



President's WEEKLY UPDATE

June 1, 2009

Page 1

Good morning. Summer school classes are underway and already summer events are getting into full swing.

The **second annual Campus Beautification Day** will be held on Friday, June 5, beginning at 9 a.m. This is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to work on clean-up, painting, garden weeding, and other projects to help make our campus more attractive and efficient. Many thanks to Staff Senate for sponsoring this event and coordinating the list of projects. To sign up for a project, go to the Welcome Desk in Christensen Center or go to <http://augnet.augsburg.edu/>.

Following the morning's work, the **annual staff picnic** in Murphy Square will be held from noon until around 4 p.m. The president's office has approved the closing of all offices for the afternoon so that all staff can participate in the festivities.

This is also the time of the ELCA annual synod assemblies. This past weekend, Augsburg welcomed more than 700 members of the **Minneapolis Synod** to campus for their annual assembly. We enjoyed having them here and look forward to their return. Many thanks to **Jodi Collen and the Event and Conference Planning staff**, and to everyone who worked hard for this successful event, including Tom Ruffaner and the entire custodial staff; Gilbert Villas, Michelle Inserra, Jamison Cross, and the A'viands staff; Dennis Stuckey, David Draus, and the maintenance staff; Mark Matzek, Jared Evans, and Jeff Swenson for the wrestling staff; and Ryan Ingersoll and Brad Christ on the IT staff.

At the **Northwest Synod of Wisconsin** assembly last weekend in Eau Claire, I was pleased that several Augsburg faculty and staff presented two workshops. Rev. Kelly Chatman, Redeemer Lutheran Church, and David Tiede, the Bernhard Christensen Professor of Religion and Vocation, presented "Being Lutheran in a World of Diversity." Also, MBA director and professor Steve Zitnick and Augsburg for Adults director and professor Lori Peterson presented a workshop, "Organizational Ethics through the Lens of Faith."

Last Wednesday at the meeting of the Minneapolis Private College Council, **I was honored to be elected president** of this group of 17-colleges and universities. I'm pleased to assume a leadership role in the organization during this challenging time. I also want to acknowledge the retirement of David Laird, the council's CEO, who is leaving after 20 years of service.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Weekly Update schedule

The Weekly Update will be published on June 15 and 29, July 20, and August 10. It will resume its regular weekly publication schedule beginning August 31.

June 1, 2009

Page 2

Changes in cleaning schedule

As of May 18, Custodial Services began providing cleaning services on campus primarily during the day, instead of after hours and overnight. Not only will this provide considerable cost savings, but it enables the night shift cleaning crew to more actively participate in the campus community. Among the costs savings are reduction of overtime and differential shift wages and reduction of lights and electricity needed overnight. A larger daytime crew will be able to focus greater attention on needs that arise during the day on campus. Questions and any concerns about customer service or issues to be addressed can be sent to Reed Richards, custodial services manager, at richardr@augsborg.edu or 612-330-1043.

Summer maintenance/repair projects

The following projects will be carried out during the summer, coordinated with the normal flow of general facilities day-to-day maintenance operational issues.

- Music Hall—replacing a major component of the building's AC system (completion date, July 3)
- Mortensen and Urness Halls—repairing the concrete portion of the exterior shell (Aug. 28)
- Christensen Center—renovation of four restrooms on third and second floors (Aug. 28)
- Music Hall—replace the building roof (July 28)
- Sverdrup Hall—replace the building roof (Aug. 1)
- Skyway between Music and Memorial—replace the building roof (Aug. 1)
- Campus hardscape—annual replacement of damaged concrete (Aug. 28)
- Campus carpeting—annual replacement allotment of carpeting throughout parts of campus (Aug. 28)
- EPA self audit—completing a campuswide self audit to comply with EPA Zone V upcoming initiative (Aug. 1)
- 2011 6th Street property—demolition of property in preparation for CSBR project (Sept. 4)
- Resident spaces—complete apartment turns in preparation for each of the 1,000 residents for fall 2009 start up (Aug. 28)
- Facilities work order system—complete the implementation process for a totally paperless system (July 31)
- Ice Arena A—rehab the surface underlayment and re-install ice surface (June 22)
- Campus grounds—complete annual preparation of landscape features, planting beds, gardens, bio-retention ponds, etc. (Aug. 28)

Theology of Institutions Seminar

Next week, June 10-11, Augsburg will co-host a two-day seminar to reflect on institutions and organizational life from the perspective of various religious and spiritual traditions. The seminar seeks to develop a growing body of thought and writing on the topic of a theology of institutions. Augsburg's Center for Faith and Learning is co-sponsoring this seminar with the Center for Seeing Things Whole and the John A. Ryan Institute for Catholic Social Thought at the University of St. Thomas.

June 1, 2009

Page 3

Student direct deposit

On-campus student workers are now eligible for direct deposit of their payroll checks, beginning with the June 15 paycheck. A direct deposit authorization form must be submitted to Human Resources with a voided check, before the 5th of the month for direct deposit. See Friday's A-mail (May 29) or contact Human Resources at x1058 for information or with questions.

