



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

December 31, 2007

Page 1

Good morning. As 2007 comes to an end today, I hope you have enjoyed a joyful Christmas holiday with family and friends. I look forward to the beginning of the new year and all that it may bring as we continue our work together.

Even though students are away from the College and many faculty and staff have been enjoying vacation time, the campus and our campus community remain busy during these holiday weeks. Construction continues in Christensen Center to renovate the old bookstore area into a flexible student activity area. The scheduled completion is January 18, with furniture arriving a month or so after that.

I also want to highlight several other capital renewal projects that have recently been completed:

- Urness Hall elevators—both elevators have been completely renovated with addition of updated electronic controls for more reliable elevator service for residents.
- Christensen dock and south entry—the dock area has been expanded, automatic doors were installed to control heating and cooling loss, and the south accessible entrance has been upgraded.
- Mortensen Hall south entry—the ADA entrance and access mechanism is now upgraded.

This week three short-term study groups leave for visits abroad of 8-10 days—Bob Stacke leads a group to study Caribbean music in Jamaica, Michael Lansing takes a group to Nicaragua to learn about women's grassroots movements, and Bev Stratton travels with students to El Salvador to explore the Christian faith and vocation of the Salvadoran people. We wish them safe journeys and look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return.

The Auggie women's hockey team travels to Germany, Austria, and Italy from January 3-12, led by head coach Jill Pohtilla, assistant coach Tom Peart, and head athletic trainer Missy Strauch. They'll play local club teams in the Munich area, and then travel to Italy, with a sightseeing stop in Innsbruck, Austria. We wish them luck in their competition and enjoyment during their European travel.

Activities during the Christmas break also keep our air structure a busy place. The schedule for these two weeks includes baseball clinics, a youth soccer camp, football camp, and high school lacrosse.

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE

December 31, 2007
Page 2

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Beginning of classes

Winter classes for Augsburg for Adults begin this weekend—nursing and social work master's programs meet on January 4–5, with other graduate and weekend classes beginning on January 11—and Rochester classes begin on Monday, Jan. 7. Classes for day spring semester begin on January 14.

MLK Convocation

On Monday, Jan. 21, the 20th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation will feature guest speaker Ekwueme Michael Thelwell, professor of African-American Studies at the University of Massachusetts. "Visions of a Just Society: Dr. King's Legacy" will be presented at 1 p.m. in Hoversten Chapel. I encourage you to attend this important annual celebration in our convocation series.

KUDOS

As the snow kept falling in December, I want to extend kudos and thanks to **Bruce Rowe, Arlie Madigan, and the student grounds crew** for doing such a great job in keeping our sidewalks, entrances, and parking lots plowed and clear. Students on the grounds crew are Jason Weber, Sarah Peloquin, Jason Koele, Ashley Stoffers, Marcia Evenson, Mike Struss, Bjorn Villevik, Phil Kaup, Tyson Barrett, Chase Nordby, Emily Merhar, Katie Medd, Charlie Olson, Brandon Rudenick, and Katie Woolever.

Congratulations to **Patrice Salmeri and the StepUP program** for being featured in an article on Inside Higher Ed.com. To read it, go to <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2007/12/18/augsburg>

Many thanks to **Jeremy Wells and the Institutional Advancement division** for the cookies and good cheer they brought around to offices on campus last week.

NOTABLE EVENTS

Friday, Jan. 4

Winter trimester classes begin for the nursing and social work master's programs.

Monday, Jan. 7

Winter classes begin in Rochester.

Chapel services will resume in January

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

Have a great week!