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'U of M Moment' feature links for the week of Jan. 2, 2006

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/30/2005)--"University of Minnesota Moment" radio features for the week of Monday, Jan. 2, are available to Minnesota radio stations for free.

The features are as follows:

- Monday, Jan. 2: "Women's Nutrition"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/womens_nutrition.mp3

- Tuesday, Jan. 3: "Exercise Programs"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/exercise_program.mp3

- Wednesday, Jan. 4: "Winter Pet Care"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/winter_pet_care.mp3

- Thursday, Jan. 5: "Gardens and Seeds"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/gardens_and_seeds.mp3

- Friday, Jan. 6: "Grapes and Wine"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/grapes_and_wine.mp3

All of the features will be posted the day for which they are scheduled at
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/>. □

What: Roundtable on new tool for 'Mapping Home and Work'
When: 9–10:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 13
Where: 180 Humphrey Center, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
Who: Local urban planners and development experts
Contacts: Jamie Proulx, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, (612) 625-9436
 Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Local planning experts will discuss new GIS tool for “Mapping Home and Work” at the U of M Humphrey Institute

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/4/2006)--The U.S. Census Bureau will soon announce a new geographic information systems (GIS) tool for mapping the geographic relationship between where people live and where they work. This new tool initially will be available in 14 states, including Minnesota. Four Minnesota GIS leaders will discuss the new tool and potential applications for regional planning, economic development, workforce development, transportation and housing policy from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 13, at the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, Room 180, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The roundtable, “Mapping Home and Work: A New Tool for Regional Analysis,” will include discussion of the practical importance of this tool and what it will mean for planners. Local experts agree that it could help urban planners make more informed decisions on such critical regional issues as housing development and transportation needs. Those taking part in the roundtable include:

- John Carpenter, president of Minnesota-based Excensus, LLC, who has played a primary role in the development of the new analytical tool.
- Oriane Casale, assistant director of the Labor Market Information Office at the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, who is playing a lead state role in developing and applying the tool for analyzing and addressing projected future mismatches in jobs, housing and transportation.
- Kris Nelson, community program director with the U of M’s Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA), who has worked to develop GIS applications for community development in the Twin Cities.
- Gary Barnes, a transportation economist with the Humphrey Institute’s State and Local Policy

Program (SLPP), who has worked extensively with the Census Transportation Planning Package and other transportation data tools, analyzing such issues as commute patterns and types of transportation used by commuters.

This roundtable is sponsored by CURA, SLPP, and the Center for Transportation Studies at the University of Minnesota. The event is free and open to the public, but RSVP's are encouraged by contacting Janice Young at (612) 626-0347 or jyoung@hhh.umn.edu. □

What: Bell Museum kicks off 'Fire and Ice' travelogues
When: 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29
Where: Bell Museum of Natural History, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis
Contacts: Nina Shepherd, Bell Museum media relations, (612) 624-7389
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

New 'extreme' travelogue series at the U of M features real-life Indiana Jones type researchers

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/4/2006)--"Fire and Ice: Extreme Adventures from the Arctic to the Equator" is a series of exotic travelogues designed for both the armchair adventurer and the high-energy tourist beginning at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29, at the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

The first in the series of live, multimedia presentations, features a talk by Tony Gamble, a Bell Museum biologist and professional photographer, whose studies of amphibians and reptiles have led him to Brazil—and put him in close personal contact with boa constrictors, rattlesnakes, vipers and anacondas. Like the other travelogues in the series, Gamble's travel accounts will be illustrated with vivid and captivating photos.

"These aren't the typical Alaska-by-cruise-ship travelogues," said Peggy Korsmo-Kennonys, Bell Museum program director. "We wanted the public to meet the university's real-life Indiana Joneses—biologists, archeologists and other researchers doing real work often in extreme conditions."

Other travelogues in the series include an exploration of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, seal watching in the Antarctic and stalking the clouded leopard in Borneo.

Tickets are \$8 for the public; \$6 for Bell Museum members. Discount packages for the series are available for members and nonmembers. For a detailed list of scheduled travelogues and package prices, visit www.bellmuseum.org. The Bell Museum is part of the university's College of Natural Resources. □

Contacts: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214,
dorovic@umn.edu

'U of M Moment' feature links for the week of Jan. 9

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/5/2006)--"University of Minnesota Moment" radio features for the week of Monday, Jan. 9, are available to Minnesota radio stations for free.

