

June 27, 2011

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

This past weekend's commencement ceremony honored the work of more than 400 Augsburg College students who earned undergraduate degrees, graduate degrees, or doctorate degrees as part of the inaugural class of graduates from the Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

The Richard J. Thoni Award was received by Jennifer Weber, who graduates with a triple major in American Indian studies, special education (learning disabilities), and special education (emotional-behavioral disabilities). A member of both the Weekend College Senate and the Augsburg Indigenous Student Organization, Weber has been actively involved in governance, recruitment, and event organization efforts, including Augsburg's annual powwow, which brings together hundreds of community members and dozens of local businesses, and the "Mother Earth Water Walk" to raise awareness of water pollutants across the country.

Kwok Siu Tong, founder of United International College in China, was recognized for his pioneering leadership in global liberal arts education. He was presented an honorary degree for his decades of service to higher education, and for his six years of work partnering with Augsburg College and other private colleges in service learning.

Krista Tippet, the host of Being on American Public Media, was commencement speaker. She urged graduates to become leaders in meaningful work, service and faith and to seek the connections between the three.

Tippet's message was echoed by student commencement speaker Cynthia Castro, who earned a bachelor's degree in communication. Representing the class of 2011, Castro urged her fellow graduates not to be daunted by failure, but rather to embrace the wisdom and clarity that come during times of trial.

The ceremony recognized students in the following programs:

- 187 graduates in Weekend College
- 114 in the Master of Business Administration
- 60 in the Master of Social Work
- 54 in the undergraduate program in Rochester
- 26 in the Master of Arts in Leadership
- 20 in the Master of Arts in Nursing
- 11 in the Master of Arts in Education
- 10 in the United Hospital program
- 8 in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

Road resurfacing – Remember that road work on 25th Ave. S. begins at 7 p.m., Monday, June 27, and will impact access to and from I-94 and Lot L. Employees should be prepared to allow more time for travel to and from campus. The road resurfacing is part of a multi-phase project, with a second project scheduled to start on Riverside Ave. after the 4th of July holiday. Directions and additional information for the 25th Ave. S. construction project are available at:

<http://www.augsburg.edu/dps/documents/directions.pdf>

President's Holiday is July 1 – Augsburg College will be closed Friday, July 1, in addition to Monday, July 4, for observance of Independence Day. The July 1, 2011, date was declared by President Pribbenow as an additional paid holiday this year for all non-union benefits-eligible staff, both exempt and non-exempt. Presidential holidays are determined by the President's Office each year and are not necessarily consistent from one year to the next. For information about time reporting for these dates, see A-Mail: <http://bit.ly/kEEhie>

Campus Space and Master Plan updates – A number of projects are getting underway related to the Campus Space and Master Plan. Projects that are underway, or slated to start soon, include the following:

- **Einstein's Bagel Brothers construction in Christensen** – Construction of Einstein's Bagel Brothers in Christensen Center starts this week and will be complete during mid-July. Most construction will be done during evenings and weekends to minimize the impact. Regular and decaffeinated coffee will be available in Christensen from 7:30 to 10 a.m. during the construction period. Nabu will serve a full range of coffee drinks from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Learn more about the impacts of construction on your coffee and food needs from A-Mail at <http://bit.ly/mpGBYt>.
- **General Space Planning** - BWBR Architects and a small group of staff established standards for tables, chairs, and waste receptacles for current and future meeting space upgrades. One of the space usage priorities is to procure new, mobile, foldable, stackable, and durable furniture to upgrade the capacity and seating flexibility in the Marshall Room.
- **Deferred Maintenance** – Mortenson Hall will be off-line for most of the summer, which is the first time this has occurred for this building. Residence Life and Facilities coordinated relocation of students so crews could do major, noisy repairs to the exterior, windows, and plumbing. By taking the building off-line to do this maintenance, we are able to accomplish more work for the same capital budget. The project is part of the Campus Space and Master Plan.

