



President's WEEKLY UPDATE

March 23, 2009

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Good morning. Welcome back to day students and faculty returning from spring semester break activities. **I want to express my appreciation and thanks to all the students and others who participated in service projects during spring break**—the New Orleans hurricane recovery team and the Allied-Latino Augsburg Students (ALAS) trip to a Chicago Latino neighborhood—and to recognize those who took advantage of learning and activities here in Minneapolis in our own neighborhoods.

Also, welcome back to the Augsburg Choir from their tour south through the central states. Many thanks for the beautiful music we enjoyed at a very successful home concert last evening.

This past weekend was the last WEC weekend of winter trimester—congratulations to all students finishing their final exams and writing papers. Spring trimester begins on April 3.

March is designated as Food Shelf Month and **we're nearing the end of our Foodless Food Drive to refill the food shelves at Brian Coyle Center.** As of Friday we've collected just over \$1,400 from faculty, staff, and students in the Augsburg community. Thanks to everyone who has donated—this is excellent progress. Our goal is \$3,000 by March 31, and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is providing help to us. Thrivent's Central Minneapolis Chapter is offering a match of \$1 for every \$2 we raise, up to their gift of \$1,600. This means we will receive an additional \$700 from them to date. Each dollar donated to the Coyle Center enables them, through their bulk food programs, to purchase \$4 of food.

The Center for Service, Work, and Learning will be tabling in Christensen Center through Thursday this week for the Foodless Food Drive. Tax-deductible donations can be made there or at CSWL in Anderson Hall.

I'm pleased to report that Project IGNITE (Involving Graduates Now in Thoughtful Engagement) is underway. The student representatives have been selected and trained, and personal visits with alumni have begun. This project, funded by the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation, matches alumni with students to encourage broader alumni engagement in campus events and connection with the College.

On Thursday, Jeremy Wells, vice president for institutional advancement, and Kim Stone, director of alumni and constituent relations, will talk about Project IGNITE in their Focused Conversation at noon in Johnson Conference Center, OGC 100.

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CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Commencement draws near

As we return from spring break, we are now within six weeks of our May Commencement, a time filled with many traditional end-of-semester activities leading to Commencement. Keep checking the Inside Augsburg calendar for these events in the next few weeks. Among them are these activities:

Thursday, March 26—Faculty Scholarship Roundtables, 4 p.m., Oren Gateway Lobby

April 10-12—Easter break—no classes

April 15-17—Zyzzogeton—see complete schedule of events, including poster session, juried art show, English Dept. reading

Thursday, April 16—Scholastic Connections dinner, 5:30 p.m., Minneapolis Room

Friday, April 17—Honors Convocation, 4:30 p.m., Hoversten Chapel

Wednesday, April 22—Chamber Recital and High Tea, 4 p.m. recital

Wednesday, April 22—Senior Commencement Reception, Augsburg House

Thursday, April 23—Lavender Graduation, 5 p.m., Oren Gateway Center

Friday, April 24—Spring Day classes end; finals held April 27-30

Thursday, April 30—Faculty Recognition Luncheon, noon, Commons

Friday, May 1—Board of Regents meeting, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Friday, May 1—StepUP Graduation Reception, 2 p.m., Sateren Auditorium

Saturday, May 2—May Commencement

8 a.m., Eucharist, Hoversten Chapel

9 a.m., Baccalaureate, Hoversten Chapel

11 a.m., Commencement Ceremony, Melby Hall

KUDOS

Kudos to the second quarter **Star Engagement winners**:

- Formal Engagement—Self Defense—**Melissa Moberg, Noelle McComb, Sarah Green**; Tutoring—**Jon Peterson** and **Megan Asleson**; Relaxation—**Jennifer Lovering** and **Bethany George**; All Saints Day—**Bethany Locke**
- Passive Engagement—Bulletin Boards: GLBTQIA Jeopardy—**Noelle McComb**; Diversity—**Sergio Lopez**; More Than Thankful—**Jaydin Clouse**
- Door Decorations—Coffee Cup—**Hannah Carlson**; Snowflake—**Angela Burla**
- Honorable Mentions—StepUP Gala Prep Dinner—**Jenni Pickford**; Study Sessions—**Ryan Gilmartin** and **Eric Tankel**; Exercise Context—**Megan Asleson** and **Richmond Appleton**; Toys for Tots—**Jaydin Clouse** and **Michael Buller**; Elections Programs—**Hall staff**; Tree Door Decoration—**Sarah Green**

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Congratulations to **Bethany Thompson** and **Brett Shay**, who were award-winners in persuasive speaking at the Twin Cities Forensic League (TCFL) speech tournament. Bethany placed third of 31 speakers in the persuasive speaking event, while Brett finished sixth. The TCFL is comprised of 18 schools throughout Minnesota, western Wisconsin, and northern Iowa.

