



# President's WEEKLY UPDATE

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**Good morning.** I attended the first-year Honors students' production of "War and Peace and Evolution" on Saturday night (thanks to the students for inviting me!), the culmination of a Theatre Lab that first-year Honors students have participated in for seven years. It was a fine production featuring four vignettes all focused on the theme of how religion and evolution are related (or not!), a topic they are studying in Professor Larry Crockett's Honors 120 course. All of the writing, acting, stage and costume design, and production are done by Honors students under the guidance of Augsburg (and Honors program) alumna Erica Huls.

There is much to remember from the fun and insightful production, but perhaps above all I pause to give thanks for Augsburg students like those in the production who clearly care about ideas and the world and each other. Students are at the center of our lives—they make coming to work each day worth it. And as we all take time to give thanks in our own way later this week, I know I will remember "War and Peace and Evolution" for reminding me how fortunate I am to be part of this remarkable teaching and learning community.

I am delighted to tell you about two new and creative initiatives from last week, directed toward student recruiting and philanthropy, areas of critical importance to us. Last Tuesday night, the Graduate Admissions Office hosted the second of its "In the City" information sessions, this one at the Guthrie Theater. The concept is directly in keeping with our brand—an opportunity to learn about Augsburg's graduate studies while engaging in the city. Attendees toured the Guthrie Theater behind the scenes and were greeted by Augsburg alumna Katie Koch, assistant to director Joe Dowling. Both the first "In the City" session, held at Target Field last summer, and this second event attracted very qualified prospective students who are earnest about their interest in Augsburg and were engaged in and grateful for the added experience. Several have already enrolled in MBA for winter trimester.

The second new project involves student philanthropy, specifically students supporting students. The Augsburg Stewards, together with the Alumni and Constituent Relations Office, sponsored the first "Feed the Pig" student class competition. More than 200 students picked up small, colorful piggy banks into which they'll drop their loose change to cash in later. All the money is tallied by class and will go to current students as a scholarship. The first-year class currently has the lead in number of piggy banks picked up, and the first tally will be on Piggy Round-up Day, December 3. See below for ways that faculty and staff can be part of this fun project and help to build a culture of philanthropy at Augsburg.

## CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### Campus closed for Thanksgiving break

Augsburg will be closed Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday. All facilities will remain locked on these days; if you need access to a locked building

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and do not have a key, call the Department of Public Safety at x1717, who will do their best to assist you. Have your photo ID ready to present to the officer. Some officers will be working different shifts than usual over the break, so please have your photo ID ready to show them. Regular schedules in buildings will resume on Saturday, November 27.

Note that Lindell Library and Athletics publish their own operating schedules. For the library, check today's A-mail or go to [www.augsburg.edu/library](http://www.augsburg.edu/library) and click on More Hours. For Athletics, read tomorrow's A-mail, check the postings in Si Melby or the new digital display there.

#### **Focused Conversation tomorrow**

Tomorrow's Focused Conversation, "Financial Futures Commission Follow-Up: State of the College Primer," is the last in the fall series of conversations and presents information on the financial future of the College relating to the economy, revenues, expenditures, and financing.

#### **Training for transition to biweekly payroll**

Training sessions have been scheduled to teach monthly staff employees how to use the website to enter time worked. You may attend any of the sessions; note that two are marked for supervisors.

Also, go to "Monthly to Biweekly Payroll Transition" information on the Human Resources Moodle site. To find this, go to AugNet and select AugNet Services, My Courses (moodle), Community Sites (top left), Your Community Sites—and then select Human Resources Department. For more information, contact Theresa Gade at x1052.

Training sessions for monthly staff employees:

- Tuesday, Nov. 30, noon–1 p.m., Foss 22A
- Wednesday, Dec. 1, 8:30–9:30 a.m., Sverdrup 201
- Wednesday, Dec. 1, 3–4 p.m., Sverdrup 201
- Thursday, Dec. 2, noon–1 p.m., Foss 22A—**this is an in-depth session for supervisors**
- Friday, Dec. 3, 8:30–9:30 a.m., Sverdrup 201
- Monday, Dec. 6, 8:30–9:30 a.m., Sverdrup 201
- Tuesday, Dec. 7, 3–4 p.m., Sverdrup 201
- Wednesday, Dec. 8, 3–4 p.m., Sverdrup 201
- Thursday, Dec. 9, 3–4 p.m., Sverdrup 201—**this is an in-depth session for supervisors**
- Friday, Dec. 10, 3–4 p.m., Sverdrup 201

#### **Energy Management System [EMS] Project Update**

Since the start of the school year the Facilities Department has undertaken a project to fully upgrade the College's energy management capabilities and

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to correct mechanical issues identified through an independent campus commissioning study completed in 2008. The total project cost is \$500,000, funded through a low-cost interest loan arranged through the St. Paul Port Authority. This project has a conservative payback of three years or less and will be paid for through utility cost savings. The anticipated completion date is June 1, 2011.

The current status of this project is:

- The system software has been purchased and installed on the College's network.
- Low voltage connection drops are currently being installed to connect the controller devices to the central system.
- All system controller hardware has been ordered, received, and associated programming of these devices has been completed.

Beginning this week, we will start to bring online all 17 campus facilities, beginning with Christensen Center. This was selected first because of the high use of the facility, and the opportunity to correct ongoing issues with the building systems. Each facility will take approximately one week to bring online, test, and make any necessary operational adjustments to the system.

The completed system product will give the College complete web EMS access, more reliable temperature controls, an opportunity to correct many mechanical operational issues, and unprecedented energy cost savings going forward.

