



President's WEEKLY UPDATE

January 11, 2010

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Good morning. Welcome back to day students and faculty, who begin spring semester classes today. And welcome back to all who traveled during the holiday break for study, competition, performances, and vacation.

A special welcome to Professor Tugen Hao, dean of the foreign language department at Anqing Teachers College in China, who is a visiting professor/scholar at Augsburg for the spring semester, with a teaching specialty in American literature. His office will be in the Languages and Cross-Cultural Studies Department in Old Main. In addition to auditing classes and pursuing his research, he is available to speak to classes or other groups on the topics of Chinese education, Chinese culture, and other topics of interest.

I was very pleased to host on campus yesterday the Honorable Barry White, United States Ambassador to Norway, who is on an introductory tour to areas of the U.S. with strong ties to Norway. We had the opportunity—along with colleagues from the Nobel Peace Prize Forum colleges—to share with Ambassador White some of the distinctive educational initiatives we are pursuing with partner institutions in Norway.

Our thoughts and prayers remain with the family and friends of Professor Don Steinmetz, who died on December 28. A memorial service is scheduled for February 4 at 4 p.m. in Hoversten Chapel. Professor Steinmetz was a world-renowned scholar in linguistics and is remembered with great admiration and fondness by colleagues and former students. During his 41 years at Augsburg, he taught German and Spanish, among other courses, and served as department chairman.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

22nd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation

Next Monday, January 18, no classes meet as we honor Martin Luther King Jr. Day. At 1 p.m. in Hoversten Chapel, the 22nd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation features Charles McDew, a founder of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and retired professor, presenting “We Are the Ones We Have Been Waiting For.” I hope to see you at this important annual celebration.

H1N1 flu shot clinics

This week the Minnesota Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control, and other health organizations launched campaigns to promote flu vaccination. Although the fall outbreak of the H1N1 flu has subsided, it is very possible and typical of influenza viruses to occur in several waves throughout the year. Augsburg has arranged clinics on campus to provide H1N1 flu shots for faculty, staff, and students.

H1N1 flu shots for faculty and staff

Monday, Jan. 18—8 a.m. to noon, Riverside Room, Christensen Center

Thursday, Jan. 21—noon to 4 p.m., Minneapolis Room, Christensen Center

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Augsburg College will pay the cost of these vaccinations, administered by Homeland Health Specialists. No claims will be submitted to insurance.

You must schedule a time for a vaccination by calling Human Resources at x1058.

H1N1 flu shots for students—walk-in clinic

Friday, Jan. 22—3 to 7 p.m., Marshall Room, Christensen Center

This clinic is sponsored by the Minnesota Visiting Nurse Association. Cost for the vaccine is \$20.40 for the shot and \$13.31 for the nasal vaccine; students can either bring their health insurance information with them or pay for the vaccine with cash or a check. There is no need to sign up. Note: faculty and staff may also visit this clinic if they bring their insurance information or pay for the vaccine.

Welcome new students!

Welcome to the 337 new students beginning winter and spring terms at Augsburg. The day program has a total of 101 new students, bringing their total number of students to 1,899. Weekend College has 127 new students in the undergraduate weekend/evening program at the main campus, 41 in Rochester, 1 at United Hospital, and 10 in the Bloomington Center, bringing the total number of adult undergraduates to 1,111. In graduate programs 109 new students are entering in six programs (39 in MA Education, 14 in MA Leadership, 4 in MA Nursing, 33 in MSW, 11 in MBA, and 8 in the recently accredited Doctor of Nursing Practice), bringing total graduate students to 890.

We welcome 22 new international students who have just completed their new student orientation with Jim Trelstad-Porter, director of international student advising. Fifteen students are visiting short-term students studying social work, business, and education through the International Partners program, and seven are degree-seeking students in both graduate and undergraduate programs. They represent four continents: Africa, Asia, Europe, and South America.

Save the dates for winter-spring events

This new calendar year and academic term bring a number of significant events occurring on campus in the coming months. Here are some of the events coming up—check the Inside Augsburg calendar and stories for details as they become available.

- Monday, Jan. 18 at 1 p.m.—22nd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation—Charles McDew, civil rights leader and retired professor
- Thursday, Feb. 4 at 5 p.m.—Executive Leader Speaker Series—Nicolas Thomley '06 MBA, CEO, Pinnacle Services
- Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m.—Carl H. Chrislock Memorial History Lecture—Odd Lovell, professor emeritus of history, St. Olaf College

