



President's WEEKLY UPDATE

June 29, 2009

Page 1

Good morning. What a beautiful summer day we enjoyed as we celebrated Commencement with our weekend and graduate students, and their families and friends. Our Commencement speaker, Eric Jolly, Augsburg regent and president of the Science Museum of Minnesota, told graduates that they are our messengers of the future, and encouraged them to be active messengers, leaders who speak for those without a voice and who use knowledge to advance society.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) head and undersecretary Jane Lubchenco received an honorary Doctor of Science degree for her remarkable career as a scientist and public servant. She congratulated Augsburg for its focus on science and encouraged graduates to dedicate themselves to a generosity of spirit and knowledge for the common good.

Weekend student Duane Huisentrut received the Richard J. Thoni Award, given to a graduating weekend student who exemplifies the same spirit of community involvement as Rick Thoni in his long career at Augsburg. Duane began in the day college as an education student, and returned to finish as a weekend student, majoring in religion, with a minor in American Indian Studies. He worked one-on-one as a mentor with Buddhist youth and with Native American youth in the Twin Cities metro area. He plans to work in northern Minnesota as an educator with Ojibwe youth.

Tomorrow I leave for China with a group of our social work students and Professor Tiong Tan to study social welfare policy and social services. I look forward to our travel through Zhuhai, Beijing, and Hong Kong, especially a return trip to visit United International College (UIC), our partner college in Zhuhai.

The day after we leave, 13 students from UIC will arrive on our campus from Zhuhai. They will be here from July 1–August 7 to take a summer session course on campus and participate in a Minnesota History and Cultures experiential program.

Professor Chris Brown in the Education Department is planning a Saturday Fourth of July picnic on Nicollet Island for the Chinese students, beginning at 6 p.m. I encourage you to attend to help welcome them to Augsburg and Minneapolis. RSVP to brownc@augsborg.edu to find out what you are asked to bring.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Private College Week—a big success

Last week, during Minnesota Private College Week, the Augsburg day admissions team hosted 258 students and 230 parents, for a total of 488 visitors. Their campus tours included stops in athletics, fine arts, Urness Hall, study abroad, ethnic programs, and the admissions office.

June 29, 2009

Page 2

West Bank Farmers Market—Tuesdays at Augsburg

Beginning next week, July 7, on Tuesday afternoons from 2–5 p.m., several farm families will have fresh, locally-grown vegetables for sale in front of Foss Center.

The West Bank Farmers Market is a partnership between Augsburg and The Brian Coyle Center that enables the farm families to sell their produce all day in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood—during the morning from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. at Brian Coyle Center, and then on our campus from 2–5 p.m. It's a great way to eat local and support local farmers.

STEM Alliance meeting at Augsburg

On July 9, Augsburg will host the LSAMP North Star STEM Steering Committee meeting. The Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) is a National Science Foundation (NSF) program that supports underrepresented minorities achieving bachelor's degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Augsburg joins 15 other Minnesota higher education institutions, the Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA), and the Science Museum of Minnesota (SMM) to form the alliance.

During the 2008-09 academic year, Augsburg site coordinator Rebekah Dupont worked with 14 North Star Scholars, providing mathematics tutoring and connecting scholars with alliance activities and funding opportunities. Five North Star Scholars carried out undergraduate research during May.

Faculty, staff, and administrators from alliance institutions will attend the steering committee meeting. The agenda includes a brief presentation on Augsburg's Center for Science, Business, and Religion and opportunities to visit with faculty and students engaged in undergraduate research at Augsburg. See www.northstarstem.org for more information on the alliance. Contact Rebekah Dupont with any questions or comments at dupont@augsborg.edu or 612-330-1042.

Study and travel abroad

We wish safe travel to the following faculty and student groups away during July and August:

- China—"Social Welfare and Culture," Ngoh Tiong Tan, Social Work, June 29–July 13
- Namibia—"Walking the Truth," Cheryl Leuning and Magdeline Aagard, July 4–19
- Nicaragua—"Universal Responsibility," David Barlow and Joe Erickson, July 11–19 or 26
- Mexico—Peace Scholars to Chiapas, August 8–16

Groups on campus

Please welcome the following groups on campus in the next few weeks:

- June 21–July 11—Nautilus Music Theatre, Music-Theater Institute
- June 29–July 24—Volleyball camps
 - June 29–July 1, Advanced Skills Camp
 - July 21–22, Basic Skills Camp
 - July 23–24, Positional Training Camp

June 29, 2009

Page 3

- July 1–August 7—13 students visiting from United International College, Zhuhai, China
- July 5–11—Junior Composers Institute
- July 5–25—Urban Debate League
- July 6–August 7—SSS/TRiO Summer Bridge program
- July 7–30—GEMS/GISE SciFY—students in science and math
- July 9–10—Men's Basketball Auggie Shootout Camp
- July 14–30—Football camps
 - July 14, 7-on-7 Passing Tournament
 - July 27–30, Youth Football Clinic
- July 19–25—Paideia Summer Institute
- August 9–15—Medieval Minnesota Summer Camp
- Athletic Fundraising Golf Tournaments—
<http://athletics.augsburg.edu/news/2009/5/14/gen051509.aspx?path=football>
 - 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.

Weekly Update schedule

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

KUDOS

Many thanks to **everyone who helped to make the June Commencement weekend memorable** for our graduates and their families, including Event and Conference Planning, Augsburg Dining Services, Public Safety, the Buildings and Grounds Crew, Campus Ministry, Gospel Praise, and all the faculty and staff who participated in the festive weekend.

Congratulations to **Colin Irvine**, English Dept., who was named the 2009 Father of the Year by the Minnesota Twins and the National Center for Fathering. His second-grade son, Caleb, was one of 23,000 students who wrote essays to nominate their fathers and was named a finalist. Through a series of written and personal interviews, Colin was selected at the Father of the Year and threw out the first pitch at the baseball game on June 20.

Many thanks to the **admissions staff and Student Ambassadors** for their attention and hospitality during Minnesota Private College Week, with a special thank you to **Carola Thorson** and **Janet Bertok** for all of their planning. Also, thanks to faculty and staff who met with visiting students and their parents.

June 29, 2009

Page 4

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>

Tuesday, June 30

Community Time

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

Wednesday, July 1

Wednesday Gathering, lunch for faculty and staff

11 a.m.–1 p.m., East Commons, Christensen Center

July 2–3

Independence Day holiday (some offices open on July 2)

Saturday, July 4

Picnic to welcome students from Zhuhai, China

6 p.m., Nicollet Island

RSVP to Chris Brown, Education Dept., brownc@augsborg.edu for instructions.

July 6–30

GEMS/GISE SciFY—middle- and high-school girls and boys in science and math

July 7–August 7

Summer Session II classes

Thursday, July 9

North Star STEM Alliance steering committee meeting

The Minnesota Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation

10 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

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 summer—the next Weekly Update is on July 20.