



# President's WEEKLY UPDATE

August 23, 2010

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**Good morning.** Even as we continue to enjoy summer sun and heat, activities on campus are gearing up for the start of the new academic year. The campus remained busy this summer with annual programs such as the summer sports camps and the GEMS and GISE program that brought middle-school students from the Minneapolis public schools here for science and math projects. We also hosted the Urban Debate League camp, a film camp, and Medieval Minnesota. Other highlights from the summer:

- Augsburg joined with HealthForce Minnesota, Fairview, the Cedar Riverside Partnership and the University of Minnesota to host a five-day Urban Scrubs camp for students in grades 9–12 to live on campus and explore opportunities in the healthcare fields. More than 70 youth, many of them from the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood, participated in the camp, experiencing college life and connecting with some of our faculty, staff, and students during the week.
- Augsburg was selected to participate in the Travelers EDGE program, an initiative of the Travelers Company that focuses on recruitment and retention of low-income students of color from the St. Paul public schools. Augsburg was one of a small number of colleges selected for the program because of our success in recruiting students from underrepresented populations. Our Travelers EDGE project incorporates outreach, financial literacy enrichment, job shadowing and mentoring, and a scholarship program in the junior and senior year. We received a grant of \$44,000 for our first year of project participation and hope this will evolve into a five-year project.
- Our three summer sessions had very strong enrollments, enabling revenue to exceed our budget projections.

Next week, on August 31 and September 1, the Center for Teaching and Learning holds orientation for new faculty and staff (who started since last September). There will be planned opportunities for the campus community to meet them. For information on faculty/staff orientation, go to <http://www.augsburg.edu/ctl/upcomingevents.html>.

Opening week for fall semester begins with students moving back between September 2 and 6, and with Opening Convocation on Tuesday, Sept. 7, and day classes beginning on Wednesday, Sept. 8. The convocation speaker will be English professor Robert Cowgill, the recipient of the 2010 Excellence in Teaching award. Rochester classes begin on September 7, and WEC and Bloomington classes begin on September 10. Graduate classes vary by program—see <http://www.augsburg.edu/registrar/calendars.html>. Look for more details about opening week in next week's Update.

When you visit the State Fair, don't forget to stop by the Augsburg booth in the Education Building. We're at the "Great Minnesota Get-Together" through Labor Day, and I look forward to visiting with alumni, families, and visitors.

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I'm sad to report the death of 2007 WEC graduate and MAL student Michelle Hollie, who passed away on August 8. She was serving as dean of students at South High School while studying for her graduate degree. I hope you'll keep her husband and three children in your prayers during this difficult time.

## CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### Students back on campus

- Many student athletes on fall teams are already back on campus, with the first competition on Wednesday, Sept. 1:

August 14—Football team arrived

August 18—men's and women's soccer teams and volleyball team arrived

August 22—men's and women's cross country teams arrived

August 25—men's golf reports back

August 29—women's golf reports back

- Sunday, Aug. 29—Student Orientation Leaders begin training
- Thursday, Sept. 2—Transfer students move in
- Saturday, Sept. 4—First-year students move in
- Monday, Sept. 6—Upperclass students return

### Augsburg is a "Cool School"

The Sierra Club's Sierra magazine recently surveyed 900 schools across the country about their sustainability practices and ranked Augsburg number 102. Other Minnesota schools ranked are Macalester at number 37, St. Olaf at 79, and St. Thomas at 131. Read more at <http://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/201009/coolschools/top100.aspx>.

## KUDOS

Congratulations to **Nou Chang '10**, who has been awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship and will leave for Malaysia in January. She is the fourth student this year to receive a Fulbright award.

Kudos to mathematics professor **John Zobitz** and students **Nana Owusu**, **Jazmine Darden**, **Jeremy Anthony**, and **Nghiep Huynh**, all of whom presented at Mathfest, the annual summer meeting of the Mathematical Association of America, in Pittsburgh, Pa. Congratulations to Nghiep, who received an award for Outstanding Student Presentation. Professor Zobitz was advisor to each of these students during their summer research projects.

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Many thanks to the **faculty, staff, and students** who participated and helped make the Urban Scrubs camp a success, including:

- **Sara Schlipp-Riedel** and the **staff** from Event and Conference Planning
- **Justin Nash** and **Julio Vargas**, Undergraduate Admissions
- **Michelle Lee**, Athletics
- **Brian Noy**, Campus Kitchen, Sabo Center
- **Patrice Salmeri**, StepUP
- **Brenda Talarico**, Physician Assistant Program
- **Joan Kunz**, Chemistry
- **Salma Ahmed** and **Katie Lewis**, Scrubs camp counselors

Kudos to **Milo Schield**, Business Administration, who has been designated the United States representative (and currently the only one) on the International Statistical Literacy Project.

**NOTABLE EVENTS through August 23**—For a complete listing of Augsburg events, go to the Inside Augsburg Calendar at <http://inside.augsburg.edu>

**August 31–September 1**

**New faculty and staff orientation**

Aug. 31—8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Oren Gateway Center, Johnson Conference Center 100

Sept. 1—8 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Oren Gateway Center, Johnson Conference Center 100

## **DAILY CHAPEL**

Weekday chapel services will resume on September 9 and the WEC First Word Gatherings on Saturday mornings will resume on September 11.

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

Have a good week!