



# President's WEEKLY UPDATE

September 28, 2009

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**Good morning.** What a wonderful launching of the 2009-10 Convocation Series we had last week with the Bernhard Christensen Symposium. The events over the two days included a number of opportunities to learn and share perspectives on the actions we could and should be taking to become more sustainable. I am especially proud of our students who organized Monday's teach-ins as part of Sustainability Awareness Month and shared what they have learned and are already doing—pushing for the adoption of alternative transportation, applying practices of sustainability learned abroad, and exploring very broad questions about the fate of our earth.

I'm so pleased that our chapel was filled with people and energy on Monday evening as environmentalist Bill McKibben challenged our community to "do the most important work we can do each day" and push for the political will to respond more effectively to the global climate crises.

**This week is Homecoming** and we'll celebrate the 2009 Auggie Adventure. It's a joy to welcome our alumni and friends back to campus during the week; Homecoming is a great opportunity for alumni to reconnect with the College. Please greet them and help them explore the campus.

Homecoming is also a time when we can showcase what truly makes us distinctive. Most importantly, it's a great time for alumni to meet current students, our future alumni. Through Project IGNITE, students have already begun developing new relationships with alumni, and I'll enjoy seeing alumni and students together at activities during the week.

The festive week kicks off tonight with a pep rally in Melby Hall at 7:30, followed by fireworks at 8:15 p.m. in Murphy Square. Highlights of the week include (see also Notable Events below):

## **Wednesday**

- Augsburg Associates' Fall Luncheon, 10:30 a.m.–2 p.m., Town and Country Club—Abigail and I will speak about the College's role in promoting peace and next year's Nobel Peace Prize Forum, to be held March 5-6.

## **Thursday**

- Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet, 5:30–8:30 p.m., Christensen Center Commons—The 2009 inductees are Bob Arvold '82, Joel Engel '87, Matt Farley '88, Dallas Miller '88, Ruth Olson '60, Sonja Slack Payne '91, Drew Privette '89, Dan Roff '82, and Stefanie Lodermeier Strusz '98.

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## Friday

- The Class of 1959 will celebrate their 50-year reunion during the day.
- Homecoming Convocation, followed by luncheon, 10 a.m., Hoversten Chapel—We will honor the following people at this time:
  - Brenda Talarico, '99 PA (First Decade Award)
  - James E. Haglund, regent emeritus and Augsburg parent (Spirit of Augsburg Award)
  - Tove Dahl '84 and Curt Rice '84 (Distinguished Alumni Award)
  - Phebe Hanson '50 (Distinguished Alumna Award)
  - Joyce (Anderson) Pfaff '65 (Distinguished Alumna Award)
  - Richard Thorud '54 (Distinguished Alumnus Award)
- Auggie Author Reception and Booksigning, 4–6 p.m., Student Art Gallery, Christensen Center
- Sabo Center Panel Discussion, “A Mandate to Teach and a Call to Educate: Views from the School House,” 4:30–6 p.m., Hoversten Chapel—I encourage you to attend this seminar that is moderated by Rep. Martin Sabo '59 and features three leading educators, Steve DeLapp (Barton Open School), Lynn Nordgren (Minneapolis Federation of Teachers), and David Jennings (East Carver Public Schools).
- Welcome Back Banquet, 6–8:30 p.m., The Commons

## Saturday

- Picnic in the Park, 11 a.m., Murphy Square
- Football game vs. Hamline University, 1 p.m., Edor Nelson Field
- Auggie Block Party, 3:30–7 p.m., 7th Street—including reunions for the Classes of 1959, 1969, 1984, 1999, and the Young Alumni
- Auggie Block Party Concert, 7–9 p.m., 7th Street

There are many other events scheduled during the week, including opportunities for alumni and friends to attend special continuing education classes, a health fair, the fall art tour, hymn sing with “Gabe” Gabrielsen, and more. For the complete list and the schedule, go to <http://www.augsburg.edu/homecoming>. I look forward to seeing you during the week!

## CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### Community Time tomorrow

Please join us tomorrow afternoon at 3:45 p.m. in East Commons for the first Community Time of this year where we'll recognize and welcome new faculty and staff. These gatherings, on the last Tuesday of the month, support our commitment to building community and practicing common work. All members of the community are welcome.

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## Fall enrollment report

For the first time, Augsburg's enrollment has topped 4,000 students, up more than 100 to a total of 4,054. The fall enrollment report indicates that the Day College and Graduate Studies have increased, while the Augsburg for Adults undergraduate program is down only slightly.

The diversity of our student body has also increased. While the overall percentage of students of color has increased from 15% to 19%, in the Day College that percentage has jumped to 25%, with the diversity of the incoming first-year class more than 40%. I am pleased that this reflects our commitment to providing access to a college education for qualified students who might not have considered private college an affordable option, many of whom come to us through our deep and abiding partnerships with college readiness programs such as Admission Possible, TRiO, and the Wallin Foundation.

## Seasonal flu shot clinic

A clinic for the seasonal flu shots will take place on campus for all faculty, staff, and students on Wednesday, Oct. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Riverside Room.

The flu shots will be administered by nurses from the Minnesota Visiting Nurse Association. The cost is \$24.99 and can be paid by cash or check (no credit cards), or can be submitted to your health insurance provider with the appropriate insurance card brought to the clinic. Appointments will be available if you need or want a specific time slot by calling the CCHP office at 612-330-1707.