Congratulations to **Cheryl Leuning**, Nursing Department chair, who was inducted as a Transcultural Nursing Society Scholar. She currently serves as president of the society.

Congratulations to **Magdeline Aagard**, Nursing Department, who has been elected to the Board of Directors of Global Health Ministries, a network that supports Lutheran healthcare work in other countries.

Congratulations to **Michael Grewe**, assistant director of campus activities and orientation, and coordinator for LGBTQIA services, who has been awarded the 2009 Val DuMontier New Professional Award from the Standing Committee for LGBT Awareness of the American College Personnel Association (ACPA). The award recognizes a person with one- to five-years in the field who has made significant contributions in the area of LGBT awareness.

Congratulations to the Augsburg team of **mathematics majors, Jason Chrudimsky, Michael Janas** and **Matthew Solberg**, who placed fourth in a strong field of competitors at the 17th Annual Konhauser Problemfest at Carleton College. The 15 competing teams came from Augsburg, Carleton, Gustavus Adolphus, Macalaster, St. Olaf, and St. Thomas.

Congratulations to track and field team runner **Nick Ward**, who won the MIAC Indoor Track and Field Championship 55-meter dash with a school record, facility record, and NCAA Division III national championship provisional qualifying time. He also broke the school record in the long jump.

Kudos to **Kelly Anderson Diercks**, assistant athletic director/assistant sports information director; **Don Stoner**, sports information director; and **Bryan Barnes**, electronic communication specialist, for their work on the new athletics website at <http://athletics.augsburg.edu>. **Sports information student workers** and **Student Athlete Advisory Committee members** also took part in the web design.

Kudos to the following faculty, staff, and students who have made presentations recently:

- **Christina Erickson**, Social Work, co-presented "Creating Health Organizational Culture" on March 26 at the Minnesota Social Service Association (MSSA) conference.
- **Jessica Fox-Wilson**, Augsburg for Adults, presented a breakout session workshop "Ch-ch-ch-changes: Adapting Traditional College Culture for Nontraditional Programs" at the National ANTSHE (Association for Non-Traditional Students in Higher Education) Conference at St. Martin's University in Lacey, Washington.

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NOTABLE EVENTS DURING THE WEEK—for a complete listing of Augsburg events, go to the Calendar on Inside Augsburg at <http://inside.augsburg.edu>

Thursday, March 26

Focused Conversation, “Project IGNITE,” Jeremy Wells, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, and Kim Stone, Director of Alumni and Constituent Relations
Noon, Johnson Conference Center, OGC 100

Thursday, March 26

Faculty Scholarship Roundtables
4 p.m., Oren Gateway Lobby

Saturday, March 28

Augsburg Associates Spring Seminar, “Excerpts from ‘The Mother Project,’” Darcey Engen, Theatre Arts Department
9:30 a.m., Augsburg House

Sunday, March 29

Scholarship Brunch, for students with endowed and named scholarships and their donors
12:15 p.m., Christensen Center Commons

Sunday, March 29

Spring Night Club Concert, Gospel Praise Jazz Ensemble
6 p.m., Dakota Jazz Club & Restaurant, 1010 Nicollet Mall

DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS

M,W,F—10:20-10:40 a.m., Community Time following; T-Th—11:20-11:40 a.m.;
Wed—9:09 p.m. Songs, 9:30 p.m., Communion; Sat (when weekend classes meet)—
First Word Community Gathering at 7:30–7:50 a.m.

Tuesday, March 24—“Jesus Christ: Yesterday and Today,” Brad Holt, Religion Dept.

Wednesday, March 25—“Does Jesus Offend You?,” David Tiede, Bernhard Christensen Professor of Religion and Vocation

Wednesday eve., 9:09 p.m.—Songs and communion

Thursday, March 26—“Can Anything Good Come from Nazareth?,” Matt Maruggi, Religion Dept.

Friday, March 27—“Jesus Began to Weep,” Mary Lowe, Religion Dept.

Monday, March 30—“The Pride of Judah—Jesus, Dirty Diapers, and the ‘Good News,’” Karl Jacobson, Religion Dept.

Sports results and schedule—<http://athletics.augsburg.edu>

Have a great week!