

January 9, 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After the first weekend of the undergraduate weekend and grad programs winter trimester, and as the College readies to welcome day students back to class, I will spend a portion of the week in Washington, D.C. for the launch of the American Commonwealth Project, a national grassroots effort to reclaim the civic mission of education. The kickoff officially happens tomorrow when the White House, the Department of Education, and ACP members hold a series of public forums to explore how colleges and universities can reclaim their civic identity. At the heart of it is the recognition that higher education should be—must be—delivered for the common good rather than be allowed to become an individual benefit only for those who can financially afford it.

It's an exciting project, and Augsburg is honored to be at the very heart of it. The project fits well with our mission and with the work we already do and that toward which we aspire. The ACP's nationwide work will be coordinated by Harry Boyte, director of our Center for Democracy and Citizenship (CDC).

We are in the early stages of developing specifically what this project means in practical terms to the College—identifying initiatives and projects that will build civic identity, foster co-creation of learning, develop student leaders, promote the framework for the College to serve as an anchor institution, and create a campus culture closely in tune with the current landscape to ensure that what we do every day creates and supports civic engagement.

You can learn more about this important project in a number of ways:

- Watch the live-stream of the event. Details at <http://adpaascu.wordpress.com/2012/01/06/white-house-launch-of-american-commonwealth-partnership-streamed-live/>.
- Get an overview of the project by reading the DemocracyU blog entry at <http://democracyu.wordpress.com/2012/01/06/a-live-event-at-the-white-house-the-american-commonwealth-partnership-and-the-department-of-education-join-to-launch-a-year-of-citizenship-and-civic-education/>.
- “Like” DemocracyU on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/DemocracyU>.
- Sign up for DemocracyU email alerts at <http://www.civicyouth.org/democracyu/>.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS

Register now for Nobel Peace Prize Forum: Students, staff, and faculty have the opportunity to hear from international, national, and state leaders on topics related to peace and peacemaking from March 1 to 3 at the 23rd annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum. This is the first year the Forum will be held in its new Twin Cities-based format. Augsburg is hosting the Forum in conjunction with the Humphrey School of Public Affairs and the support of our sister Norwegian Lutheran colleges as well as our community partners.

The program will explore “The Price of Peace” and includes programming for students and the community related to business, arts and music, education, and global studies. The keynote speaker is former President of South Africa, F.W. de Klerk. Other speakers include:

- LaJune Lange '75, honorary consul for South Africa and founder of International Leadership Institute. Lange also is a member of the Augsburg Board of Regents.
- Libby Larsen, one of America's most widely performed living composers and founder of the American Composer's Forum.
- Sakumzi “Saki” Macozoma, business leader and former member of the South African Parliament. He spent five years in prison during the apartheid era and emerged as an influential African business and political leader.
- Andrew Slack, executive director of The Harry Potter Alliance, which was founded to use parallels from the Harry Potter stories to work for human rights, equality, and a better world.

Faculty and staff are asked to encourage students to participate in the Forum. Students can register for the discounted price of \$20 for each of the four tracks. All individuals can register for one or all tracks. A separate ticket is needed for each track. Register online at http://nppftickets.universitytickets.com/user_pages/event_listings.asp. A full program with session descriptions is at <http://nobelpeaceprizeforum.org/2012-program/>.

CAMPUS PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Native American Youth Day is January 13. Olympic athlete Billy Mills will speak to 250 Native American students from grades 6 to 12 at Augsburg for Native Youth Visit Day. The students, representing at least eight metro-area school districts, will tour campus, hear from Native American students, and learn about what college classes are like. To learn more about Mills and an evening presentation that is open to the community please see the A-Mail: <http://augnet.augsburg.edu/amaill/#32515>

Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation is January 16. The Augsburg community has the opportunity to hear from T. Mychael Rambo for the Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation. Rambo, an actor, vocalist, and educator, will speak in Hoversten Chapel at 1 p.m. Individuals who opt to follow the convocation on Twitter can do so by following the hashtag #MLKConvocation and can participate in real-time discussion with others who may be tweeting during the event.

Two convocations will be held nearly back-to-back during February. On February 11, the Center for Counseling and Health Promotion Convocation will feature Frederic Luskin, the director of Stanford University's Forgiveness Project. Then, on February 13, the Batalden Seminar in Applied Ethics will feature Alaa Abd El-Rahman, Noor Hafez, and Nada Yehia, members of eYouth – Engaging and Empowering Egyptian Youth. Learn more about the Convocation series at <http://www.augsburg.edu/convo/>.

EVENTS OF NOTE

January 13

- Native American Youth Day, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- “Unity Through Diversity,” Olympic Gold Medalist Billy Mills, 7 p.m., Hoversten Chapel. <http://augnet.augsburg.edu/amaill/#32515>

January 16 – Convocation Series, Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation, T. Mychael Rambo, actor/vocalist/teacher, 1 p.m., Hoversten Chapel.

January 17 – Day and evening spring semester classes resume.

For a full listing of Augsburg events, go to the Inside Augsburg Calendar at <http://bit.ly/6U9Ueb>.

For a listing of Augsburg athletic events, visit the Athletic Department Calendar at <http://bit.ly/mUsyCB>.

DAILY CHAPEL

The community gathers from 10:20 to 10:40 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; and from 11:20 to 11:40 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Informal communion is held at 9:09 p.m., Wednesday.

- Monday: 1 p.m., January 16: Convocation Series, MLK Jr. Convocation, T. Mychael Rambo
- Tuesday, January 17: Opening Chapel Celebration
- Wednesday, January 18: President Paul Pribbenow

Augsburg for Adults and members of Campus Ministry gather from 7:30 to 7:50 a.m. on days of Saturday class for Eat, Greet & Bless: WEC/Grad Gathering (formerly known as First Word Gathering). These meetings are a chance for people of all faiths and backgrounds to meet for an informal worship and to enjoy breakfast together.

OTHER INFORMATION

Auggies tell story of college – Members of the Augsburg community can help tell the story of the College in many ways, every day. Be sure to submit your events, news, and kudos to A-Mail, and consider sharing the Augsburg story by posting to your personal Facebook page some of the news from our community. Take a moment to check out some of these intriguing stories:

- Reflection on Namibia: Student who recently returned from studies abroad shares thoughts. http://augnet.augsburg.edu/news-archives/2012/01_02_12/katelyn_abroad.html
- American Commonwealth Project: Auggies are guest writers on the ACP project's DemocracyU blog.

- Education department faculty Susan O'Connor wrote an entry about work her colleagues are doing to transform special education.
<http://democracyu.wordpress.com/2012/01/05/college-students-transform-special-ed/>.
- Nursing instructor Katie Clark wrote an entry on the impact of what it means to be a citizen nurse and what the model means for communities.
<http://democracyu.wordpress.com/2011/12/22/citizen-nurses-a-unique-perspective-on-health/>