Summer events on campus

Many meetings, workshops, camps, seminars, and other events will take place on campus during the next three months. A sampling of them includes:

- **Augsburg Advantage at St. Kate's Summer Transition program**—a five-week program for 16 students who have been studying in a skills program at St. Kate's. They are taking a Summer Session I course on campus and will continue at Augsburg in the fall semester. May 24–June 24
- **Minnesota Private College Week**—prospective high school students and their parents visit Augsburg during the week for tours and information. June 22–26
- **Urban Debate League**. July 5–25
- **Summer Bridge**—a five-week residential program for 25 admitted first-year Augsburg students who are TRiO/SSS eligible. Students take two courses, attend academic support seminars, workshops, and enjoy other social and cultural activities. July 6–Aug. 7
- **GEMS/GISE program** (Girls in Engineering, Mathematics, and Science) and GISE (Guys in Science and Engineering)—Middle- and high-school girls and boys from Minneapolis Public Schools on campus, with Augsburg student mentors working with them. This year, GEMS/GISE and Augsburg will also cosponsor and host the SciFY (Science for Youth) Girls and SciFY Boys of St. Paul Public Schools. In total, 320 middle school and high school students will be on campus in July. GEMS/GISE, July 6–30 and SciFY, July 6–23
- **Sports camps**—Three sports camps are offered by Augsburg athletics:
 - **Wrestling**—
 - June 14–18, Technique Camp
 - June 19–21, Father-Son Camp
 - June 21–25, Team Camp
 - **Volleyball**
 - June 29–July 1, Advanced Skills Camp
 - July 21–22, Basic Skills Camp
 - July 23–24, Positional Training Camp
 - **Football**
 - July 14, 7-on-7 Passing Tournament
 - July 27–30, Youth Football Clinic
- **Athletics Fundraising Golf Tournaments**—for details and contacts for these tournaments, go to

<http://athletics.augsburg.edu/news/2009/5/14/gen051509.aspx?path=football>

June 1, 2009

Page 4

- June 15, 12th Annual Ed Saugestad Men's Hockey Alumni Golf Tournament at StoneRidge Golf Club, Stillwater, Minn.
- June 29, 46th Annual Clair Strommen A-Club Golf Tournament at Gopher Hills Golf Course, Cannon Falls, Minn.
- July 10, 16th Annual Jeff Swenson and John Grygelko Wrestling Golf Classic at Gopher Hills Golf Course, Cannon Falls, Minn.
- July 17, Edor Nelson Football Alumni Golf Tournament at Manitou Ridge Golf Course, White Bear Lake, Minn.
- August 7, Augsburg Men's Basketball Golf Outing at Gopher Hills Golf Course, Cannon Falls, Minn.
- **Music camps**
 - June 21-July 11, Nautilus Music Theater presents, the Wesley Balk Opera, Music-Theater Institute
 - July 5-11, Junior Composers Institute
- **Medieval Minnesota Summer Camp**—August 9-15
- **Advanced Placement Institutes**—Middle- and high-school teachers attend week-long workshops to learn how to prepare students for AP courses or how to teach them. June 15-18, June 22-25.

KUDOS

Kudos to **Bruce Rowe and the grounds crew** for all the landscaping, flowers, and attention throughout the campus to make it look so beautiful this spring and summer.

Kudos to staff members who are continuing and new members of the 2009-10 board of the Minnesota College Personnel Association (MCPA): **Amanda Erdman**, director of residence life, is board secretary; **Michael Perry**, Mortensen Hall director, is GLBT Committee co-chair; and **Jennifer Simon**, director of American Indian Student Services, is POCC (Professionals of Color Commission) co-chair.

Kudos to Religion Department professors **Hans Wiersma**, **Russell Kleckley**, and **Mark Tranvik** who presented a panel of papers under the heading "Luther-Calvin Showdown" at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, last week, that marked the 500th birthday of Swiss reformer John Calvin.

Kudos to the **Augsburg Concert Band**, who returned two weeks ago from their performance tour to Romania, where they played in five cities and were greeted by large and enthusiastic crowds. The band presented a program of American music, most of which has been influenced by jazz and its many intricacies. "Rhapsody in Blue," a piece originally written for Paul Whiteman's Jazz Orchestra and later transcribed for full orchestra, combines the sophistication of classical music with the undisputable jazz influences of harmony and rhythm. The band presented the original Paul Whiteman interpretation and featured guest soloist, Minnesota-born Romanian Irina Nedelcu-Erickson.

June 1, 2009

Page 5

Kudos to **Tiong Tan**, Social Work, whose article, "Disaster Management: Strengths and Community Perspectives" will be published in the May/June issue of *Journal of Global Social Work Practice*.

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

Through June 26
Summer Session I classes

Wednesday, June 3

Wednesday Gathering—building community, practicing common work

11 a.m.–1 p.m.—Lunch for faculty and staff, East Commons

8 p.m.—Evening meal for security and custodial night shift staff, Minneapolis Room

Thursday, June 4

"Leadership in a Turbulent Environment Summit," with guests **Carla Nelson, Jon Eckhoff, and Dr. David Hayes** speaking about their challenges and leadership in the current economic environment; sponsored by Rochester MBA Program and the *Post Bulletin*

7 p.m., Bethel Lutheran Church, 810 Third St. S.E., Rochester, MN

Friday, June 5

Second Annual Campus Beautification Day and Picnic

9 a.m.–noon—campus projects

noon–4 p.m.—picnic, Murphy Square

June 5–7

WEC, MAE, MAL, MAN classes meet

DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS

Daily chapel services Monday through Friday will resume in September; Saturday (when weekend classes meet), WEC First Word Community, 7:30–7:50 a.m.

Saturday, June 6—First Word Gathering, "If They are Thirsty, Give Them Drink," Michelle Cerame, WEC Senate

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

Have a great two weeks—the next Weekly Update is on June 15.