Nobel Peace Prize Forum scholars begin work – Claire Bergren '12 is blogging about her work and experience as a Nobel Peace Prize Scholar, as well as about her summer in Norway at the University of Oslo's International Summer School. Follow the good work of the NPPF by signing up for email updates and following the program on Facebook and Twitter by visiting <http://www.peaceprizeforum.org>. From there, visitors can opt to link to Bergren's personal blog about her experiences in the program.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS

Minnesota Private College Week – Augsburg College welcomed more than 200 potential students to campus during Minnesota Private College week. See a Star Tribune piece from last week about what the week meant to Augsburg (<http://bit.ly/legSrn>), and see a video from one student about what private college week meant to him (<http://bit.ly/IOYMXE>).

Augsburg showcases leadership in international education – Augsburg College last week hosted an international faculty development institute with partners from the Minnesota Private College Council (MPCC); United International College in Zhuhai, China; and Hong Kong Baptist University in Hong Kong. The program was the culmination of two years of planning, and was a chance to showcase the College's leadership in development of international education among partners in the MPCC. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/ifLBf6>.

Youth Theology Institute – About 20 high school students are on campus to explore the meaning of forgiveness and whether there is a time when forgiveness should not be granted. The students are on campus as part of the Youth Theology Institute that runs from June 26-July 1. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/j19VZN>.

Urban Debate League – Seventy campers arrived at Augsburg College yesterday for the Minnesota Urban Debate League (MUDL) camp. The program works to develop the critical thinking and research skills of high school and middle school students from Minneapolis and St. Paul. The program serves more than 330 youths each year of which 70 percent are students of color and 75 percent are low-income. During the last two years, students in the program had a 100 percent on-time high school graduation rate. Learn more about the camp on the MUDL Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/MNUDL>.

Agre Science Symposium Reception – Peter Agre '70, 2003 Nobel Laureate, hosts the annual Agre Science Symposium on July 7. The program will feature Dr. Donald R. Mattison '66 who will explore the topic "Challenges Facing Health: Science, Morality, Politics and Money." Learn more and register at <http://bit.ly/jlAjiw>.

Staff Development Series – The next staff development series, slated July 12, is a strengths-based workshop. Learn more and register at <http://bit.ly/kPDQzW>.

Athletics Golf Tournaments – The Athletics Department is hosting a series of summer golf tournaments to raise funds for various programs. Upcoming tournaments are July 22, Aug. 26, Aug. 29 and Sept. 23. Learn more about the events and register at <http://bit.ly/lpFl1Q>

EVENTS OF NOTE

June 26-July 1

Youth Theology Institute (<http://bit.ly/j19VZN>)

June 26-July 16

Urban Debate League Camp. (<http://www.facebook.com/MNUDL>)

June 28

Community Time – Make your own sundaes

July 1-4

Friday, July 1 – President's Holiday – light staffing on campus

Monday, July 4 – Observance of Independence Day

July 5

Farmers Market returns to campus (<http://bit.ly/j0kctp>)

July 7

Agre Science Symposium Reception (<http://bit.ly/jlAjiw>)

July 11-Aug. 19

Summer Session II starts July 11 (<http://bit.ly/mO9YyG>)

July 12

Staff Development Series (<http://bit.ly/kPDQzW>)

July 22-27

SOAR I - July 22-23

SOAR II - July 25-26

SOAR III - July 27-28

Parent SOAR I - July 22-23

Parent SOAR II - July 25-26

Evening Parent SOAR - July 27

More information at <http://bit.ly/kxpdSR>

July 26-July 16

Medieval Camp (<http://bit.ly/j8kTUK>)

OTHER NEWS

Summer Weekly Update Schedule – The Augsburg Weekly will be published once during mid-July and once during mid-August.

Nice Ride – Remember that the Nice Ride bikes are on campus. Consider going for a lunchtime spin now and then. You can get bikes by the ice arena on Riverside and ride to the Seward Cooperative and many other locations (<http://bit.ly/dnOTeU>).

Augsburg College on Facebook – Please consider following Augsburg College on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/augsburgcollege>), where you can connect with nearly 3,000 people who “like” the College. If you see a story on Facebook that makes you proud to be an Auggie, be sure to click the “share” link on that story and post it to your network. It’s another way you can help tell the story of Augsburg College.