



President's WEEKLY UPDATE

May 3, 2010

Page 1

Good morning. It was a grand commencement weekend, as we honored nearly 400 day program undergraduates and 28 physician assistant master's degree students. Our graduates heard inspiring words about civic engagement from commencement speaker Governor Tim Pawlenty, from honorary degree recipient Father Fernando Cardenal from Nicaragua, and from student speaker Nou Chang '10.

The 2010 Marina Christensen Justice Award was presented to Jessica Spanswick, whose remarkable list of achievements reflects a deep commitment to service—engaging in environmental issues here on campus and in southern Africa, in studying social justice and peacemaking in Mexico, and in tutoring in our own Cedar-Riverside neighborhood.

Nou Chang, a biology and English major, who spoke on behalf of the Class of 2010, talked about how civic engagement is integrated into everyday life at Augsburg and how for her it means also being active and involved outside of Augsburg—locally and globally. Read more about Nou on Inside Augsburg at http://augnet.augsburg.edu/news-archives/2010/04_19_10/nou_chang.html.

The Augsburg College Board of Regents met for its spring meeting on Friday, April 30. Among its actions taken were approval of the 2010-11 operating budget for the College and of changes to the Faculty Handbook having to do with criteria for tenure and promotion.

Perhaps the board's most momentous action was approval of a new mission statement for Augsburg College. The culmination of nearly two years of conversation with faculty, staff, students, alumni, and board members, the new mission statement reflects the strong historic values of Augsburg while at the same time recognizing the changing reality of the College's expanding academic programs and sites. The new statement reads:

"Augsburg College educates students to be informed citizens, thoughtful stewards, critical thinkers, and responsible leaders. The Augsburg experience is supported by an engaged community that is committed to intentional diversity in its life and work. An Augsburg education is defined by excellence in the liberal arts and professional studies, guided by the faith and values of the Lutheran Church, and shaped by its urban and global settings."

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Faculty workshops

The Center for Teaching and Learning and the dean's office present this year's schedule of May faculty workshops that begin tomorrow. See the calendar below or go to <http://web.augsburg.edu/academicaffairs/MayWorkshop2010>.

May 3, 2010

Page 2

Changes to the Minneapolis Room

Beginning today, renovation begins in the Minneapolis Room, on the third floor of Christensen Center, to create office space for seven people in the Enrollment Management division, including the division's graduate admissions counselors. Move-in day is scheduled for May 28. Much of the interior surface materials will be reused in the new configuration of offices and workspaces, which will include a small conference room. The hall corridor will also get a face-lift with lighter wood. This project—which brings the entire admissions team together in the same building—is part of the master plan crafted by the Christensen Center Task Force several years ago.

Augsburg travel and study trips

We wish safe journeys to the following faculty, staff, and student groups leaving for travel and study from now through the summer:

- China—The Augsburg Choir, May 3–13
- Spain and France—Men's soccer team, playing five games against club teams, May 3–13
- Thailand—Thai Education and Culture, Kathryn Swanson, May 5–28
- Germany and Poland—The Aftermath of World War II, Jacqueline deVries and Bob Cowgill, May 8–22
- Netherlands, Belgium, and Germany—Women's soccer team, playing four games against local club teams, May 10–19
- Scotland—Writing and Medieval History, Phil Adamo and Colin Irvine, May 18–June 6
- Canada (Winnipeg)—Football team, for a game against a local club team, May 29
- Namibia—Social Change and Development in Southern Africa, May 30–August 8
- Nicaragua—Universal Responsibility: A Nicaraguan Perspective, graduate course for MAL and PA, June 27–July 12
- Mexico—Social Work and Education: A Cross-Cultural Perspective, graduate course for MSW and MAE, June 27–July 12
- Canada and the U.S.—Sustainable Cities in North America, Lars Christiansen and Nancy Fischer, July 8–August 1
- Mexico—Hoversten Peace Seminar for faculty, staff, and students, July 31–August 8

KUDOS

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

May 3, 2010

Page 3

Kudos to the newly-elected Staff Senate members: **Kevin Cheatham, Jessica Fox-Wilson, Penh Lo, and Vinni Thongthi.**

Kudos to graduating senior first-baseman **Joe Pierce**, who was featured in Friday's Star Tribune for his 31-game consecutive-game hitting streak. It is the longest active and overall streak of any hitter in NCAA Division III baseball this season.

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

Tuesday, May 4

Faculty Workshop—Experiential Education: Connecting Your Course(s) with Resources in the Cities, Garry Hesser, Matthew Maruggi, Mary Laurel True

Wednesday, May 5

Faculty Workshop—AugSem, Bev Stratton
8:30–10:15 a.m., Kennedy 303/305

Wednesday, May 5

Faculty Workshop—AVID, Lori Brandt Hale
10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Kennedy 303/305

Wednesday, May 5

First Wednesday Gathering
11 a.m.–1 p.m., East Commons, Christensen Center
First Wednesday Supper
8 p.m., Augsburg Room, Christensen Center

Thursday, May 6

Faculty Workshop—Chairs Workshop
9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Kennedy 303/305

Thursday, May 6

Faculty Workshop—Portfolio Workshop, Diane Pike
12:30–3:30 p.m., Lindell Library 202

Friday–Sunday, May 7–9

WEC, MAE, MAN, MSW classes meet

Monday–Tuesday, May 10–11

Faculty Workshop—New Faculty Retreat, Frankie Shackelford
Dunrovin Retreat Center

President's WEEKLY UPDATE

AUGSBURG
COLLEGE

May 3, 2010

Page 4

Wednesday–Thursday, May 12–13

Faculty Workshop—Remembering and Renewal Retreat, Bev Stratton and Ron Petrich

Mt. Olivet Retreat Center

Thursday, May 13

Faculty Workshop—Portfolio Workshop, Diane Pike

9:30 a.m.–noon, Lindell 202

Friday, May 14

Faculty Workshop—College-Wide Assessment Workshop

10 a.m.–2 p.m., Kennedy 303/305

Friday, May 14

Faculty Workshop—Faculty Adviser Workshop, Sheila Anderson

2:30–3:30 p.m., Kennedy 303/305

DAILY CHAPEL SPEAKERS

Daily chapel services Monday through Friday will resume in September; WEC First Word Community Gathering, Saturday morning when classes meet, 7:30–7:50 a.m.

Saturday, May 8—First Word gathering, Nate Hallanger, Special Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, “The Lilies of the Field.”

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

The next Update will come out on May 17. I’m off to China with the Augsburg Choir. Follow reports and pictures from the tour on

<http://www.travelpod.com/members/augsburgchoir>. Have a great two weeks!