

JANUARY 24, 2011

PRESIDENT'S VIEWS

I am just back from a most meaningful visit to our Center for Global Education study center in Managua, Nicaragua. I had the privilege to travel with a group of Augsburg's Board of Regents, led by regent Steve Sheppard, who directs the Winds of Peace Foundation, a Twin Cities organization that supports development projects in Nicaragua. We were joined by several faculty and staff members making their first visits to Managua. As with all of our CGE work around the world, our Managua staff and faculty live out our mission of educating students for lives of meaning and purpose in the world. I return filled with gratitude for the work of our Augsburg colleagues as they build authentic relationships, educate students about privilege and compassion, and open our eyes to ways we might accompany our neighbors in developing countries like Nicaragua. I posted two blogs about the trip, which you can find at www.augsburg.edu/president. We also had the pleasure of being joined by college photographer, Stephen Geffre, who took lots of pictures, some of which are linked to the Augsburg homepage, www.augsburg.edu.

A report on the regent visit to Managua will be among the agenda items for this weekend's winter Board of Regents meeting. In addition to its standing committee meetings, the board will have a special session on Friday afternoon focused on the case for support of the Center for Science, Business, and Religion. The board will hear from campus colleagues, as well as area business leaders, recounting their experiences in working at the intersections of science, business, and religion. On Saturday morning, the board will consider tuition and fees recommendations for the 2011-12 academic year, as well as broad budget planning assumptions for next year. They also will receive updates on the three college commissions—Campus Space and Master Planning, Enrollment Strategy and Organizational Culture, and Commission Augsburg—and will learn more about evolving academic programs aimed at nontraditional students.

I am very proud to announce that Augsburg has entered into a partnership with Trinity Lutheran Congregation to plan for the future use of the former St. Martin's Table space at the corner of Riverside and 20th avenues. Building on our historic relationship and mutual commitment to the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood, Augsburg and Trinity have agreed to spend six months (beginning in January 2011) engaged in dialogue about creating opportunities for shared ministries, particularly as related to potential uses of the first floor space of Trinity's building. We plan to work together to explore how we might best use this centrally-located space to be of service in our neighborhood. There are many ideas on the table and we look forward to engaging folks on campus and in the neighborhood about future plans. Following the planning period, Augsburg and Trinity will decide on a management plan that best supports our shared ministry in this

important space. I am excited about the promise of closer work with our Trinity friends and look forward to the planning conversations.

I am sad to report the death of former faculty member Celeste O'Brien-Haugen, who passed away on December 22 in Ft. Myers, Fla. She was a studio artist in music and piano at Augsburg from September 1971 until her retirement in June 2005. A memorial service was held on January 15 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis. Please keep her family in your prayers.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Congratulations, Spirit of MLK Award recipients

The MLK Convocation Committee annually recognizes two people who have demonstrated peace, love, humility, integrity, and honor while working with others on or off campus. These awardees have been nominated by members of the Augsburg community and exemplify the spirit of Martin Luther King Jr. Congratulations to **Penh Lo**, director of Pan-Asian Student Services, and **Juve Meza Rodriguez '11**, this year's recipients.

Juventino Meza Rodriguez, a senior justice and peace studies major with a minor in sociology, serves as the executive director for NAVIGATE, a group of young immigrant students creating venues for leadership development for other young people to have access to education, jobs, and legal status. A founding intern in the summer of 2007, he is a leading voice for immigration reform in Minnesota. Juve is the student body president and has received multiple awards for his dedication to and leadership in the area of comprehensive immigration reform.

Penh Lo came to Augsburg in 2008 as interim director of Pan Asian Student Services and now serves as director of the program and adviser to the Augsburg Asian Student Association. Last year, he took a group of 10 Hmong students to Australia to research and examine the country's social, political, and educational systems and the Hmong communities there. This winter he took students to Cambodia to participate in building sustainable schools and orphanages. Both humanitarian trips were part of the Global Connections project, for which he is a board member.

Dr. Paul Mueller speaks in Vocatio Chapel on Wednesday

The theme of the 2010-11 Vocatio Chapel series is "Healthy Vocations: Mind, Body, and Spirit." On Wednesday, Jan. 26, Dr. Paul Mueller '84 will speak about his ongoing call to the healthcare field and how his faith/spirituality connects with his work. He is chair of the Division of Internal Medicine and an associate professor of medicine at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. His research interests include clinical ethics, professionalism, and a number of clinical topics. He is also a member of Augsburg's Board of Regents.

All-Nighter is January 28

The biggest student activities event of the year takes place on Friday in Christensen Center. The annual All-Nighter begins with a dodgeball tournament at 9 p.m., followed by inflatables, food, caricatures, and the music of Bo Burnham and a dance.

Lunar New Year celebration on February 4

The Augsburg Asian Student Association (AASA) celebrates Lunar New Year on Friday, February 4, from 5 to 8 p.m., in East Commons, with a dinner, performances, and fashion show. All are welcome; the event is free.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS

CDC report compares civic health in Twin Cities and Miami

A report released today by the Center for Democracy and Citizenship (CDC) at Augsburg, along with the National Council on Citizenship and the Florida Joint Center for Citizenship, shows that Minneapolis-St. Paul is the most civically engaged metropolitan area in the country. It is compared with Miami, the least engaged. Harry Boyte, CDC director, attributes the Twin Cities' high level to "a culture of civic empowerment." This report follows the September release of the report, "Civic Life in America: Key Findings on the Civic Life of the Nation."

In a St. Paul *Pioneer Press* commentary today, "Spreading the Minnesota Way," Harry Boyte writes how the patterns of civic engagement that have developed in Minnesota can provide models for a vision of civic revitalization needed across the country that encourages a more collective approach to solution of problems. Read his commentary at http://www.twincities.com/opinion/ci_17183122.

EVENT REMINDERS for the week—for a listing of Augsburg events, go to the Calendar on Inside Augsburg at <http://inside.augsburg.edu>.

Tuesday, Jan. 25
Community time, 3:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 26
Senior Reception for May 2011 grads, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 28
All-Nighter, 9 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, Jan. 28-29
Board of Regents meeting

AUGSBURG WEEKLY

AUGSBURG
COLLEGE

Friday-Sunday, Jan. 28-30
WEC, some graduate classes meet

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

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, 7:30-7:55 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 25—Pastor Patricia Lull, Campus Ministry

Wednesday, Jan. 26—Vocatio Chapel, Dr. Paul Mueller '84, Chair of the Division of General Internal Medicine, Mayo Clinic, and Associate Professor, Mayo Medical School; member of Augsburg Board of Regents

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

Thursday, Jan. 27—Music Day

Friday, Jan. 28—Rev. Mark Wilhelm, Associate Executive Director for Educational Partnerships for the Vocation and Education Unit of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

Saturday, Jan. 29—First Word Gathering

Sports results and schedule— www.augsburg.edu/athletics

Have a great week!