



President's WEEKLY UPDATE

October 26, 2009

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Good morning. Today I join the members of the Executive Committee of the Nobel Peace Prize Forum at their meeting, at the same time that Augsburg is preparing to host the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize Forum that will take place on campus, March 5-6. We are honored and delighted that 2008 Nobel Peace Laureate Martti Ahtisaari, peace negotiator and former president of Finland, has accepted our invitation to participate in the forum.

Orv Gingerich, assistant vice president of international programs, and Frankie Shackelford, professor and chair of modern languages and cross-cultural studies, are co-chairs of Augsburg's planning committee, which is at work planning our upcoming forum. I look forward to sharing updates with you as it moves forward.

On Wednesday, I'll meet with the Minnesota Private College Council Board of Directors, of which I serve as chair this year. Following this meeting, the council will honor the work of retiring president David Laird, who has been a strong friend to Augsburg. David's commitment to access and excellence in Minnesota's private higher education community is exemplary—and is shared by his spouse, Joanne, who is a proud 1958 graduate of Augsburg and a faithful member of the Augsburg Associates.

As I mentioned last week, several of us were in Washington, D.C. last Monday for a reception to honor Martin and Sylvia Sabo and to share the work of the Sabo Center for Citizenship and Learning. It was a joyful gathering, attended by many Augsburg alums and friends from the D.C. area. Special guests included Minnesota senators Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken, who both spoke with deep passion about Martin's legacy of public service and the great opportunity Augsburg has to share that legacy with its current and future students.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

350 International Day of Climate Action

Augsburg students led bikers to the State Capitol for a 350 rally on the Capitol lawn, sponsored by the Will Steger Foundation, Oxfam, 1Sky, and Augsburg in support of global climate change action. Rep. Betty McCollum and Rep. Keith Ellison, among other legislators, told those gathered to "keep your voices loud."

The bikers arrived back on campus in time to join a crowd at halftime on the football field for a photo for 350.org., the organization led by Bill McKibben that strives to bring about a reduction of carbon emissions to 350 ppm, deemed the highest safe level by NASA scientists. The halftime event was sponsored by Campus Ministry and Day Student Body Government. See Augsburg's photos posted at <http://www.flickr.com/search/?q=augsburg&w=25654955%40N03> and read about the 5,200 global events on www.350.org.

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Center for Democracy and Citizenship events

The Center for Democracy and Citizenship (CDC) will host several events this week and next. On Thursday they invite the campus community to an open house to get acquainted with Augsburg's newest center.

Thursday, Oct. 29—Open House, 2–5 p.m. Welcome to faculty, staff, and students. CDC is located in the ADC Business Center, 1929 S. 5th St., Garden Level (near the corner of Riverside and 20th Ave.)

Monday, Nov. 2—Public program, "The Next Minnesota Miracle: Building a Living Democracy for the 21st century, at Markim Hall, Institute for Global Citizenship, Macalester College, 4–5:30 p.m. (Co-sponsored by CDC, Citizens League, Minnesota Campus Compact, Minnesota Association for Volunteer Administration

Tuesday, Nov. 3—Subscription Webinar, 2–3 p.m., "Agents and Architects of Democracy: The Struggle for the Future of Higher Education," a conversation on trends toward defining higher education as a private good and students as "customers." Register at <http://scup.org/page/profdev/notravel/2009/democracy>

Thursday and Friday, Nov. 5–6—An invited national cohort of schools working with CDC and the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AACU) will explore how to better integrate democratic practice while deepening campus-community connections.

Augsburg—a top Fulbright producer

Augsburg was once again cited in an article in the October 19 issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* as one of the top producers of Fulbright awards for U.S. students last year in master's institutions, being highlighted as a school with two or more Fulbright awardees. Katie Macaulay and Emma Sutton, both 2009 graduates, received Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships, to Malaysia and Indonesia, respectively. The article discusses the desire of the Fulbright program to attract more students and faculty from minority groups and two-year colleges. Congratulations to Dixie Shafer, URGO director and Fulbright advisor, for promoting the program and advising students through the application process.

Halloween Safe Block

LINK and Campus Ministry invite the surrounding community to a Halloween Safe Block with games and indoor trick-or-treating in the dorms for neighborhood kids. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to come on Wednesday from 4–7 p.m. in the Urness-Mortensen lobby.

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KUDOS

Congratulations to the **students who organized and planned the events around the International Day of Climate Action** for a great job in rallying support and pushing for action on the most critical issues facing our environment. Their commitment to bring about changes on campus has helped Augsburg become a more sustainable urban college.

Kudos to the **students who attended the recent National Indian Education Conference** in Milwaukee, Wis.—**Wahbon Spears, Bob Goodman, Dezmond Juan, and Jennifer Weber.**

Kudos to the **Office of International Programs** staff who presented at the recent NAFSA Region IV conference in Rochester, Minn., Oct. 17–20:

- **Andrea W. Dvorak** (program coordinator, faculty-led programs abroad) was a co-trainer for the preconference workshop, “Fundamentals of Short-Term Education Abroad”
- **Leah Spinosa de Vega** (director, Augsburg Abroad) and Amy Greeley (Arcadia University), presented, “Reaching Out to Underrepresented Students.”

Kudos to Augsburg photographer **Stephen Geffre**, whose photographs will be exhibited in the University Art Gallery at Saginaw Valley State University, near Saginaw, Mich., from November 2–24. Read more at <http://www.svsu.edu/newsevents/index.php?id=6602>.

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

Tuesday, Oct. 27

Community Time, faculty, staff, and students gather in conversation around common work
3:45 p.m., East Commons

Wednesday, Oct. 28

Theory of Mind, a play from Mixed Blood Theatre, sponsored by CLASS
3:30 p.m., Sateren Auditorium

Wednesday, Oct. 28

Halloween Safe Block—games, trick-or-treating for neighborhood kids
4–7 p.m., Urness-Mort Lobby

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Thursday, Oct. 29

Open House, Center for Democracy and Citizenship

2–5 p.m., ADC Business Center, Garden Level, 1929 S. 5th St., Garden Level (corner of Riverside and 20th Ave.)

Friday, Oct. 30

Mid-term semester break for day program. No classes held.

Oct. 30–Nov. 1

Performances by Gospel Praise

Oct. 30, noon–1 p.m., South St. Paul High School Auditorium

Oct. 30, 7 p.m., Lunda Theatre, 1202 Pierce St., Black River Falls, Wis.;
hosted by Evangelical Lutheran Church

Oct. 31, 4 p.m., Resurrection Catholic Parish, 333 Hilltop Dr., Allouez, Wis.

Nov. 1, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m., First English Lutheran Church, north site,
6331 N. Ballard Rd., Appleton, Wis.

Nov. 1, 7 p.m., First Lutheran Church, 1180 8th Ave., Cumberland, Wis.

Sunday, Nov. 1

Concert by Masterworks Chorale, “Magnificat”

4 p.m., Community of the Cross Lutheran Church, 10701 Bloomington Ferry Road,
Bloomington, MN 55438

\$15 adults; \$10 seniors and students

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. 27—“Greatest Hits of the Reformation,” Hans Wiersma, Religion Dept.

Wednesday, Oct. 28—“Greatest Hits of the Reformation,” Jacqui deVries, History Dept.

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

Thursday, Oct. 29—“Greatest Hits of the Reformation,” Russell Kleckley, Religion Dept.

Friday, Oct. 30—Mid-term break, day semester program

Monday, Nov. 2—All Saints’ Day chapel

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

Have a great week!