



# President's WEEKLY UPDATE

June 15, 2009

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**Good morning.** This week marks the final week of our spring trimester with final exams scheduled next weekend. Only MSW and Rochester classes continue for another week. **I look forward to Commencement on June 28**, when we honor a total of 451 students eligible to graduate. This includes 167 weekend undergraduates, 10 hospital partner students, 51 Rochester students, and 223 master's degree students—10 in education, 24 in leadership, 11 in nursing, 139 in business, and 39 in social work.

The Commencement speaker will be Eric Jolly, president of the Science Museum of Minnesota and a member of Augsburg's Board of Regents. His address is titled "Designing Our Communities' Future: The Promise of the Scientific Mind."

We will confer an honorary Doctor of Science degree on Jane Lubchenco, under secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere, and the first female administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

This year's student representative who will speak on behalf of the Class of 2009 is MBA student Christopher Lyons.

The Richard J. Thoni Award will be presented to a graduating weekend student who has demonstrated a dedication to the kind of community involvement characterized by Rick Thoni, founder of Weekend College, who retired two years ago after a long and remarkable career at Augsburg.

I hope many of you—faculty, staff, and students—will join us for Commencement and the receptions that follow to celebrate with our graduating students and their families.

The schedule for Commencement Sunday is:

9-10 a.m.	Baccalaureate, Hoversten Chapel (line-up at 8:40 a.m.)
10:15 a.m.	Commencement Ceremony line-up, Christensen Center (students)
11 a.m.	Commencement Ceremony
12:30 p.m.	Department and program receptions. For locations, go to <a href="http://www.augsburg.edu/commencement/june/index.html">www.augsburg.edu/commencement/june/index.html</a>

**I am happy to tell you that The Augsburg Fund surpassed its goal of \$1 million this year**, raising a total of \$1,003,209.77 as of May 31. Overall, this is a little more than last fiscal year, which is especially notable during this challenging economy. Next year's goal is \$1.25 million.

I am also pleased to report that 100% of the members of the Board of Regents participated in The Augsburg Fund this year, as well as 100% of the Cabinet, the Alumni Board, and the Institutional Advancement staff. Many thanks to the Development staff, and especially to Joe Lindell and Martha Truax in the annual giving office. And thank you to everyone who supported Augsburg with a financial gift this year—we couldn't have done it without you.

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## CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### Minnesota Private College Week

Next week, June 22–26, we welcome prospective high school students and their families to campus. Last year nearly 500 students and parents visited during Minnesota Private College Week. Augsburg's program differs from most others—rather than have a general welcome and campus tour, students and their families hear about our departments and programs from the faculty, staff, and students in those programs as they walk around campus. I'm grateful to the faculty and students who come back to campus to participate in this important recruiting event.

### Welcome, Slovenian students!

Welcome to the nine students and two professors who arrived on campus last Wednesday from the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. As part of our graduate social work partnership, they will visit social service agencies and organizations in the Twin Cities area and travel to Duluth. Last summer, a group of Augsburg MSW students, faculty, and staff visited Slovenia.

### Weekly Update schedule

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

## KUDOS

Kudos to **Staff Senate** and **Event and Conference Planning** for organizing a very successful second annual Campus Beautification Day. Congratulations to the Event and Conference Planning team for their Auggie Olympics win as well as to all who participated in the events. Some of the projects accomplished this year include mulching and weeding around campus, bulletin board clean-up, bio-retention pond clean-up, Murphy Square grill cleaning, trash clean-up near the Franklin Avenue light rail station, painting of Murphy's Grill, and many department projects.

Kudos to novelist **John Reimringer**, English, and poet **Katrina Vandenberg**, who will join the English Department this fall, for their reading last Friday at the Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts in Fridley.

Kudos to **Carla-Elaine Johnson**, English, who participated last night in Queer Voices: A Special GLBT Pride Reading at the Guthrie Theater, in a program co-sponsored by Intermedia Arts and the Guthrie.

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**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>

**June 14–19**

**Youth Theology Institute**, for high school students

**Thursday, June 18**

**Rochester Baccalaureate**

7 p.m., Bethel chapel, Bethel Lutheran Church, 810 3rd Avenue S.E., Rochester

**June 19–21**

**Final exams for spring trimester**—WEC, MA Education, MA Leadership, MA Nursing

**June 22–26**

**Minnesota Private College Week**

**Friday, June 26**

**Last day of Summer Session I classes**

**Friday, June 26**

**Rochesterfest parade, “Catching the Spirit,”** with Augsburg students and Auggie Eagle

6:15 p.m., Rochester

**June 26–27**

**MSW final exams**

**Sunday, June 28**

**WEC/Grad Commencement**

For information and schedule, go to [www.augsburg.edu/commencement](http://www.augsburg.edu/commencement)

## **DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS**

Daily chapel services Monday through Friday and the Saturday WEC First Word Gathering will resume in September.

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

Have a great two weeks—the next Weekly Update is on June 29.