



President's WEEKLY UPDATE

March 8, 2010

Page 1

Good morning. What a terrific weekend it was for Augsburg College.

First, the 22nd annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum brought more than 1,200 participants to campus as we hosted President Martti Ahtisaari, Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik, Leymah Gbowee and other noted panelists to help us explore the idea of peacemaking as a “matter of will.” It was a wonderful event, full of meaningful and serious conversation, education and inspiration. Many thanks to co-chairs Orv Gingerich and Frankie Shackelford, the planning committee, students, performers, and all who made it so successful.

Congratulations also to Katherine Edelen and Mai Yer Vang, who were selected as the 2010 Peace Scholars from Augsburg. Read about them below.

Next year’s Peace Prize Forum will be held at Luther College, March 4–5, honoring the work of 2009 Peace laureate Barack Obama, with the theme, “Striving for Peace: Courage to Act.”

And then to top off the weekend the Auggie wrestlers won their 11th NCAA Division III title in 20 years with eight All-Americans and three national runners-up. Congratulations also to head coach **Mark Matzek**, who became the youngest coach to be named Division III National Coach of the Year by the National Wrestling Coaches Association, and to **Jared Evans**, named Assistant Coach of the Year. Congratulations, Auggie wrestlers—we’re proud of you!

I am saddened to announce the death of former faculty member and Distinguished Alumnus **Neal Thorpe ’60**, who died last Wednesday. He taught biology and served as department chair at Augsburg for 22 years before beginning a second career in private philanthropy with the Murdock Charitable Trust. His expertise especially benefited science research and education.

The Weekly Update will not be published next week during the spring midterm semester break. The next issue will be on March 22.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Winter parking restrictions lifted

As of Friday, March 5, the restrictions on parking on the even sides of Minneapolis streets have been lifted.

Congratulations to the 2010 Peace Scholars

Congratulations to the two new Peace Prize Forum Peace Scholars. Katie Edelen is a senior (who will stay for another year) from Madison, Wis., who is studying chemistry, biology, and environmental studies. She is also a Sabo Scholar. Mai Yer Vang is a junior from St. Paul with a major in sociology and a minor in creative writing.

March 8, 2010

Page 2

This summer all 10 new Peace Scholars from the five colleges will study peace, justice, democracy, and human rights at the International Summer School at the University of Oslo.

Foodless Food Drive reminder

As part of Minnesota Food Share's March campaign, a "Foodless" Food Drive will be held this month in support of the food shelf at the Brian Coyle Community Center. The foodless aspect of the drive recognizes that monetary donations are often more valued by the food shelf since they are able to purchase more food of the types most needed by community residents. The Central Minneapolis Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will match \$1 for every \$2 raised.

Envelopes were sent to faculty and staff for donations, or checks can be made out to the Brian Coyle Food Shelf and sent to Campus Box 310.

Housing Expo tomorrow

Tomorrow afternoon at the Housing Expo Selection Night, in East Commons beginning at 3 p.m., day students will select their apartments or special interest housing for next year. This year Residence Life welcomes Admissions and Student Accounts to help day students transition successfully into another year of on-campus housing.

Annual blood drive

The Memorial Blood Center will be on campus on Wednesday from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. in East Commons for the annual spring blood drive. To sign up for a time slot, call the Center for Counseling and Health Promotion at 612-330-1707.

Spring break travel

Our thoughts and prayers will be with everyone traveling during midterm break. Groups from Augsburg who will be away include:

- Athletic teams
 - Baseball team to Phoenix, Ariz., for the Greater Phoenix Invitational, March 14–19
 - Softball team to Tucson, Ariz., for the Tucson Invitational, March 13–18
 - Men's and women's golf to Tucson, Ariz., for the TIG Sport Tournament, March 17–19
- Campus Ministry spring break trip to Mobile, Ala.
- Concert Band tour to Montana, March 14–20

Second Annual Powwow on March 20

The Second Annual Powwow will take place on Saturday, March 20, with the Grand Entries at 1 and 7 p.m., and the Feast at 5 p.m. in Melby Hall.

March 8, 2010

Page 3

Student Philanthropy Week

During Student Philanthropy Week this week the Augsburg Stewards and other student and staff volunteers will table around noon in Christensen Center. The goal of the program is to create awareness around the many ways that people give back to their community and Augsburg.

KUDOS

Many thanks and appreciation to **everyone who worked together to make the Peace Prize Forum such a successful event**, especially Jodi Collen and the Event and Conference Planning Office, A'viands staff, the Peace Prize Forum planning committee, the student committee and those who hosted visiting students, John Pack and the Department of Public Safety, and all who performed, planned, volunteered, and provided campus hospitality.