The features are as follows:

- Monday, Jan. 9: "Food Labeling"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/food_labeling.mp3

- Tuesday, Jan. 10: "Bees"

Fully produced :90 feature: <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/bees.mp3>

- Wednesday, Jan. 11: "Dry Skin"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/dry_skin.mp3

- Thursday, Jan. 12: "Parenting Teenagers"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/parenting_teenagers.mp3

- Friday, Jan. 13: "Excessive Sweating"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/excessive_sweating.mp3

All of the features will be posted the day for which they are scheduled at
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/>. □

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

University of Minnesota and state veterans' organizations team up to honor Minnesota veterans at new Gopher football stadium

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/9/2006)--The University of Minnesota and several state veterans organizations have teamed up to develop recommendations for honoring veterans at the proposed on-campus Gopher football stadium.

"We want to carry the legacy of Memorial Stadium forward into our new football stadium," said university President Robert Bruininks, who formed the committee. "Memorial Stadium was originally built as a tribute to World War I veterans, and we want to make the stadium a lasting legacy to every Minnesotan who has served our country in the armed forces."

The Gopher football team moved its games to the Metrodome in 1982 and Memorial Stadium was torn down in 1992. The university has proposed building a \$248 million campus stadium, with the university contributing 60 percent of the cost and the state 40 percent. Legislation to provide the state's share is awaiting action.

The committee is co-chaired by retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Dennis Schulstad, who is also president-elect of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA), and by Linda Thrane, vice president for University Relations.

"We have three primary objectives," Schulstad said. "Identify options for a memorial that will be part of the stadium, develop a plan to raise funds to pay for the memorial and enlist state veterans in our bid to get legislative action on the bill that provides the state's share of the funding for the stadium."

TCF Bank has already committed \$35 million to the stadium in return for naming it TCF Bank Stadium. The 50,000-seat facility is planned to open in 2009 if state funding is approved.

"If the Legislature acts soon, we can get to work on a meaningful tribute to Minnesota veterans that will be an integral part of the design process," said Thrane.

Veterans representatives on the committee include: Clark Dyrud, commissioner, Minnesota Veterans Affairs ; Dennis O'Gorman, commander, and Dean Ascherman, adjutant, Minnesota Disabled American Veterans; Don Schroedl, past national executive committee member, American Legion; William Wroolie, chief of staff and legislative officer, Minnesota Military Order of the Purple Heart; Stan Kowalski, judge advocate, Minnesota Veterans of Foreign Wars; Jerry Kyser, president, Minnesota Vietnam Veterans of America and chair of United Veterans Legislative Council; and Curt Norenberg, retired brigadier general and state vice chair, Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve. University members are: Reserve

Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Lt. Col. Curt Cooper, ROTC student veterans Andrew Davis and Elsa Karman, Athletics Director Joel Maturi, vice presidents Kathy Brown, Richard Pfitzenreuter and Kathleen O'Brien, Associate Vice President Donna Peterson, UMAA Executive Director Margaret Carlson and University of Minnesota Foundation President Gerald Fischer. □

What: U of M to launch new season of Great Conversations series
When: Feb. 28, March 28, May 1, May 16
Where: Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S. Minneapolis
Contacts: Liz Turchin, College of Continuing Education, (612) 625-1274
 Heather Skatter, College of Continuing Education, (612) 624-7770
 Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M to launch new season of Great Conversations series

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/9/2006)--This February, the University of Minnesota College of Continuing Education will launch a new season of Great Conversations featuring world-renowned faculty, their thought-provoking guests and citizens.

The 2006 Great Conversations season promises to offer a visionary look into the future. This year's series will cover topics such as protection of water resources, the future of affordable housing, rethinking the urban environments and reshaping retirement. All conversations take place at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S. Minneapolis.

Since 2002, nearly 15,000 Minnesotans have taken part in 21 groundbreaking discussions between the U's faculty experts and their peers from around the world – an inspiring group of visionary activists, political strategists, groundbreaking researchers, and Nobel and Pulitzer Prize-winners.

Lectures and speakers in this season's Great Conversations series are:

Feb. 28: Deborah Swackhamer, director of the U's Water Resources Research Institute, compares perspectives with award-winning Canadian ecologist David Schindler on how to protect water sources such as the Great Lakes for future generations.

March 28: Ann Forsyth, director of the U's Metropolitan Design Center, envisions the future of affordable housing with Nicolas Retsinas, current director of Harvard's Center for Housing Studies and former Federal Housing Commissioner for the Clinton administration.

