens** below the Lindell-Sverdrup link and at the northwest corner of Sverdrup Hall. These serve to catch and filter excess storm water from the roof of Sverdrup. Thanks to Bruce Rowe, the Toro Foundation who funded the project, and consultant Meredith Cooley. And, thanks to the students for increasing the biodiversity on campus and helping reduce our campus' impact on the local watershed.

## NOTABLE EVENTS

**November 6-7**

**Founders' Day Lectures**, featuring Dr. Carter Lindberg, speaking on "Luther the Revolutionary"

Nov. 6—7 p.m., Hoversten Chapel, "Luther on Capitalism"

Nov. 7—10:45 a.m., Hoversten Chapel, "Luther on War"

**November 7**

**Wednesday Gathering lunch for faculty and staff**

11 a.m.—1:30 p.m., East Commons, Christensen Center

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## November 8

**Military/Veterans Appreciation Reception** for currently serving military members and their families, and veterans who are Augsburg students, faculty, and staff.  
4– 6 p.m.; short program at 5 p.m., Kennedy Center 303/305

## November 9

**Lecture by Rick Steves**, nationally recognized travel author and public television host, “Travel as a Political Act.” Held in honor of the Center for Global Education’s 25th anniversary. Free and open to the public.  
11 a.m., Hoversten Chapel

## November 11

**Augsburg Symphony Orchestra concert**  
7 p.m., Hoversten Chapel

## 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., Nov. 6**— Phil Adamo, History Dept.

**Wed., Nov. 7**—Hans Wiersma, Religion Dept. and Carter Lindberg (10:45 a.m.), Founders’ Day lecture, “Luther on War”

**Thurs., Nov. 8**—Ron Olson, Luther Seminary, and representatives from other seminaries

**Fri., Nov. 9**—Babette Chatman, Redeemer Center for Life

**Mon., Nov. 12**—Noel Petit, Computer Science Dept.

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

Have a great week!