

**MAY 9, 2011**

## **CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES**

On a beautiful spring day, Saturday's May Commencement honored 431 undergraduate day students and 29 physician assistant master's degree students. Graduates, families, and friends listened to the theme of "responsible leadership" in the address of Kjell Magne Bondevik, former prime minister of Norway and founder of the Oslo Center for Peace and Human Rights. Remarks were also made by the Reverend Ishmael Noko, former secretary general of the Lutheran World Federation, and Ali Rapp, the Class of 2011 student speaker.

Both Bondevik and Noko, a native of Zimbabwe, received the degrees of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*. They were introduced by Professors Frankie Shackelford, chair of the Modern Languages and Cross-Cultural Studies Department; and Mark Tranvik, chair of the Religion Department, respectively

In accepting his honorary degree, Noko spoke of a deep connection to the values in Augsburg's mission statement. He reflected on his appreciation for being honored by the Augsburg College community, with its connections to Augsburg, Germany, a city known for hosting peace discussions and serving as the site for the historic 1999 agreement between the Lutheran and Roman Catholic churches.

In his Commencement address, Bondevik focused on the qualities of responsible leadership, which for him is signified by servant-leadership. "We lead by actions and words, but most effectively by example," he said, "and one's behavior says more than words." He talked about and gave examples of leaders who had forgotten that they were servants to their people.

Ali Rapp, as speaker for the Class of 2011, talked about embracing uncertainty and being open to exploring many possibilities and the many different paths the future brings.

The Marina Christensen Justice Award was received by Katie Edelen, who graduates with a triple major in environmental studies, biology, and chemistry. She has continually sought out cross-disciplinary opportunities that have allowed her to understand the underlying issues of disease and poverty caused by lack of services, unequal access to resources, and injustice that she has experienced abroad. Next year Katie will be in Oslo, Norway, on a Fulbright research scholarship at the Peace Research Institute, studying how access to water affects conflict. The following year, she has received a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship for graduate study in environmental management (see more below).

## **Spring Board of Regents meeting**

On Friday, the Augsburg Board of Regents met for their spring meetings. Key actions from the meetings were:

- Approval of the 2011-2012 fiscal operating budget. The budget for fiscal 2011-2012 sets aside funds for base compensation increases at levels consistent with last year: a two percent increase in base compensation for faculty effective for the full year and for staff beginning in January 2012, and an additional one percent pool set aside for faculty structural adjustments. Overall, the 2011-2012 budget reflects a surplus of approximately \$150,000, which is similar to that for the current fiscal year.
- Acceptance of the 2011 Campus Space and Master Plan. The board charged the College's leadership to use the Campus Space and Master Plan: (1) to develop and implement policies and practices for the most effective care and use of campus space and (2) as a framework for planning and decision-making for the future development of facilities and landscaping on the Augsburg campus.

## **"Creating an Inclusive Campus" conference**

Beginning today and through Wednesday, all faculty, staff, and leaders are invited to a conference focusing on the statement in Augsburg's mission, "The Augsburg experience is supported by an **engaged community, committed to intentional diversity** in its life and work." Previously known as the Diversity and Global Learning conference, this event focuses on a wide range of issues associated with making intentional diversity a reality at Augsburg College.

What does it mean to be committed to intentional diversity? First, it means that we recruit a diverse student body and diverse staff, faculty, and leaders to form our community. Second, it means that we create an inclusive, supportive learning and working environment that enables us to reach our full potential. Finally, it means that we prepare all of our students and ourselves to successfully live in a diverse, global environment. This conference is designed to help us share what we are doing, celebrate our accomplishments, and plan what we need to do next.

For the full schedule of the three-day conference, go to the schedule at the Human Resources community site on Moodle.

## **Augsburg travel and study trips**

We wish safe journeys to the following faculty, staff, student, and alumni groups either in travel or leaving for travel and study from now through the summer:

- Ireland—Alumni group, guided by Phil Adamo, with Amanda Storm, May 2–12
- Italy—Art and Spiritual Practice, Brad Holt and Tara Sweeney, May 10–28
- Slovenia—Social Work in Slovenia, Lois Bosch and Holley Locher-Stullen, June 27–July 7

- Nicaragua—Universal Responsibility in Nicaragua, Sandra Giovinazzo-Yates and Steven Manderscheid, June 27–July 12
- Namibia—International Education in Namibia, Gretchen Irvine, July 23–August 7

### **Weekly Update schedule after Commencement**

This is the last weekly update for this academic year. Through spring trimester and our June Commencement, there will be Updates every two weeks—on May 23, June 6, and June 20—and on June 27. Over the summer, an Update will come out in mid-July and in mid-August.

### **MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS**

#### **Rotary Scholarship to Katie Edelen**

Katie Edelen has been awarded a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship for graduate study in environmental management for 2012-13. She does not yet know at which of the five institutions she selected and listed in her application she will be placed. Her first choice is a Master of Science program in Water Science, Policy, and Management at Oxford University. She will begin this study following her year of research at the Peace Research Institute in Oslo, Norway, on a Fulbright grant. Her applications for these awards were supported by a number of faculty and staff—read more at <http://augnet.augsburg.edu/amaul/?issuedate=20110504#29895>.

The College was also honored to have another Auggie, Annika Gunderson, reach the final stage, the district level, in the selection process for a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship.

#### **Center for Global Education honored for sustainability**

Augsburg's Center for Global Education was honored as one of the five finalist awards for a 2011 GoAbroad Innovation Award in the category of Innovation in Sustainability, by GoAbroad, a resource for meaningful travel. The purpose of the award is to acknowledge institutions, organizations, and individuals who are creating initiatives to move the field of international education forward, and to commend leaders in the community for their efforts to go beyond the conventional.

#### **Kemper Scholarship to Kelly Pryga**

Kelly Pryga, a first-year Honors student majoring in business management and minoring in political science, was selected as the Kemper Scholar at Augsburg, one of 16 institutions in the country chosen by the James S. Kemper Foundation in Chicago. The Kemper program aims to promote education in the liberal arts while providing students opportunities for career exploration and practical experience. Kelly will receive a scholarship for three years, plus internships in Chicago following her sophomore and junior years.

# AUGSBURG WEEKLY

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COLLEGE

**EVENTS OF NOTE this week and next**—for a listing and details of Augsburg events, go to the Calendar on Inside Augsburg at <http://inside.augsburg.edu>.

**Tuesday, May 10**

Eye-Opener Breakfast, Clayton McNeff '91, founder and president, Ever Cat Fuels  
7:30 a.m., Town and Country Club, St. Paul

**Tuesday, May 10**

AISA Ceremony and Feast  
4:30 p.m., Murphy Square

**Friday–Sunday, May 13–15**

WEC and some grad classes meet

**CHAPEL SCHEDULE**

Daily chapel services Monday through Friday will resume in September; WEC First Word Community Gathering, Saturday morning when classes meet, 7:30–7:50 a.m.

**Saturday, May 14**—First Word Gathering

Sports results and schedule—[www.augsburg.edu/athletics](http://www.augsburg.edu/athletics)

Have a great two weeks!