



President's WEEKLY UPDATE

October 19, 2009

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Good morning. On Friday and Saturday, we welcomed the Augsburg Board of Regents on campus for its fall meeting. Among the highlights of the weekend were:

- Good and substantive conversations about ways in which the board can enhance its governance duties, focusing on both deeper engagement with the entire College community and on addressing strategic priorities for the College's future;
- Reports on strong results in finances, enrollment, and fundraising for the first quarter of the current fiscal year;
- An unqualified audit report for the 2008-09 fiscal year (which ended in May);
- A variety of presentations from students and faculty about exciting programs at the College, including the Integrated Term (I-Term) learning community, the various projects launched by the Environmental Stewardship Committee, and the plans for the Augsburg Center for Faith and Learning (which will assume the programs of the Lilly-funded "Exploring Our Gifts" program next June); and,
- A presentation about the planned Center for Science, Business, and Religion (CSBR) and a group of related projects for which the College is currently seeking funding and which will radically transform the campus over the next several years.

Board members also previewed a new "to-scale" model of the Augsburg campus, which includes the planned campus projects. The model will be on display for all to see in the Oren Gateway Center lobby beginning later this week.

Tonight I'll join faculty, staff, alumni, and many friends and colleagues of retired U.S. Rep. Martin Sabo '59 in Washington, D.C., for a reception to benefit the Sabo Center for Citizenship and Learning. We are grateful for the hospitality of Augsburg friends Jim Johnson and Maxine Isaacs, and look forward to honoring the work of Rep. Sabo and sharing our vision for the Sabo Center and the impact it will have for Augsburg students in the years ahead.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Seasonal flu shot clinic

There is one more opportunity for faculty and staff to get a seasonal flu shot—on Friday, from 12:30–4 p.m. in the Minneapolis Room, Christensen Center. The clinic is sponsored by Human Resources through Homeland Health Specialists, and faculty and staff are strongly encouraged to get this seasonal flu vaccine. Homeland Health Specialists will submit the claim to your health insurance; if you do not have health insurance, the cost of the flu shot will be paid for by Augsburg. Contact Human Resources at x1058 to sign up for the flu shot.

The clinics originally scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 29, and Wednesday, Nov. 4, have been canceled due to low response.

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Community forum on race in the community

On Wednesday evening, from 6 to 8 p.m., in East Commons, Augsburg and HealthPartners are co-sponsoring a community forum, "Let's Talk about Race," to encourage open dialogue about race and racism as a beginning step to increasing understanding and building stronger communities. In addition to members of the Augsburg community, staff members from the HealthPartners Riverside Clinic and many community partners have been invited to attend. For information, contact 952-883-7449 or diversity@healthpartners.com.

Bachelor's degree in nursing re-accreditation

The Department of Nursing is pleased to report that the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program was approved for re-accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) at their October board meeting. Re-accreditation will remain in effect through 2019. The Master of Arts in Nursing program is also accredited by the CCNE through June 2017.

350 International Day of Climate Action

The 350 International Day of Climate Action is the project of author and environmentalist Bill McKibben, who spoke on campus as the Christensen Symposium speaker, encouraging students to join the worldwide movement on Saturday, Oct. 24. The goal is to create the political action that will bring about a reduction of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, measured in parts per million, from the current 387 to 350, which has been identified as the safe upper limit.

Please join me for the many activities organized by Augsburg students to mark this critical day, including a rally at the State Capitol, halftime activity during the football game, and a rally on the West Bank. See Notable Events below for the schedule.

Rochester Summit on Leadership

The MBA program in Rochester and the *Post-Bulletin* are sponsoring a Servant Leadership Summit to be held at Bethel Lutheran Church in Rochester next Tuesday, Oct. 27, at 7 p.m., that will focus on the value and passion of leading by serving. Speakers include Rev. Norman Wahl, Bethel pastor and Augsburg regent; Jim Hodge, associate chair of principal gifts, Mayo Department of Development; and John Wade, president, Rochester Chamber of Commerce. This event is part of the "Connecting with the Community" learning series. The event is free and open to the public; no registration is needed. Contact Dave Conrad at 507-287-7791 or conradd@augsborg.edu for more information.

Open enrollment for benefits

The annual enrollment period for benefit eligible staff is open now through Monday, Nov. 9, and all forms must be turned into Human Resources by that date. Please plan to attend one of the following benefit information sessions (if you are benefit eligible):

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- Friday, Oct. 23, at 10 a.m., Sverdrup 2
- Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 10:30 a.m., OGC 200
- Tuesday, Nov. 3, at 2 p.m., Christensen Center, Minneapolis Room

All enrollment forms are located in the Human Resources public folder. Contact HR at x1058 with any questions.

