



President's WEEKLY UPDATE

December 14, 2009

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Good morning. Weekend and graduate classes ended over the weekend, and today marks the beginning of final exams for fall semester day students. I hope many students will take a break to join us tonight for an Augsburg tradition, as my colleagues in the College Cabinet and faculty serve them at the Late Night Breakfast, beginning at 10 p.m.

Abigail and I encourage faculty and staff to join us on Thursday, at 3 p.m. in Christensen Center, for our annual holiday gathering. Again this year, as we enjoy fellowship with each other, we also have an opportunity to provide some holiday treats to our neighbors. A viands is generously donating cookies for us to decorate and distribute in the neighborhood and to organizations through Campus Kitchen. Please join us for food, beverages, and some creative cookie artwork.

This is the final President's Weekly Update for 2009. The Update will resume again on Monday, Jan. 4. The College is officially closed on December 24 and 25 and January 1. Many offices will have reduced staff or be closed during the week after Christmas.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Toys for Teens

The Augsburg Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) is once again donating to the U.S. Marine Corps and Toys for Teens. New toys and donations are being collected in Christensen Center, the athletic department offices, and at home athletic events. A "coin war" is also being held at the Welcome Desk in Christensen Center through tomorrow, Dec. 15. The winner of this competition will be the class that collects the largest overall total. Quarters and dollars will increase the total to your desired class while pennies, nickels, and dimes subtract from the other class totals.

KUDOS

Congratulations to **Nancy Fischer**, Sociology, who has been selected as a participant on an IES Abroad familiarization trip to London and Berlin in February. These trips are designed to acquaint study abroad coordinators, administrators, and faculty members with IES Abroad programs.

Kudos to the new **2010 Orientation Leaders**: John Ames, Elizabeth Behnke, Whitney Blount, Elisabeth Clemens, Miranda Cole, Katie Collver, Patrick DuSchane, Arianna Genis, Megan Holm, Jennifer Ivers, Brittany Juntunen, Sarah Korbel, Cassandra Krutchen, Susan Mechtel, Jorge Mondragon, Hien Nguyen, Sang Pham, Scott Polito, Adam Spanier, Suzanne Stein, Laura Steines, Austin Wagner, AuBrianna Weatherspoon, and D'Angelo York.

Congratulations to **Natasha Germain**, who has been awarded a U.S. Department of State-sponsored Gilman International Scholarship for study abroad and will study community health in South Africa this spring. She is Augsburg's fifth Gilman recipient since 2008.

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Kudos to the **student groups who have collected resources and funds** for those in our communities who are struggling:

- The **Student-Athlete Advisory Committee** (SAAC) collected toys and donations for the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Teens (see above)
- The **Bonner Program** collected personal items and clothing for Minneapolis' homeless population, distributed through the Secure Waiting homeless shelter and resource center
- **Omicron Delta** worked through Second Harvest to collect food, clothing, toys, and money for the "in between" population who earn too much to qualify for many resources, but are struggling to get by during this holiday season.

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

Dec. 14–17

Final exams, fall day semester

Monday, Dec. 14

Late Night Breakfast for day students

10 p.m., East Commons, Christensen Center

Thursday, Dec. 17

Faculty/Staff Holiday Party

3 p.m., Christensen Center

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.

First Word Gathering resumes on Saturday, Jan. 9, with Amy Gort, assistant vice president and dean of arts and sciences, speaking on "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kind of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven."

Daily chapel services resume on Monday, Jan. 11 for Opening Celebration

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

Enjoy a peaceful, healthy, and relaxing holiday!