### **One more opportunity to "Feed the Pig"**

Students have another opportunity—today and tomorrow, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in Christensen Center—to pick up a piggy bank to fill and cash in as a way to support a scholarship for current students. The banks can also be picked up in the Alumni Office, Oren Gateway Center 300, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Faculty and staff can adopt a class pig of their choice by e-mailing Amanda Storm at [storma@augsborg.edu](mailto:storma@augsborg.edu).

### **Native American Heritage Month event**

The Augsburg Indigenous Student Association (AISA) is hosting an event in celebration of national Native American Heritage Month tomorrow, Tuesday, Nov. 23, from 6-8:30 p.m., upstairs in Kennedy Center. Enjoy a meal and presentations by Standing Bull Drum Group and Augsburg student Bob Whipple, who will speak about his perspective on education—past, present and future—in addition to getting information about Augsburg College.

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## Winter sports are underway

The fall season sports finished up last weekend, some in the midst of the snowstorm on Saturday, Nov. 13. A photo by sports photographer Tom Dahlin from the football game played in the snow at Bethel University is published in the "Leading Off" section of *Sports Illustrated* this week. <http://athletics.augsburg.edu/news/2010/11/17/fb111710.aspx?path=football>.

The winter sports teams—men's and women's hockey, men's and women's basketball, wrestling, swimming and diving, and men's and women's indoor track and field—are just getting underway. I hope to see you at some of the games and matches as we cheer on our student-athletes. For complete information and schedules, including information about live video and live audio broadcasts, go to [www.augsburg.edu/athletics](http://www.augsburg.edu/athletics).

Over the weekend, the wrestling team opened its season with a strong performance as it hosted the Auggie-Brute-Adidas Open on Saturday. The Auggie wrestlers had four individual champions and 23 individual placewinners in the event, which featured more than 500 wrestlers in competition from throughout the Midwest.

## KUDOS

Congratulations to the Marketing and Communication Office and the Alumni and Constituent Relations Office for winning the following awards from CASE District V:

- Best Viewbook (Bronze award) for the junior viewbook—**Kathy Rumpza, Wendi Wheeler, Stephen Geffre**
- Best New Alumni Program (Silver award) for the Young Alumni Summer Series/Young Alumni Council—**Amanda Storm**
- Excellence in Special Events, Series of Events (Bronze award) for the Young Alumni Summer Series/Young Alumni Council—**Amanda Storm**
- Excellence in Photography, Sports (Silver award) for "Loss of Helmet"—**Stephen Geffre**

Kudos to the following students who received scholarships for study abroad this spring:

- **Cassandra Crego**, a merit scholarship for study abroad in Spain through Syracuse University
- **Abbey Fahnhorst**, for study in Greece through Arcadia Center for Hellenic Studies
- **Kali Holst**, for study in Ireland through the National University of Ireland

Kudos to the **Human Resources staff** for their successful healthcare provider negotiations and open enrollment sessions completed last week.

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Kudos to **Jeanne Boeh**, Economics Department, who appeared on PBS' *Nightly Business Report* on Nov. 12 as part of the "Ink-onomics" segment.

Kudos to **Carly Eichhorst**, Enrollment Center, and **Tom Rixen** and **Kris Ozga**, the "money matters" guys, for their creativity, energy, and information in this year's "Money Matters" sessions.

Kudos to the **International Student Organization students** for all their work during International Student Week.

Congratulations to the **winners of the International Programs Photo Contest**:

- Photojournalism—First place—**Tracy Olsen**, "Comfort Women Protest"; Second place—**Nora Dahlberg**, "Love and Heineken"; Third place—**Erika Osterbur**, "La Cueva"
- Landscape/Cityscape—First place—**Tracy Olsen**, "Seoul from Namsan Tower"; Second place—**Katherine Walker**, "Nueva Esperanza"; Third place—**Kate Woolever**, "Daybreak"
- Portrait—First place—**Nora Dahlberg**, "Bird Man"; Second place—**Chelsie Duckworth**, "Gazing toward Change"; Third place—**Jeffrey Xiong**
- People's Choice—**Erika Osterbur**, "La Cueva"

Kudos to **Janet Morales**, Undergraduate Admissions, and **Emiliano Chagil**, Hispanic/Latino Student Services, for braving the weather in the snow in November 13 to attend the "Sí Se Puede: Making College a Reality for Latino Students" workshop for students and their parents in the Hopkins area.

Kudos to senior **Lucreshia Grant**, Women's Resource Center student assistant director, who was selected to be part of the group invited by the White House Council on Women and Girls to greet President Obama as he arrived in Minneapolis at the end of October.

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

**Monday, Nov. 22**

**Augsburg Concert Band Concert, "A Night at the Movies"**  
7 p.m., Hoversten Chapel

**Tuesday, Nov. 23**

**Focused Conversation: Financial Futures Commission Follow-up**  
Noon, Oren Gateway Center 100



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**Tuesday, Nov. 23**

**Powerful Conversations on NSSE—Amy Gort, “Level of Academic Challenge”**

Noon, Century Room, Christensen Center

**Thursday–Sunday, Nov. 25–28**

**College closed for Thanksgiving break**

## **DAILY CHAPEL**

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, Nov. 23**—Gabe’s Songs of Thanksgiving

**Wednesday, Nov. 24**—Thanksgiving Chapel; communion at 10:20 a.m.

**Wednesday evening, 9:09 p.m.**—No communion; Thanksgiving holiday

**Thursday, Nov. 25**—No chapel; Thanksgiving holiday

**Friday, Nov. 26**—No chapel; Thanksgiving holiday

**Monday, Nov. 29**—Marty Stortz, Christensen Professor of Religion and Vocation, with music by the Mary Lowe Ensemble

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

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!