May 1: In the wake of the devastating hurricanes in the Gulf Coast, Judith Martin, director of the U's urban studies program, welcomes visionary U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenauer, founder of the House Livable Communities Task Force, to assess the unprecedented opportunity to rethink our urban environments.

May 16: Phyllis Moen, the U's McKnight Presidential Chair in Sociology, is joined by Marc Freedman, author of "Prime Time: How Baby Boomers Will Revolutionize Retirement and Transform

America,” for a lively discussion of the social forces reshaping retirement.

Series tickets are \$95 (\$80 for U of M faculty, staff, students, and UMAA members). Single event tickets are \$28.50 (\$23.50). Tickets can be ordered from the U of M Ticket Office at (612) 624-2345.

More information is available at www.cce.umn.edu/conversations.

The Great Conversations series is sponsored by the University of Minnesota Foundation, TIAA-CREF and Mpls/St. Paul Magazine. □

What: Martin Luther King III to speak at University of Minnesota
When: 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6
Where: Great Hall, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
Contacts: Kate McMillan, Twin Cities Student Unions, (612) 625-8269

Martin Luther King III to speak about his father's vision

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/9/2006)--The University of Minnesota's Minnesota Programs and Activities Council (MPAC) will present "My Father's Dream, My Mission," an evening with social activist Martin Luther King III, son of Martin Luther King Jr., at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6, in the Great Hall of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. Doors open at 7 p.m.

During the event, King will address hallmarks of his father's vision such as the fight against poverty and social, political and economic injustice. He will also speak about his tactical strategies to implement his father's ideas into today's society. King currently serves as president of the King Center, an organization dedicated to continuing the work and vision of Martin Luther King Jr. The King Center was founded in 1968 by Coretta Scott King, widow of Martin Luther King Jr. and mother of Martin Luther King III.

Advance tickets sales will begin Wednesday, Jan. 18. Tickets cost \$10 for U of M students with a valid student ID and \$15 for the general public. Tickets can be purchased at the Coffman information desk during regular business hours. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the door. If the event is sold out, tickets for overflow seating will be made available.

The Minnesota Programs and Activities Council is the main campuswide programming board for the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Its programming committees are responsible for initiating, developing and implementing a comprehensive and diverse activities program that anticipates and responds to the needs of U of M students and the campus community. For more information, visit www.coffman.umn.edu.

Complete information, including directions and how to purchase tickets, is available online at www.coffman.umn.edu/mlk. □

What: U of M employee chosen to Hispanic Chamber of Commerce “25 On The Rise” list

Who: UConnects coordinator Tex Ostvig

Contacts: Tex Ostvig, (612) 626-2820
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M employee chosen to Hispanic Chamber of Commerce “25 On The Rise” list

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/10/2006)--The Minnesota Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has named University of Minnesota UConnects program coordinator Tex Ostvig to its inaugural “25 On the Rise list.”

The HCCM created the program in December 2004 as a means to honor and encourage Hispanic leaders less than 40 years of age and inspire the development of tomorrow’s leaders. The 25 winners were chosen for their services and contributions Minnesota’s burgeoning Hispanic community.

“Being selected as one of the “25 on the Rise Latino Leaders in Minnesota” is a humbling and exciting honor,” Ostvig said. “I am grateful that my work in the Latino community and my life can be recognized as I stand with 24 other outstanding individuals. This award carries with it the pride and prestige that Latinos in Minnesota have been creating for the past many decades. I have always followed the quote, “They don’t care how much you know, until they know how much you care,” and this honor is one that recognizes the caring and devotion one can have in their community.”

Ostvig, a 1996 University of Minnesota graduate and former Gopher wrestler from Orono, is the coordinator of the very successful UConnects program at the university. UConnects is a university-community partnership designed to connect young people and their mentors with the university by providing tickets and access to university educational programs, cultural activities and theater, music and athletic events. The mentors not only accompany youth to the activities, but also help them critically think about and learn from the experience. The program has provided more than 1,300 tickets to mentors and the young people they work with, enabling them to attend U of M artistic and sporting events. In July, UConnects teamed up with the Minnesota Twins so that 3,000 mentors and mentees could attend a game and take part in special events.

“Through UConnects, the university is playing an important role in the lives of youth who currently have less access to the educational and cultural experiences,” Ostvig said. “By getting young people involved with the university and enriching educational opportunities, university leaders hope more young

people and their families realize their potential. I am extremely grateful to my family, my communities and the University of Minnesota for providing me countless opportunities to serve and to learn from others. This honor will allow me to share my story in hopes of encouraging others to follow their hearts, live life with purpose and accept personal responsibility as a global citizen."

