



# President's WEEKLY UPDATE

November 24, 2008

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**Good morning.** The college is closed on Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday. I hope you will take time with friends and family to give thanks for the blessings and abundance we enjoy. We certainly have much to be thankful for here at Augsburg.

## **Brian Krohn is Augsburg's first Rhodes Scholar**

On behalf of the entire Augsburg community, I am so proud to extend congratulations to chemistry major and Honors Program senior **Brian Krohn, who was selected this weekend as a Rhodes Scholar for 2009. He is Augsburg's first Rhodes Scholar** and will enter Oxford University next fall to study environmental change and management.

Brian has distinguished himself at Augsburg in many activities, but is best known for his summer research with chemistry professor Arlin Gyberg that led to collaboration with Augsburg alumnus Clayton McNeff at SarTec Corporation and the discovery of the Mcgyan process to make biodiesel fuel.

Brian is one of 31 Rhodes Scholars selected for 2009, from 769 applications submitted. Rhodes Scholarships, created in 1902, are the oldest of the international study awards available to American students and provide two or three years of study.

**Turkeypalooza is underway** again this year, with Campus Kitchen planning to serve 700 Thanksgiving meals. Last Thursday, they participated in the Multicultural Dinner at Brian Coyle Center, and this week they'll deliver turkey dinners on Wednesday to their regular diners and meal sites.

**Volunteers may still be needed for cooking on Tuesday and delivering meals on Wednesday** this week—if you are able to volunteer, go to the volunteer calendar at [http://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=pnEnj5\\_k0ileAHqYy1-a6PA](http://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=pnEnj5_k0ileAHqYy1-a6PA)

## **Men's soccer ends their season with a close loss**

**Congratulations, also, to the men's soccer team and head coach Greg Holker**, who ended their season on Saturday with a narrow 2-1 loss in the second overtime to Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa. The Auggies completed one of the top seasons in school history during Holker's fifth season, reaching the "Sweet Sixteen" in the NCAA Division III national championships.

## **CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES**

### **Diane Pike receives the Stewart Bellman Award**

It is my great pleasure to announce that **Diane Pike, director of the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), is the 2008 recipient of the Stewart Bellman Award for Exemplary Leadership, from The Collaboration for the Advancement of College Teaching and Learning.** She was honored last Friday at The Collaboration's annual conference.

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For more than 25 years at Augsburg, Diane has been recognized for her excellence as a classroom teacher and as a role model for other faculty members, in large part due to her ongoing participation in workshops and summer institutes, and her avid attention to the professional literature on student learning.

Her accomplishments at Augsburg have included re-envisioning the work of the Committee on Faculty Development, integrating activities for faculty and professional staff members, and creating dedicated space for student learning and CTL in Lindell Library. Most notably, however, has been her leadership in the creation of the new AugCore general education program—guiding the design team work and faculty collaboratives on specific issues, as well as securing a Bush Foundation grant for implementation.

Diane continues to serve in leadership roles to share her expertise in teaching portfolios and student engagement with others. She is a frequent contributor at regional and national meetings and institutes, and is a leader in the Midwest Sociological Association. Congratulations, Diane, for this honor.

#### **Winter sports are underway**

**The winter sports teams—men's and women's hockey, men's and women's basketball, and wrestling—have begun their competition already.** Both hockey teams are encouraged by young teams returning to build on last year's experience. The Auggie wrestlers enter the season with new head coach Mark Matzek '05 and ranked No. 2 in NCAA Division III. The men's basketball team seeks to pick up the momentum left last year after they won seven of the last nine games, while the women's team aims to continue the climb in conference ranking achieved last year.

I hope to see you at some of the games and matches as we cheer on our student-athletes. For complete information and schedules, go to [www.augsburg.edu/athletics](http://www.augsburg.edu/athletics).

#### **KUDOS**

Kudos to **Kelly Collins Strang**, Luther Hall director, who was recently appointed by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) to a committee that researches scholarship opportunities for women and girls.

Kudos to **Tara Sweeney**, Art Department, whose painting was pictured Friday in the *Star Tribune* review of the exhibit, "Waterborne: Regional Watercolors." The review, in describing Tara's work, stated that she "again stands out as a talent to watch." The exhibit runs through Dec. 11 at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery on the University of Minnesota West Bank.

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My thanks and appreciation to **Dixie Shafer, director of Undergraduate Research and Graduate Opportunity (URGO)**, and to the faculty and staff who supported Brian Krohn's application and interviews for the Rhodes Scholarship. Bob Cowgill (English), Dal Liddle (English), and Phil Adamo (History) assisted Brian with his application and personal statement. Those who interviewed and coached him include Frankie Shackelford (Languages and Cross-Cultural Studies), Bob Cowgill, Jacqui DeVries (History), Orv Gingerich (International Programs), Betsey Norgard (Marketing and Communication), Mark Engebretson (Physics), David Tiede (Religion), Bruce Reichenbach (Philosophy), Lisa Jack (Psychology), Dal Liddle, Phil Adamo, Jane Ann Nelson (Library), Sandra Olmsted (Chemistry), and Bob Groven (Communication Studies). Letters were written by Clayton McNeff (SarTec Corporation), Arlin Gyberg (Chemistry), Joan Kunz (Chemistry), Tracy Bibelnicks (Mathematics), Sandra Olmsted, President Pribbenow, Bob Groven, Phil Quanbeck (Religion), and Bob Cowgill, who wrote the institutional letter of endorsement.

## NOTABLE EVENTS DURING THE WEEK

**Nov. 25**

**Community Time**

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

**Nov. 27-28**

**Thanksgiving Holiday**

## 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., Nov. 25**—Lynne Lorenzen, Religion Dept.

**Wed., Nov. 26**—Thanksgiving Communion

**Thurs., Nov. 27**—Thanksgiving Day

**Fri., Nov. 28**—Thanksgiving break

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

Have a great week and Happy Thanksgiving.