As you are well aware, there is a heightened sense of urgency with all the H1N1 outbreaks, and our partner in the Minnesota Visiting Nurse Association along with other public health agencies are strongly encouraging individuals this year more than other years to get a seasonal flu vaccine.

## KUDOS

Many thanks to **David Tiede, Tom Morgan, Diane Glorvigen, Kjerstin Hagen, other students leading Sustainability Awareness Month, and many others** who were involved in planning and organizing this year's Christensen Symposium.

Kudos to **Garry Hesser**, professor of sociology and Sabo Professor of Citizenship and Learning, who facilitated a day-long retreat for the faculty of Augustana College, Sioux Falls, on September 2. The topic was "Teaching for Learning: Connecting the Research on Learning to Community-Based Engagement and Experiential Education." He also made a presentation, "Community-Based Participatory Research: Myles Horton, Paulo Freire, and Listening" at the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute on September 15.

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Kudos to the students who participated in the Leadership from the Heart training sessions from The Life Skills Center for Leadership on September 20–21, sponsored by the Day Student Government, that aims to help students discover the “power within to create breakthroughs in their lives which they never could have imagined would happen.” Students who participated were: **Tom Thao, Mei Yer Vang, Khalid Adam, Ulises Ayala-Beltran, Richmond Appleton, Matthew Wallin, John MacCormick, Kevin Newcomb, Katie Loving, Yasameen Sajady, and Cory Hasselstrom.**

Kudos to **Sally Daniels**, Alumni and Constituent Relations, who hosted a Parents Council meeting on Sept. 22.

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

**Sept. 28–Oct. 4**

**Homecoming 2009**

Go to [www.augsburg.edu/homecoming](http://www.augsburg.edu/homecoming)

**Monday, Sept. 28**

- **Pep Rally and Coronation**  
7:30 p.m., Melby Hall
- **Kick-off fireworks display**  
8:15 p.m., Murphy Square

**Tuesday, Sept. 29**

- **Health Fair**, Center for Counseling and Health Promotion  
11:45 a.m.–2 p.m., Quad
- **Community Time**, Welcome to new faculty and staff, 4 p.m.  
3:45 p.m., East Commons
- **ASAC Homecoming Variety Show and Concert**, featuring Ari Herstand  
6 p.m., East Commons, Christensen Center

**Wednesday, Sept. 30**

- **Augsburg Associates Luncheon**—President Paul and Abigail Pribbenow will speak about the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize Forum  
10:30 a.m.–2 p.m., Town and Country Club, St. Paul
- **Swing Dancing**  
8 p.m., Minneapolis Room

**Thursday, Oct. 1**

**Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet**

5:30–8:30 p.m., Christensen Center Commons

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## Friday, Oct. 2

- **The 50-Year Reunion** activities begin with breakfast  
8:30 a.m., Arnold Atrium, Foss Center
- **Homecoming Convocation**  
10 a.m., Hoversten Chapel
- **50-Year Reunion Ceremony**  
11:30 a.m., Hoversten Chapel
- **'50s Specialty Lunch, for students**  
11 a.m.–2 p.m., A-Club Grille
- **Homecoming Luncheon**  
12:30 p.m., The Commons, Christensen Center
- **Augsburg Experience classes**  
2:30–4:30, Oren Gateway Center lobby
- **Auggie Author Reception and Booksigning**  
4–6 p.m., Student Art Gallery, Christensen Center
- **Sabo Center Panel Discussion**, “A Mandate to Teach and A Call to Educate: Views from the School House,” moderated by Rep. Martin Sabo ‘59  
4:30–6 p.m., Hoversten Chapel
- **Welcome Back Banquet**  
6 p.m., The Commons, Christensen Center
- **ASAC Dance**  
9 p.m.–midnight, East Commons, Christensen Center

## Saturday, Oct. 3

- **40-Year Reunion Breakfast**  
9 a.m., Christensen Center
- **Auggie Sing-Along**, with “Gabe” Gabrielsen  
10–11 a.m., Hoversten Chapel
- **Augsburg Experience classes**  
10–11 a.m., Oren Gateway Center
- **Pre-Game Picnic in the Park**  
11 a.m., Murphy Square
- **Football game vs. Hamline University**  
1 p.m., Edor Nelson Field
- **Auggie Block Party**, including reunions  
3:30 p.m., 7th Street
- **Fall art tour**, with gallery talks by Norman Holen and Philip Thompson  
5:30–8 p.m., Oren Gateway Center and Christensen Center
- **Auggie Block Party Concert**  
7 p.m., 7th Street

## Sunday, Oct. 4

### Alumni Baseball Game

Noon, Parade Stadium

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## 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, Sept. 29**— Babette Chatman '05, Redeemer Center for Life/Augsburg College

**Wednesday, Sept. 30**—Jenni Lilledahl '87, Brave New Workshop

**Wednesday eve., 9:09 p.m.**—Songs and communion, with Pastor Sonja

**Thursday, Oct. 1**—Jeroy Carlson '48, "Mr. Augsburg"

**Friday, Oct. 2**—10 a.m., Homecoming Convocation

**Monday, Oct. 5**—Blessing of the Animals

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

Just a reminder about Augsburg's planning for an H1N1 flu outbreak ... go to [www.augsburg.edu/h1n1](http://www.augsburg.edu/h1n1) for information, updates, monitoring, and communications during the flu season.

Have a great Homecoming Week!