"We have chosen an exceptional group of leaders who will now be a part of an important tradition and play a key role in the future growth and development of Minnesota's Hispanic community," said Michael Robles of the HCCM. "Years from now, the 25 On the Rise alumni will be regarded as a "Who's Who" in Minnesota's Hispanic community and Minnesota at large. Our hope is that they will gain wisdom from the successes and missteps made by the generations of leaders who have gone before them, because it will be their charge to be standard-bearers for this project and to lead the Hispanic community to even greater accomplishments for many years to come." □

What: University and Zipcar to provide wheels to students/staff on demand
When: Service begins Tuesday, Jan. 17
Contacts: Mary Sienko, Parking and Transportation Services, (612) 626-5828
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

No car? No problem: University of Minnesota launches new transportation programs

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/11/2006)--University of Minnesota students who lack a car will have some new wheels at their disposal with the start of spring semester. The University of Minnesota Parking and Transportation Services (PTS) is launching two new alternative transportation programs, Zipcar and Van-GO!

In partnership with Zipcar Inc., the nation's largest provider of self-service cars by the hour or day, PTS is now making cost-effective cars easily available to the university community. To kickoff the availability of Zipcars, local ice sculptor John E. Franks of Ice Carvings Etc., will carve a Zipcar prototype out of ice on the Coffman Union front plaza on the first day of spring semester, Tuesday, Jan. 17. Students, faculty and staff can learn about Zipcar that day from 8 a.m. to noon in the lower level of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, and from 1 to 4 p.m. at the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

Zipcar gives students, staff and faculty "wheels when you want them." Individuals can become Zipcar members for \$30 a year. Members may make unlimited reservations, 24/7, for one of six self-service Zipcars – conveniently located on campus at the Washington Avenue Ramp, 21st Avenue Ramp and Gortner Avenue Ramp. Reservations can be made by telephone or online. To pick up the car, members simply go to the car they reserved and let themselves in with their Zipcard.

"Zipcar gives students a new freedom; access to a car without the worry of parking fees and maintenance costs that come with private ownership," said Mary Sienko, of PTS.

Members pay for what they use. Prices start at just \$8 per hour, with daily rates beginning at \$60. Gasoline, insurance, designated parking and XM Satellite Radio are included. At the university, members can choose from the Toyota Matrix, the Mazda 3 or the Honda Element.

Unlike traditional rental cars, Zipcar car-sharing program members need only be 21 years old and meet Zipcar's safe driving standards. Zipcar members also have access to Zipcars located across the country in Boston, New York, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.

People living in neighborhoods around the university will also have access to Zipcars. Non-university

users will need to pay \$50 for membership and a \$25 application fee.

PTS is also partnering with the Metropolitan Council to launch another new transportation program on Jan. 17. Van-GO! matches university staff or faculty living in the same geographic area and commuting to work along a similar path.

Together, they can arrange a vanpool to work. A vanpool must have at least five passengers who can ride together at least three days a week. Vanpools serve areas that do not have convenient bus or light rail service. A portion of the van lease is subsidized by the Metropolitan Council. The remainder of the lease, as well as gas and parking fees, is the responsibility of the vanpool group.

A Van-Go! driver must be at least 25 years old with a valid drivers license, a good driving record and good credit. Drivers do not pay the vanpool costs, may use the vehicle for a limited number of personal miles, and are eligible for the Driver Rewards Program and the Guaranteed Ride Home Program.

VanGo! riders will capture a number of rewards when vanpooling, including saving on average \$800 a year over the cost of driving alone and benefiting from a more efficient use of their commute time.

The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities is a large, land-locked institution with limited parking and heavy traffic congestion. To alleviate this situation, PTS constantly seeks the latest development in transportation management. Zipcar and Van-Go! are cost-effective alternatives to minimize the influx of privately owned automobiles when public transportation, walking or biking just is not practical.

The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities is the third largest traffic generator in Minnesota. The University of Minnesota Parking and Transportation Services is committed to establishing, maintaining and improving a comprehensive transportation system that reduces congestion, eases accessibility and enhances a friendly university community. □

What: "Music for Martin"—25th annual concert to honor the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

When: 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5

Where: Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis

Contacts: Jen Jackson, public relations director, School of Music, (612) 626-1094; jenj@umn.edu

Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

"Music for Martin"—25th annual concert to honor the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/12/2006)--The University of Minnesota Office for Multicultural and Academic Affairs and the School of Music present "Music for Martin," the 25th annual concert celebrating the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The concert will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis. The concert is free and open to the public, and no advance tickets are required. Parking is available in the 21st Avenue parking ramp, one block southwest of the concert hall.