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- Friday, Feb. 12 at 3:30 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 13 at noon—Counseling and Health Promotion Convocation—Elena Avila, *curandera* (healer) and author
- Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 6:30 p.m.—Mardi Gras Madrigals
- Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m.—Debate of DFL candidates for governor, hosted by Augsburg
- Friday, Feb. 26 at 10 a.m., and Saturday, Feb. 27 at noon—Batalden Seminar in Applied Ethics—Gustavo Esteva, writer and social activist
- Friday, March 5 from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday, March 6 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.—22nd Annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum, honoring 2008 Nobel peace laureate Martti Ahtisaari
- Thursday, April 1 at 5 p.m.—Executive Leader Speaker Series—Chris Policinski, president and CEO, Land O'Lakes
- Wednesday, April 7 at 3:45 p.m.—Alternative Energy Symposium: The Science and Careers—Cynthia Jones, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Agency; Clayton McNeff, SarTec and Evercat Fuels; Lisa Mahoney, Xcel Energy; Mark Ahlstrom, WindLogics Inc.; Martin Sabo, moderator
- Thursday, April 8 from 5 to 6:30 p.m.—Fourth Annual Torstenson Lecture in Sociology—Sue Smith-Cunnien, University of St. Thomas
- Monday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m., and Tuesday, April 13 at 11 a.m.—Sverdrup Visiting Scientist Lecture—Mark Rea, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Saturday, May 1—May Commencement for day students and physician assistant master's students—Governor Tim Pawlenty, speaker (invited)
 - 9 a.m., Baccalaureate service
 - 11 a.m., Commencement Ceremony
 - 12:30 p.m., Department and Program Receptions
- Tuesday, May 11 at 5 p.m. (at Town and Country Club)—Executive Leader Speaker Series—Irving Weiser, retired chairman, RBC (formerly RBC Dain Rauscher)
- Tuesday, May 18 at 7 p.m.—Rochester Convocation—Dr. Paul S. Mueller, Mayo Clinic and Augsburg regent
- Sunday, June 27—June Commencement for Weekend College, Rochester, and five master's programs—U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar, speaker (invited)
 - 9 a.m., Baccalaureate service
 - 11 a.m., Commencement Ceremony
 - 12:30 p.m., Department and Program Receptions

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Closing for chapel time

Once more I want to draw your attention to the importance of chapel in Augsburg's life and mission. This is a time for our community—Sabbath time—that we set aside each week day (and Weekend College Saturdays) for chapel services or to worship or reflect in other meaningful ways. I ask all offices to remain closed during chapel time as a sign of our common purpose.

We meet in chapel on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:20 to 10:40 a.m., followed by 20 minutes of community time; and on Tuesday and Thursday from 11:20 to 11:40 a.m. On Weekend College Saturdays, the chapel service is at 7:30 a.m. There is also an informal communion on Wednesday evenings at 9:09 p.m. I draw your attention to the list of chapel speakers and programs in the calendar below.

Wednesday Gathering

I also remind you about Wednesday Gatherings, on the first Wednesday of each month, when lunch and dessert are available to faculty and staff at no cost. These informal lunches are times for our community to get to know each other and share a meal together. The lunch is available from 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m.; for those who work on the night shift, a free meal is available at 8 p.m. in the Minneapolis Room.

Also, throughout the year, we are pleased to offer faculty and staff subsidized lunches and dinners, at a cost of \$4.50 for lunch and \$7.15 for dinner. This practice encourages our community (faculty, staff, and students) to come together informally in conversation and fellowship.

Tuesday Community Time

On the last Tuesday of each month, we set aside time at 3:45 p.m. in East Commons to gather together for conversation, discussion, and to hear about items of interest and concern. I hope faculty, staff, and students will take this time to come together around our common work.

KUDOS

Congratulations to the **Auggie wrestling team** that captured its fifth National Wrestling Coaches Association/Cliff Keen Division III National Duals title with an 18-15 championship-match triumph over Wartburg College yesterday at the University of Northern Iowa. A pin by **Zach Molitor** gave Augsburg the edge over Wartburg for the championship.

Kudos to **Peter Hendrickson**, Music, who is traveling in Korea on a choral discovery tour from January 6–13.

Kudos to **John Zobitz**, Mathematics, for his article about service-learning, "Quantifying the Atmospheric Impact of an Urban Biomass Incinerator," which appears in the Fall 2009 issue of *Science Education & Civic Engagement*."

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NOTABLE EVENTS THIS WEEK—For a complete listing of Augsburg events, go to the Inside Augsburg Calendar at <http://inside.augsburg.edu>

Monday, Jan. 11

Classes begin, spring semester

Wednesday, Jan. 13

PASU Speaker Series, co-sponsored by the History Dept.

Hollis Watkins, civil rights leader and founder of Southern Echo
3 p.m., Marshall Room, Christensen Center

Monday, Jan. 18

22nd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation

Charles McDew, civil rights leader, “We Are the Ones We Have Been Waiting For”
1 p.m., Hoversten Chapel

DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS

M,W,F—10:20-10:40 a.m., Community Time following; T-Th—11:20-11:40 a.m.; Wed—9:09 p.m., Communion; Sat (when weekend classes meet)—First Word Community Gathering, 7:30-7:50 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 12—Joe Midthun, Luther Seminary

Wednesday, Jan. 13—Pastor Sonja Hagander

Thursday, Jan. 14—Sylvia Bull, senior speaker

Friday, Jan. 15—Pastor Dave Wold

Monday, Jan. 18—1 p.m., Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation—Charles McDew, “We Are the Ones We Have Been Waiting For”

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

Just a reminder about Augsburg’s planning for an H1N1 flu outbreak ... follow the link from Inside Augsburg or go to <http://www.augsburg.edu/h1n1> for information, updates, monitoring, and communications during the flu season.

Have a great week!