



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

December 17, 2007

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Good morning. I wish all of you a most blessed Christmas.

The past week has been most eventful. We started the week last Monday evening at a wonderful reception in Washington, D.C., with our alumni and friends, as well as colleagues from our sister Norwegian-American Lutheran colleges, as we celebrated the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize and the Nobel Peace Prize Forum collaboration. It is a real treat to watch a videotape of the Peace Prize ceremony in Oslo and to realize that we will have the unique opportunity to hear from the Nobel laureates at the annual Peace Prize forums.

On Wednesday, we invited the press to campus to announce a major partnership with The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars. Augsburg was chosen by the center as the host campus for 250 college interns from around the country who will attend a two-week seminar and work at the Republican National Convention, taking place in St. Paul in early September 2008. We were very pleased with the extensive press coverage of this important project. We also are excited that 20 Augsburg students will be included in the program.

It's an important recognition of our longstanding commitment to service learning and experiential education, as well as an incredible opportunity to collaborate with institutions around the country to offer students direct involvement in decision-making at the national level to elect the next president.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Faculty/staff holiday party

Once again, I'd like to invite all faculty and staff to join Abigail and myself at the annual holiday party for faculty and staff on Thursday, from 3-5 p.m. in the Christensen Center. We hope to see you there to celebrate this festive time of the year.

KUDOS

Kudos to **David Warch and the Marketing and Communication team**, who worked with alumna Kari Logan's public relations firm to organize the press conference on Wednesday that brought three TV stations, plus Minnesota Public Radio to campus. Dean Farley and I were also interviewed on TV, radio, and in the *Star Tribune* for the partnership to host student interns at the Republican convention in September.

Congratulations to **Nora Braun**, business administration, who successfully defended her PhD in educational psychology, psychological foundations of education, at the University of Minnesota. Her area of focus has been learning and cognition and instructional design, and for her research she analyzed online group interactions among several cohorts in our MBA program. In November she presented a poster at the Sloan Online Learning Conference based on her research.

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NOTABLE EVENTS

December 17

Late Night Breakfast

10–11:30 p.m., Christensen Center Commons

December 20

Faculty/staff holiday party

3–5 p.m., Christensen Center

Chapel services will resume in January

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

Next week there will be no Weekly Update, as the campus closes for the Christmas holiday. The update will resume again on Monday, Dec. 31.

Have a great week and enjoy a peaceful, healthful, and relaxing holiday!