



# President's WEEKLY UPDATE

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**Good morning.** Final exams begin today for day students who are completing their spring semester. **On Saturday we celebrate the first of our two Commencements**—this year's theme for both Commencements is science, and three distinguished scientists will participate in the ceremonies.

On Saturday, 407 day students and 23 physician assistant master's degree students are eligible to graduate, including 17 international students from 11 countries.

Kerry A. Emanuel, professor of atmospheric science and director of the Program in Atmospheres, Oceans, and Climate at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will present the Commencement address, "Science and Beyond." He is known for his research on hurricane physics as well as for his interest in educating the public about science and scientific inquiry. Professor Emanuel will also receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree.

The Commencement on Sunday, June 28, will graduate students in Weekend College, Rochester, the Partner Hospital programs, and the five master's programs of education, leadership, nursing, business administration, and social work. At that ceremony, the speaker will be Eric Jolly, president of the Science Museum of Minnesota and an Augsburg regent. Jane Lubchenco, under secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere, and administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), will receive an honorary degree. She is the first woman and the first marine biologist to lead NOAA.

**I am sad to report the death of Lilly Gracia Christensen**, widow of Bernhard Christensen, Augsburg's fifth president, and professor emerita of English. She passed away last Tuesday at the age of 97. In her role as wife of a college president and Lutheran church leader, Mrs. Christensen hosted a wide range of guests, including the King of Norway. She taught for 16 years in the English Department where she mentored many students who fondly remember her wise counsel and compassionate concern. She was a 50-year member of Trinity Lutheran Congregation. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family during this difficult time. We will join the family in a memorial service in Hoversten Chapel on Sunday, June 21, at 3 p.m.

**Next Monday's Update will be the last weekly update for this academic year.**

Through spring trimester and our June Commencement, we'll issue Updates every two weeks—on May 4, May 18, June 1, June 15, and June 29. Over the summer, there will be an Update in mid-July and one in mid-August.

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## **CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES**

### **Augsburg Board of Regents spring meeting**

The Augsburg Board of Regents will meet on Friday for their spring meeting. Their deliberations will include discussion about:

- Final designs for the Center for Science, Business, and Religion
- Final review and approval of the 2009-10 College budget
- Discussion of the integration of vocation across the College

### **Second Annual Agre Challenge**

On Friday afternoon, four teams of students challenged each other in the second annual Agre Challenge for the “best device to protect falling babies” and other objects. The first-place winner was team “Waaaaahhhhh,” made up of Steve Eichten, Alison Heussler, and Donald McCarthy. A close second-place team was “Ramrod,” with members Morgan Whiterabbit, Riley Cullinane, Adam Horkey, and James Strand. The challenge was sponsored by the Augsburg Chemistry Society (ACS) and Engineers without Borders (EWB).

### **Congratulations, new day student leaders!**

In elections held Friday, April 10, through Tuesday, April 14, Day College students elected their student government leaders for 2009-10, as follows:

#### **Sophomore Class Representatives**

Adam Spanier—Class President

Lily Morris

Jasmine Zand

Claire Bergren

#### **Junior Class Representatives**

Ali Witt—Class President

Brandy Hyatt

Tom Thao

Maxwell Cody

#### **Senior Class Representatives**

Donnarose Storer—Class President

Jamie Krumenauer (Write In)

#### **Student Body President and Vice President**

Sam Smith—President

Ben Krouse-Gagne—Vice President

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## KUDOS

Congratulations to the Pan-Afrikan Student Union, which celebrated its 40th anniversary last week. The following awards were presented:

- Alum of the Year: **Rozenia A. Hood Fuller '01**
- Outstanding Leadership and Participation in Campus Activities and Residence Life: **Brandy Hyatt**
- M. Anita Gay Hawthorne Senior Award: **Adam Assefa**

Kudos to the student computer science team of **Erik Johnson** and **Eric Howe**, who won the programming competition at the Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium in Rapid City, S.Dak. Coached by Professor Erik Steinmetz, the team was one of 28 teams who had to solve 10 problems with computer programs in three hours. In addition, professors **Erik Steinmetz** and **Shana Watters** presented a poster and chaired a panel discussion, "... Introductory Computer Science Courses That Include Non-majoring and Undeclared Students." One other Augsburg student team competed in the 28-team field.

Congratulations to Professor **Michael Lansing**, History, for the publication of his book, *The Faith of Our Forebears: 100 Years at Mount Olive Lutheran Church*, which was timed for Mount Olive's 100th-anniversary celebration last weekend.

Congratulations to the students who were inducted into Phi Alpha Theta, the international honor society in history: **Chris Bogen, Carl Bratsch, Melody Buhl, Krystal Mattison, Aaron Mofsen, Ana Olson, Delaney Ryden, and Schuyler Tilson**. Congratulations also to **Bill Wittenbreer**, librarian, who received an honorary membership.

Kudos to mathematics students who presented at the Pi Mu Epsilon Undergraduate Research Conference at St. John's University: **Al Garver**, "Visualizing Complex Dynamics," and **Bill Helm**, "Art By Numbers."

Kudos to the 11 Augsburg students and one Hamline student (who conducted research with an Augsburg faculty member), who presented their research at the Minnesota Undergraduate Psychology Conference on April 18: **Jeanne Borash, Kelly LaBelle-Lewis, May Ly, Katherine Miller, Jeanette Raczynski, Kali James, Christine Esser, Justin Gauthier, Kassi Bloom, Allison Grams, Samantha Benson, and Alisha Anderson** (Hamline).

Kudos to the winners of the Residence Life Star Engagement Awards for the third quarter that recognize outstanding work of the residence hall staff:

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## Responsible

- Cutie with a Bootie—**Meghan Asleson** and **Noelle McComb**—Tabling about fruit and healthy eating options to promote a healthy lifestyle
- Tattoo Artist—**Jared Hartman**—A tattoo artist spoke about the basics of tattooing to clear up any questions or incorrect assumptions

## Respectful

- Stress Relief Night—**Caris Warnock**—An evening of relaxation for residents with massage, chocolate fondue, tea, etc., and information about stress relief and time management
- Banishing Bad Body Image—**Amy Satnik** and **Jenni Pickford**—Study and discussion about pictures of models, body image, and labeling of sizes

## Resourceful

- Let's go Hunting, for Scholarships That Is!—**Michael Buller** and **Jared Hartman**—An opportunity for those interested in applying for scholarships to learn how to start the application process
- Post Secret Night—**Britnie Bartelma**—Strong, healthy conversations about topics of body image

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

**April 27–30**

**Spring semester finals**

**April 27**

**Late Night Breakfast**

10 p.m., Christensen Center

**April 28**

**Community Time**

3:45 p.m., East Commons, Christensen Center

**April 30**

**Faculty Recognition Luncheon**

Noon, East Commons, Christensen Center

**May 1**

**Board of Regents meeting**

8 a.m.–5 p.m.

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**May 1**

**StepUP Graduation ceremony**

2 p.m., Sateren Auditorium

**May 1**

**Commencement Concert, featuring Augsburg Concert Band**

8 p.m., Hoversten Chapel

**May 2**

**2009 Commencement**

9 a.m., Baccalaureate, Hoversten Chapel

11 a.m., Commencement Ceremony, Melby Hall

Following ceremony, Department Receptions

**May 4-14**

**Augsburg Concert Band tour to Romania**

## **DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS**

Daily chapel services Monday through Friday will resume in September; WEC First Word Community Gathering, 7:30-7:50 a.m.

**Tues., April 28**—9:09 p.m., Communion

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

Have a great week!