Featured artists include Twin Cities' favorites Bruce A. Henry with Debbie Duncan and Gwen Matthews.

Known for his eclectic style of world influenced jazz vocals, Henry's pure voice has a versatility and depth that few can match. Influenced by Nina Simone, Al Jarreau and John Coltrane, his music has taken him to four continents, garnering a large following in France and the Far East.

Duncan is often referred to by many local music critics as the First Lady of Song and the most popular jazz/pop singer in the Twin Cities. A stunning and versatile vocalist, Duncan has performed with many top singers including Lou Rawls, Miles Davis, Bobby Watson and Bobby Lyle. She has won every award that Minnesota has ever given a vocalist and was named the Perpetually Outstanding Performer at the Minnesota Music Awards.

Also appearing on the 90-minute program is the University of Minnesota's African Music Ensemble, led by Sowah Mensah. Mensah is an ethnomusicologist, composer and a "Master Drummer" from Ghana, West Africa. The university's first and only student-run a cappella group 7 DAYS also will perform in the program. Comprised of both men and women spanning all ages and majors, the group specializes in pop and R&B music.

The founder of these annual concerts, the late University of Minnesota professor Reginald Buckner,

began a tradition of celebrating the life and accomplishments of Martin Luther King, Jr. through the performing arts.

“Professor Buckner was an outstanding performer, composer and educator, and was instrumental in establishing a jazz studies program at the university,” said Sue Hancock of the Office of Multicultural and Academic Affairs. “His death in 1989 left us without his personal dedication and artistic genius, but not without an inspiring legacy—the 25th annual celebration we present on Feb. 5.” □

- What:** University of Minnesota to host Twin Cities' premiere of film about raising children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- When:** 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2
- Where:** Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
- Contacts:** Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

University of Minnesota to host Twin Cities' premiere of film about raising children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/12/2006)--The University of Minnesota will host the Twin Cities premiere of "Pathways to Understanding: Raising Children with FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder)--A Seminar with John Hays" at 4 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, in the Mississippi Room of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E. Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served at 4 p.m., followed by the film at 4:15 p.m. and a question and answer session.

The film was developed by University of Minnesota, Duluth, associate professor of theater Bill Payne in conjunction with John and Holiday Hays, founders of the Hayskids Foundation and adoptive parents of 14 children--10 of whom have FASD.

FASD is an umbrella term describing the range of effects that can occur in an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy. These effects may include physical, mental, behavioral and/or learning disabilities with possible lifelong implications.

The film offers parenting techniques for both parents and professional caregivers, John Hays said.

"Parenting children with FASD is mentally, emotionally and physically draining," Hays said. "This film includes a message of hope for parents."

The three most common characteristics of children with FASD are impulsiveness, lack of self control and confusion, he said. During the film, Hays offers specific advice on how to parent children with FASD because the usual techniques don't work, he said. "Children with FASD aren't bad kids they just make bad choices," said Hays, and many people just don't understand that.

Hays believes that parents need to learn parenting techniques specific to children with FASD. However, he cautions, these things do not heal the child. "They do greatly improve the quality of life of both the child and their caregivers," he said.

The film's premiere in the Twin Cities is sponsored by University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks' Initiative on Children, Youth and Families. □

What: 'The Future of Tax Reform' Conference
When: 4 p.m., reception to follow at 6 p.m.
Where: Hubert H. Humphrey Center, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.
Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-8770
Registration: Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-7511;
carlsonschool.umn.edu/taxreform

U of M Carlson School of Management to host future of tax reform conference Jan. 18

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/13/2006)--"The Future of Tax Reform: The Report of the President's Commission" will be the topic of a conference hosted by the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management's Master of Business Taxation program Wednesday, Jan. 18, 4-6 p.m., in the Cowles Auditorium Atrium, Hubert H. Humphrey Center, 301 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis.

Fundamental tax reform has become a major issue in the U.S. Congress. In January, President Bush established a nine-member bipartisan panel to study the federal tax code and to provide revenue-neutral tax reform options for consideration. A range of proposals were received, including some that would change the tax base from income to consumption or change the way income is taxed altogether. Other proposals would simplify the existing income tax system.