Reminder about mid-term break

Mid-term break for the day semester program will be on Friday, Oct. 30. No classes will be held on this day.

KUDOS

Many thanks and best wishes to **Dave Hadden**, assistant director of the StepUP program, who retires this week from Augsburg. Dave is a big reason our StepUP program is so successful and we will miss his good spirit and fine work.

Kudos to **Jeanine Gregoire** and the **Convocation Series planning committee**, and to **Mzenga Wanyama**, English, and **Michael Lansing**, History, for arranging and organizing the visit of Jason Moran for the Humanities and Fine Arts Convocation last week.

Kudos to the following who presented at the recent Minnesota College Personnel Association (MCPA) fall conference:

- **Michael Perry**, Urness Residence Hall director, "That's So Gay—Confronting Hateful Language"
- **Michael Grewe**, assistant director, Campus Activities and Orientation, and LGBTQIA coordinator, "(Bi) Sexuality 101"
- **Philip Hernandez**, Luther/Oren Gateway Residence Hall director, "Motivational Interviewing in Student Advising"
- **Ann Garvey**, vice president of student affairs, "Critical Issues in Higher Education: Senior Students Affairs Panel"

Kudos to the **undergraduate admissions team**, who hosted two sessions each on Thursday and Friday for students visiting from Minnesota high schools during the Education Minnesota Days.

Kudos to **Norma Noonan**, Political Science, who was invited as one of 35 participants to an Oxford Roundtable, a topical seminar at Oxford University next spring that focuses on women academics. She will also make a presentation.

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Congratulations to the **Physics Department**, which has received nearly \$1.5 million in new grants from the National Science Foundation for physics and space physics during 2009, as of September 1:

- David Murr, Antarctic GPS Research, total award of \$ 257,283
- David Murr, Major Research Instrumentation—GPS Research, total award of \$ 444,081
- Ben Stottrup and Gary Egbert, Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement, total award of \$ 198,901
- Mark Engebretson, Studies of ULF Waves at High Latitudes, total award of \$ 269,047
- Mark Engebretson, Polar Experiment Network Research, total award of \$ 73,671
- Noel Petit, Polar Experiment Network Research (by subcontract), total award of \$ 238,409

Kudos to **Jill Dawe** and **Mary Horozaniecki**, Music, who performed at Concordia College in the faculty recital of Jane Linde Capistran, Mary's former student, last week. Mary also led a master class.

Kudos to Augsburg faculty and staff who were seen and heard in the media last week:

- **Jeanne Boeh**, Economics, commentary on the economy on MPR and WCCO-TV
- **Tracy Bibelnicks**, Mathematics, comments regarding the fourth- and eighth-grade mathematics national test scores.

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

Monday, Oct. 19

Reception for Sabo Center for Citizenship and Learning
6–8 p.m., Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, Oct. 20

Fall Memorial Center Blood Drive
10 a.m.–4 p.m., East Commons, Christensen Center

Wednesday, Oct. 21

Vocatio Chapel, Rev. Luisa Cabello Hansel, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Minneapolis,
theme of immigration
10:20 a.m., Hoversten Chapel

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Wednesday, Oct. 21

Community forum, "Let's Talk about Race," co-sponsored by Augsburg and HealthPartners
6–8 p.m., East Commons

Oct. 23–25

WEC, MAE, MAL, MAN, MSW classes meet

Saturday, Oct. 24

350 International Day of Climate Action

9:30 a.m., rally in Murphy Square, with local vegetarian breakfast

10:45 a.m., departure for rally at the State Capitol

Halftime at the Augsburg-Gustavus football game—gather on the field for 350.org photo

3:30 p.m., march from Murphy Square to the flats under the Washington Ave. bridge for comments by students and legislators and 350 photo.

Saturday, Oct. 24

Treble Festival, joint choral festival, Riverside Singers with several high school women's choirs

Noon–4 p.m., festival

4 p.m., joint performance, 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, Oct. 20—Kathleen Olson and Mary Preus, St. Martin's Table

Wednesday, Oct. 21—Vocatio Chapel, Rev. Luisa Cabello Hansel, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, immigration issues

Wednesday eve., 9:09 p.m.—Songs and communion

Thursday, Oct. 22—"Tangled Blue," husband/wife band of caffeinated folk-rock music

Friday, Oct. 23—Reformation Series Week, Phil Adamo, History Dept.

Saturday, Oct. 24—First Word Gathering, Jessica Fox-Wilson, coordinator, Augsburg for Adults, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled"

Monday, Oct. 26—Reformation Series Week, Mark Tranvik, Religion Dept.

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 www.augsburg.edu/h1n1 for information, updates, monitoring, and communications during the flu season.

Have a great week!