



# President's WEEKLY UPDATE

October 13, 2008

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**Good morning.** On Thursday, I met with a group of more than 20 of our alumni who work at 3M in St. Paul. I enjoyed sharing with them our progress toward our strategic initiatives and plans for our capital campaign, including the Center for Science, Business, and Religion.

**This was one of a series of meetings and gatherings in a comprehensive plan to develop stronger relationships with area corporations and foundations.** We have much to learn from each other as we seek to educate and train the future workforce in a changing society. Especially as we move toward an active capital campaign, we have identified three goals for developing stronger connections with corporations and foundations:

- Increase our internal capacity to track where our alumni work, to identify potential connections with corporations across campus, and to seek out new funding needs
- Increase Augsburg's visibility and linkages in the corporate world through ongoing communications, events, presidential briefings, outreach projects, etc.
- Cultivate prospective corporate/foundation donors through personal communications and meetings involving the regents, our Development team, key alumni, volunteers, and myself.

We are making good progress in each of these areas, and I am especially pleased and grateful for the key role our regents are playing to provide support with contacts and connections, and to help identify potential corporate partners.

I have already met with executive leaders at Wells Fargo in Minnesota and Adolfson and Peterson Construction, and within the next few weeks have meetings scheduled with 3M Foundation, Best Buy Foundation, and the Wallin Foundation. In September we also hosted a brown bag lunch at Dain Rauscher for 15 of their employees to learn about our MBA program.

I am grateful for the work that Jeremy Wells, vice president for institutional advancement, and Laura Roller, director of corporate and foundation relations, have already done to craft and implement this comprehensive corporate plan. If you have any ideas for links to corporations and foundations, please contact Laura Roller in the Institutional Advancement office at [roller@augsborg.edu](mailto:roller@augsborg.edu).

I would also like to call your attention to an event in Rochester that is part of their Connecting with the Community series. **On Thursday evening, a group of Rochester business leaders will speak at a Business Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility Summit** at 7 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church in Rochester.

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This event is organized by David Conrad, assistant director of the MBA program in Rochester. Speakers include Mayo Clinic CEO Dr. Glenn Forbes, Crenlo LLC CEO and president Lance Fleming, Rochester *Post-Bulletin* managing editor Jay Furst, and Apollo Liquor and Hospitality president Ari Kolas. With the current economic crisis, this will be a timely meeting to hear about ethics and responsibility from business leaders.

## CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### Diversity Strategic Plan Update

**In January 2007, the Diversity Committee embarked on a campus-wide strategic planning initiative.** Actions included a student survey, faculty dialogue sessions, faculty survey, and strategic planning by administrative departments. Common themes and comments from the various campus constituencies included:

- Hire/increase faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds
- Provide opportunities for personal growth and development concerning diversity and privilege
- Continue to connect and build relationships with diverse communities external to Augsburg
- Continue the general education curriculum infusion related to diversity and global learning work, and expand it to additional majors and graduate programs
- All campus constituencies agreed that Augsburg is doing well to address this important and meaningful work

Augsburg's diversity action plan for 2008-09 has four components:

- Mission: Teaching and Learning—Advance the work of the Diversity and Global Learning (DGL) Collaborative across the curriculum
- People—Implement best practices for recruiting and retaining diverse staff and faculty
- Systems—President's Cabinet takes the lead to implement the diversity strategic plans in the administrative division
- Governance—Dedicate resources to diversity work, coordinate group development opportunities, and communicate about the diversity strategic plan at regularly-scheduled meetings on campus.

My sincere thanks to the faculty, staff, and students who are helping to lead this critical, mission-based work to live into our commitment to diversity.

## KUDOS

Congratulations to **Carol Barnett**, music, who has received a 2008-09 ASCAPLUS Award in the Concert Music Division. These are annual awards for writer members of ASCAP, the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers.

Many thanks to **Phil Quanbeck, David Tiede, and Kathleen Tuckner** for their work in organizing the 2008 Christensen Symposium, part of the 2008 Convocation Series. Just a reminder of the next convocation, Oct. 31, at 10 a.m., presenting eco-chef and food justice activist Bryant Terry.

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## NOTABLE EVENTS DURING THE WEEK

**Oct. 14**

**Focused Conversation, Jeremy Wells, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, "Campaign Update"**

Noon–1 p.m., Johnson Conference Center, OGC

**John Dau, former Lost Boy of Sudan, and founder of the John Dau Sudan Foundation**

7 p.m., Hoversten Chapel

**Oct. 15**

**Transportation Fair**, with information about commuting

11 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Christensen Center

**Annual Leadership Scholarship Dinner**—celebrates the recipients of the Leadership Awards from the Pan-Afrikan Center, and the American Indian, Pan-Asian, and Hispanic/Latino Student Services programs

5 p.m., East Commons

**"The Power of Words," Nuruddin Farah**, Somali writer, reading from his latest novel, *Knots*, with discussion and book signing.

6 p.m., Hoversten Chapel

**Oct. 16**

**Business Ethics Summit, "Connecting with the Community"**

7–8:30 p.m., Bethel Lutheran Church, 810 Third Ave. SE, Rochester, MN

## DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS

M,W,F–10:20–10:40 a.m., Community Time following; T-Th–11:20–11:40 a.m.; Wed–9:30 p.m., Communion; Sat (when weekend classes meet)–First Word Community Gathering at 7:30–7:50 and 8–8:20 a.m.

**Tues., Oct. 14**—Sarah Ruch, intern pastor

**Wed., Oct. 15**—Vocatio Chapel, Dr. David Greenlund, pastor and potter

**Wed. eve.**—Communion, with Pastor Dave Wold

**Thurs., Oct. 16**—Andrew Tengwall, Lutheran Volunteer Corps

**Fri., Oct. 17**—Redeemer Center for Life staff and "Jump"

**Mon., Oct. 20**—St. Luke's healing service

**Sports results and schedule**—[www.augsburg.edu/athletics](http://www.augsburg.edu/athletics)

Have a great week.