

Parent and Family Relations Council Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2009
7:00 PM
Minneapolis Room, Christensen Center

Attending: Sally Daniels, Debbie Connolly, Dennis Connolly, Charmayne Sletten, Chuck Sletten, Katherine Sanders, Charlie Thompson, Tim Matyi, Elaine Matyi, Terri Draxton, Joan Locke, Guy Locke, Kim Grzesiak, David Radford, Wanda Radford, Debbie Okerlund, Neil Okerlund, Barb Iverson, Inez Bergquist, Jane Swenson

The meeting was called to order by Co-Presidents Chuck and Charmayne Sletten at 7:00 pm.

Phil Adamo, Associate Professor of History and Director of Medieval Studies at Augsburg, gave a short summary of "Mardi Gras Madrigals". This exciting event is in its fourth year and held the Tuesday before Mardi Gras – otherwise known as Fat Tuesday. It includes dinner and a short renaissance-type of show.

Orv Gingerich, Assistant Vice President for International Programs and Director of the Center for Global Education, was our speaker for the evening.

Orv talked primarily about the following programs: Study Abroad, Exchange Programs and the Center for Global Education.

Although travel is a significant part of these programs, the major concern is for student learning. The program needs to be discipline based with cultural, social science and liberal arts components.

All Augsburg student aid and external aid may be used for study abroad programs.

Augsburg offers the following programs:

1. An individual course
2. Three week experience
3. Semester abroad
4. Entire year programs

At the present time, there are five departments which offer a multi-year program that integrates study abroad into their curriculum. The program informs students, based on their major, when they are best suited to study abroad.

The three steps to study abroad are:

1. Attend a group advising meeting – held in the Study Abroad Library in Murphy Place.
2. Choose a program. Choose either an Augsburg Program or an Affiliated Program.
3. Apply by the deadline. February 1 for Faculty-led Summer/Spring programs; March 1 for Fall Semester, Academic Year and non-Augsburg Summer; October 1 for Spring Semester and Faculty-led January/Winter programs.

The Center for Global Education is one of the pioneers in international education that engages people in local communities. More than 10,000 people have participated in semester and short-term programs during the past 25 years.

Augsburg is one of the founding colleges of this program, of which there are now 12 colleges that participate. Of the 115-120 students that participate in the program, 15 are from Augsburg and the remainder are from all over the United States.

Augsburg is also a member of HECUA, Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs, an organization dedicated to education for social justice. The program provides academically rigorous study abroad opportunities.

Thank you to everyone that helped with Vespers at Central Lutheran Church in December and the Financial Aid Nights in February.

Augsburg is sponsoring a Scholarship Day on Saturday, February 21 for the Presidents and Fine Arts Scholarships. There are approximately 100 students who are participating.

Augsburg Associates are looking for volunteers to assist them with upcoming estate sales. The funds from these sales support the Associates Scholarship Fund at Augsburg. They are in need of volunteers to assist with these very worthwhile sales. If you are interested, please contact Barbara Larson at 952/435-5036.

There is a new parking pass requirement at Augsburg. A pass is needed to park in Augsburg lots. If you happen to get a parking ticket, please contact Sally Daniels.

Upcoming Events:

Sneak Previews in April
Graduation – Saturday, May 2

**Next Meetings: Tuesday, March 17 (Note: Date Change)
 Tuesday, April 21 6:00-8:00 at Augsburg House**

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Connolly
PFRC Secretary

