



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

November 26, 2007

Page 1

Good morning. Welcome back from Thanksgiving break. I hope you enjoyed the holiday with family and friends, taking time to give thanks for the many blessings we enjoy.

This week marks a quick shift toward the Advent season, beginning with our annual celebrations of Velkommen Jul and Advent Vespers. The requests for seating envelopes for the four Advent Vespers services have been much greater than usual, and all seats are nearly gone. This majestic tradition of music and liturgy is a wonderful connection year after year with many of our alumni, donors, and friends—and a meaningful beginning for the Advent season.

On Tuesday, our monthly Community Time will take place at 3:45 p.m. in East Commons. We'll hear a report from the Task Force on Campus Security that was convened last winter to study campus security issues and make recommendations for increasing campus safety for everyone.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Velkommen Jul launches the holiday season

“Welcome Christmas,” as Velkommen Jul translates from Norwegian, is a festive and unique celebration recalling Augsburg’s Norwegian roots and the immigrants and their families who settled in the neighborhoods around Augsburg. Each year the Augsburg Associates bring Christensen Center alive with traditions of the Nordic Christmas season in the sharing of cookies, treats, sweets, and music—not to mention one of the largest annual gatherings of Norwegian sweater-wearers outside of Scandinavia.

On Friday, Velkommen Jul begins with a chapel service at 10:20, featuring the singing of Christmas songs from the Nordic countries and an annual visit from St. Nicholas. At 11 a.m., the Augsburg Associates—an organization of alumni, friends, and retired faculty and staff—host a sumptuous spread of Scandinavian Christmas goodies and a boutique of Scandinavian gifts and decorations.

This year, the Christmas boutique will be on the main level in Christensen Center, with the food and sweets upstairs, encouraging more faculty, staff, and students to take part.

All are welcome to join us for this distinctive celebration, marking our heritage as a college and also reminding us that our own immigrant roots give us an important perspective on the experiences of our neighbors in Cedar-Riverside. See you on Friday morning.

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

November 26, 2007

Page 2

KUDOS

Kudos to [Ann Butwell](#), International Travel Seminars, who organized a workshop/session on “Who Is Serving Whom? Ethical Dilemmas in International Service-Learning,” at the annual meeting of the National Society for Experiential Education (NSEE) in Seattle. Garry Hesser, sociology and metro-urban studies, assisted her in that workshop and led another workshop on “Presencing with Peter Senge: A Praxis Enhancement of Kolb’s Learning Cycle.”

At the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) conference in Toronto, [Hannah Glusenkamp](#) participated, with funding from URGO, in a student panel entitled “Direct from the Source: Student Perceptions of Overseas Learning.” She also presented her experiences in CGE’s Central America semester program and the Mexico summer Spanish program in a poster, “Sustainability, Solidarity, and Self-Discovery in Study Abroad: Lessons on Becoming a World Citizen.” Orv Gingerich, International Programs, chaired a panel session focused on “Study Abroad for What? Re-examining Assumptions about the Purpose of Study Abroad.”

At the NAFSA: Association of International Educators Region IV conference in Kansas City, [Amy Greeley](#), Augsburg Abroad, presented on study abroad curriculum integration at a workshop, “Study Abroad 201.” She also had two sessions accepted—on practical resources on marketing and communications in study abroad and on current trends to develop a classification of study abroad program types.

My apologies to Cary Waterman, English, for misidentifying her in last week’s Kudos section.

NOTABLE EVENTS

November 27

Community Time

3:45 p.m., East Commons

November 30

Velkommen Jul

10:15 a.m.—Chapel service, Hoversten Chapel

11 a.m.–2 p.m.—Scandinavian treats and gifts, Christensen Center

November 30–December 1

28th Annual Advent Vespers, “That All May Have Light”

Friday and Saturday, 5 and 8 p.m., Central Lutheran Church

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

November 26, 2007

Page 3

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. 27—Rosemary Link, Academic Affairs

Wed., Nov. 28—Vocatio Chapel, Dr. Deon Stuthman, plant geneticist, University of Minnesota; “Durable Pest Resistance and Sustainable Agricultural Systems”

Thurs., Nov. 29—Bev Stratton, Religion Dept.

Fri., Nov. 30—Velkommen Jul

Mon., Dec. 3—Kirsten Mebust, Religion Dept.

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

Have a great week!