Members of the general public and anyone who works with tax code issues are invited to attend the conference to learn more about which proposals would more likely be adopted. Speakers include:

Former U.S. Rep. Bill Frenzel, a key member of the President's Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform, who will serve as the keynote and present a behind-the-scenes look at the panel's recommendations and the prospects for fundamental tax reform. Frenzel, of Minnesota, retired from the U.S. House of Representatives in 1991 after serving for 20 years;

U.S. Rep. Jim Ramstad, first elected to Congress in 1990 and currently a member of the House Ways and Means Committee and chairman of its Oversight Subcommittee, will provide Capitol Hill's reaction; and

Gary Stern, president and chief executive officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, who will discuss the economic implications of tax reform.

The registration fee is \$25 per person. The registration deadline is Jan. 13. For more information, or to register, visit carlsonschool.umn.edu/taxreform, or contact the Master of Business Taxation office, Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-7511. This forum was postponed from an earlier date. □

- What:** Half-day conference on governance
- When:** Registration: 7:30–8 a.m. Conference: 8 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27
- Where:** Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, Cowles Auditorium, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
- Who:** Members of the Government Performance Project, local elected officials
- Contacts:** Jamie Proulx, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, (612) 625-9436
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Experts will give report card on best government practices across the country

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/13/2006)--Government breakdowns after natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, and the current scandals involving elected officials on Capitol Hill give the public little confidence in our national leaders. Winning back the support of Americans requires a sustained commitment to effective and efficient government performance. The Humphrey Institute will host a conference, "Serving Citizens Better: Promoting Excellence in Public Management," from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27, that will bring together local and national experts, representatives from the governor's office, and state legislators. Following opening remarks from Minneapolis Mayor R. T. Rybak, they will discuss the best governing practices from around the country and the steps we can take in Minnesota to improve government effectiveness.

The Government Performance Project (GPP), a national nonpartisan program that evaluates the management of states, recently performed a national survey of public management systems and created a report card of best practices. Three panels of local and national policy makers will discuss how to use these results to improve government. For example, what are the best ways to tie budget decisions to performance? Can the Internet be used to speed government responsiveness to citizens while saving money? With a large portion of state government employees about to retire, are there incentives and flexible workplace policies to help retain the best of these valued workers?

Each panel will address a different challenge or obstacle to effective management. Minnesota Sen. Sheila Kiscaden (I–Rochester) will moderate the first panel on "Managing for the Future: E-government and Information Management." The second panel on human resource and performance management will be moderated by Minnesota Rep. Kathy Tingelstad (R–Andover). The final panel will look at future directions for improving Minnesota governance. Nate Garvis, vice president of government affairs for Target Corp., will moderate the discussion, which will include Dan McElroy, Gov. Pawlenty's senior

adviser for innovation, Humphrey Institute fellow Jay Kiedrowski, and Sean Kershaw, president of the Citizens League.

The conference has been organized by the Humphrey Institute's Center for the Study of Politics and Governance (CSPG) and is co-sponsored by the Citizens League and the Humphrey Institute's Public and Nonprofit Leadership Center.

The event is free and open to the public, but registration is encouraged. Please visit CSPG online at www.hhh.umn.edu/centers/cspg/ or e-mail CSPG@hhh.umn.edu for more information and to register. □

- What:** NASA Stardust mission payload slated to return to Earth Sunday will have sample for U of M physicist
- When:** 4 a.m. CST Sunday
- Where:** Utah
- Contacts:** Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

University of Minnesota physicist Bob Pepin to get dust sample from NASA's Stardust mission

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/13/2006)--University of Minnesota physicist Bob Pepin is eagerly awaiting the return of the payload of NASA's Stardust mission which is scheduled to parachute into the Utah desert at 4 a.m. CST Sunday. The payload is carrying the first-ever samples of comet dust, collected from Comet Wild-2 (pronounced "Vilt" two) in 2004.

NASA will provide Pepin with a sample of dust to analyze. Pepin, whose projects with NASA go back to the Apollo moon missions, will analyze samples for their content of helium and neon.

"Because some scientists have proposed that comets have contributed these gases to the atmospheres of Earth, Venus and Mars, learning about these gases in comets would be very interesting," says Pepin.

The samples are being collected in a space-age substance called aerogel, a silicon "sponge" with one-thousandth the density of water. The samples hit the aerogel at 13,000 miles per hour, or six times the speed of a bullet. But, says Pepin, aerogel is specially designed to slow down dust particles, not obliterate them.