Kudos to **Bob Stacke**, chair of the Music Department, who directed the Cultural Dimensions Band, comprised of students in grades 6–12 from 10 Minneapolis schools, that performed in Viva City, a citywide celebration of students in the performing and visual arts. The band's music included a contemporary piece performed with musical guests Ilay/Beam of Light, a Somali rock band that also performed at the closing ceremony of the Peace Prize Forum.

Congratulations to **Colin Irvine**, English Department, who was selected as a Fulbright Roving Scholar in American Studies in Norway during 2010–11. He will travel to secondary schools across Norway and give seminars and training sessions to teachers and students on a variety of subjects, including American literature, politics, history, film, folklore, geography, and current events.

Kudos to **Sarah Myers**, Theatre Arts Department, whose play *The Realm* will be produced in New York in April by Down Payment Productions, with several Broadway performers in the cast.

Kudos to communication studies major **Alison Rapp**, who won a second place trophy a week ago at the Twin Cities Forensic League tournament held at Normandale Community College. Her second place finish in Communication Analysis was based on a Burkean interpretation of President Obama's inaugural address. Augsburg students **Megan Henley** and **Jacob Steffen** also participated and finished third and fourth, respectively.

Kudos to the **Augsburg Asian Student Association (AASA) newly-elected officers** for 2010–2011: **Tsimnuj Hawj**, president; **Houa Lor**, vice president; **Nou Yang**, secretary; **Maya Vue**, treasurer; **Issie Kashima**, historian; **Mee Vang**, public relations; and **Shoua Lynda Moua**, outreach coordinator.

March 8, 2010

Page 4

Congratulations to senior **Whitney Holman**, first-year **Shanek Telphia**, and junior **Nick Ward** who led the Auggies by capturing conference titles at the MIAC track and field championships.

Kudos and thanks to **everyone who helped to organize and run the “Holy Buckets” Congregational Basketball Tournament** that brought 2,000 and more players, parents, and others to campus a week ago.

Kudos to **Sadie Curtis**, Access Center, and student **Laura Cannata** for their workshop “Creating Access: How to Make Your Programming More Accessible,” that was presented to leaders of campus clubs and organizations.

Kudos to **Dave Praska** and **Caitlin Massop**, whose posters and research were displayed at the State Capitol Rotunda on Thursday for Minnesota Private College Scholars at the Capitol Day on Thursday. Dave answered questions about his poster, “The Use of Evidence-based Practices with Children with Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder.” Caitlin’s poster is “Children’s Humor Style and Its Relation to Social Interaction, Self-esteem, and Mood.”

Kudos and thanks to those who worked on the Housing Expo Selection Night: **Cyndy Rowe**, housing specialist; **Brian Emerick** and **Amanda Temple**, special interest house coordinators; **Ali Pickens**, Luther/Oren Gateway Residence Hall director; **Michael Perry**, Urness Residence Hall director; **Schuyler Tilson**, assistant to the housing specialist; and the **student staff**.

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

Monday, March 8

Staff Service Recognition and Awards

2:30 p.m., East Commons, Christensen Center

Tuesday–Friday, March 9–12

***Four Walls*, guest directed by Luverne Seifert; work-in-progress**

7 p.m., Foss Film Studio

Wednesday, March 10

Speaking of Scholarship, Joe Erickson, Education Dept., “Service-learning’s Impact on Attitudes and Behavior: A Review and Update”

12:15 p.m., Oren Gateway Center 100

Friday–Sunday, March 12–14

WEC, MAE, MAN, and MSW classes meet

President's WEEKLY UPDATE

AUGSBURG
COLLEGE

March 8, 2010

Page 5

Sunday–Saturday, March 14–20

Augsburg Concert Band tour, west to Montana, with eight concerts in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana

Monday–Sunday, March 15–21

Day spring semester midterm break

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Saturday, March 20

Second Annual Powwow at Augsburg

1 p.m., 7 p.m., Grand Entries, Melby Hall

5 p.m., Feast, Melby Hall

Friday–Sunday, March 19–21

WEC, MAE, MAN, and MSW classes meet

Sunday, March 21

Augsburg Concert Band home concert

7 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, March 9—Matt Maruggi, Religion Dept., on reconciliation

Wednesday, March 10—Lori Brandt Hale, Religion Dept., on reconciliation

Wednesday evening, 9:09 p.m.—Songs and communion, with Babette Chatman

Thursday, March 11—Mark Tranvik, Religion Dept., on reconciliation

Friday, March 12—Karl Jacobson, Religion Dept., on reconciliation

Monday, March 15—Midterm semester break, chapel services will resume on March 22.

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

Have a great midterm break! The next Weekly Update is on March 22.