He says the main challenge to the successful completion of the mission is the payload's reentry speed: 28,000 mph. That's 70 percent faster than the reentry speed of the Space Shuttle. □

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

U of M calls governor's bonding recommendations a good start

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/17/2006)--University of Minnesota officials today called Gov. Tim Pawlenty's bonding proposal for the university a good start, but said they will continue to make their case to legislators for funding the university's full request and for finding innovative ways to finance high-cost research facilities, which are critical to Minnesota's quality of life.

"We're pleased the governor is supporting some very important, strategic investments in our students," university President Robert Bruininks said. "His bonding bill is a good start, and we look forward to working with the Legislature to build on it."

The university is requesting \$206.1 million in this year's bonding bill. Pawlenty's bill funds \$127.6 million of that request, including fully funding an expansion of the Carlson School of Management, a new building for the Labovitz School of Business and Economics on the Duluth campus and a new science classroom and student service building on the Twin Cities campus.

Pawlenty's recommendation provides half of the \$80 million university officials requested for maintenance of existing facilities. The governor provided \$4.3 million of the \$40 million the university requested for a new biosciences building and did not include \$2.8 million requested for improvements at university research centers and field stations around the state.

"There is growing pressure on our ability to fund critical, yet extremely expensive, bioscience research buildings, which are critical to our strategic goal of becoming one of the top three public research universities in the world," Bruininks said. "There's no question that these highly sophisticated facilities are expensive, but they are essential to the biomedical research that will generate scientific knowledge and innovations that will enhance our state's quality of life for generations to come. These are investments in health and prosperity that we cannot afford to shortchange."

Bruininks said the university would work with the governor and legislators this session to develop creative ways to finance such research facilities.

More information on the University of Minnesota's 2006 capital bonding request can be found at www.umn.edu/urelate/govrel. □

- What:** University's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs to hold forum on Emerging Markets Homeownership Initiative
- When:** 12 to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27
- Where:** Carlson School of Management, 321-19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
- Contacts:** Kaydee Kirk, CURA, (612) 625-2086
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

University's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs to hold forum on Emerging Markets Homeownership Initiative

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/18/2006)--The University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) will hold its monthly forum and brown bag discussion of Twin Cities housing issues and research from 12 to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27, in Room 2-215 at the Carlson School of Management,

As a step toward closing the significant homeownership gap between minority and immigrant households to that of white households, the state of Minnesota has launched the Emerging Markets Homeownership Initiative (EMHI). The forum will present an overview of EMHI implementation strategies and provide a perspective on how the strategies are currently being advanced.

Forum speakers are:

- Jacqueline King, assistant vice president and community affairs officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.
- Tim Marx, commissioner, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency.
- Missy Thompson, director, Fannie Mae Community Business Center.

People wishing to attend the forum should RSVP by Wednesday, Jan. 25, by calling (612) 625-1551. For more information, contact Kaydee Kirk at (612) 625-2086. □

**University of Minnesota experts available to discuss subjects of
President Bush's State of the Union speech**

Kathryn Pearson, political science professor, can provide an expert analysis of the President's State of the Union Address. Pearson has been a Research Fellow at the Brookings Institution, and she specializes in American Politics.

Jason Roberts, political science professor, is also available to comment on and analyze the State of the Union Address. Roberts' specialties include American politics, the U.S. Congress, elections, and U.S. Supreme Court nominations. He has published articles in the American Journal of Political Science, the Journal of Politics, and Congress and the Presidency.

Alfred Marcus, a professor in the Carlson School of Management, can speak and renewable energy policy. It will take putting good public policies in place to make way for technological advances, Marcus said.

Stephen Parente, a professor of finance at the Carlson School of Management, is available to comment on health savings accounts. He has been researching health savings accounts for the Bush administration. Since 2002, he's been the lead investigator on three of four grants that the University of Minnesota has received from the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Evaluation and Planning, to study Health Savings Accounts.

Dale Carpenter, a University of Minnesota Law School professor, is a constitutional law expert and can speak about the issue of domestic spying and the fourth amendment.

To interview any of the experts above, contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.

What: University of Minnesota Legislative Briefing and Reception
When: 5:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2006
Where: McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis
Who: University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks, Robert Stein, Mary Lahammer
Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

Annual Legislative Briefing brings together university supporters to advocate for U priorities

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/19/2006)--The University of Minnesota will hold its annual Legislative Briefing and Reception on Wednesday, January 25, 2006, from 5:30-8 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

The Legislative Briefing brings together alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends of the university to rally behind the U's 2006 legislative priorities, including the \$206.1 million capital request. Participants will be encouraged to increase their grassroots lobbying efforts on behalf of the U throughout the legislative session. The event is expected to draw 350 attendees.

The event will include remarks from Robert Stein, president of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA), and a presentation on the capital request by Robert Bruininks, president of the University of Minnesota who will be joined by several students, faculty and staff to talk about the need for a number of projects included in the request. Mary Lahammer, Twin Cities Public Television's political reporter for Almanac, will moderate a question-and-answer session with Bruininks.

If passed by the legislature, the capital request would enable the university to preserve its current infrastructure and construct new facilities to meet growing demands. This state investment would also advance the university's aspirations to become one of the top three public research universities in the world within a decade.

In addition, the state's capital investment would:

- make a fundamental commitment to the educational and developmental experience of students;
- create opportunities for new groundbreaking research that would benefit the state; and
- support the land-grant mission to connect knowledge to the needs of Minnesota communities by making strategic facility investments.

For more information about the university's 2006 capital request, see <http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/govrel/>. For more information about the University of Minnesota's

Legislative Network, see www.supporttheU.umn.edu.

The 2006 Legislative Briefing is sponsored by the UMAA and the Legislative Network. The UMAA is an independent, 57,000-member organization dedicated to connecting alumni, students and friends in lifelong support of the University of Minnesota and each other. For more information about the UMAA, visit www.alumni.umn.edu. □

- What:** University of Minnesota lecture on climate change and intergenerational fairness
- When:** 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7
- Where:** Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
- Contacts:** Sara Zettervall, (612) 625-0055
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

University of Minnesota lecture to explore climate change and intergenerational fairness

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/23/2006)--Dartmouth College professor Richard B. Howarth will lecture on "Climate Change and Intergenerational Fairness--Reconciling Ethics and Economics" from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, in the Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The lecture is part of the Lunch Series on the Societal Implications of the Life Sciences. The series is co-sponsored by the University of Minnesota's Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences and Joint Degree Program in Law, Health & the Life Sciences. The event is free and open to the public. Reservations are recommended, and lunches are provided to those who RSVP by Tuesday, Jan. 31, by e-mailing lawvalue@umn.edu or calling (612) 625-0055. This lecture is intended for students, faculty, researchers, scientists, policymakers and members of the community.

The lecture will examine moral theories that emphasize the importance of stabilizing the Earth's climate to protect the rights or interests of future generations versus economic models that often discount the future at a rate that implies that comparatively little weight is attached to the benefits of climate change mitigation.

Howarth will explore and seek to resolve the tensions that exist between these two points of view, arguing that the use of high discount rates is inappropriate in this context on both philosophical and empirical grounds.

In his work as professor of environmental studies at Dartmouth College, Howarth focuses on energy use, climate change and ecological conservation. He also emphasizes the use of rigorous economic analysis in understanding the causes of environmental problems and the design of solutions that take into account the multiple objectives of environmental policy. Howarth's research explores themes that include the role of discounting, sustainability, and intergenerational fairness in evaluating long-term

environmental policies; mathematical models of the relationship between economic growth, the natural environment, and human well-being; the role of public policies in promoting energy efficiency and the adoption of “clean” energy technologies; and the valuation of ecosystem services and the role of economic, social and moral values in managing natural systems.

This lecture is the third in the 2005-06 lunch series. This year’s series focuses on “Energy and the Environment: Science, Ethics & Policy.” For more information on upcoming events, visit <http://www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu/conferences/>. □

Photo opportunity

- What:** U of M student Elizabeth Bowser to teach students about the origins of making a book
- When:** 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 26
- Where:** Randolph Heights School, 348 Hamline Ave. S., St. Paul. Please check in at main office.
- Who:** Fourth graders in Jean Schalk's integrated social studies, history and art class
- Contacts:** Kelly O'Brien, College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-4109
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

How to make a book, Medieval style

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/24/2006)--University of Minnesota student Elizabeth Bowser (in full costume) from the U's Center for Medieval Studies will teach elementary students about the invention of the bound book and help them create their own books using vellum, quills, gold leaf and ink.

The Center for Medieval Studies (CMS) conducts an outreach program to elementary schools presenting the invention and history of the book as we know it today. Prior to medieval times, books were not made with pages bound together, but were contained on scrolls. Through this program, a costumed student from CMS goes to area schools and teaches the students, typically fourth and fifth graders in social studies or art classes, how to make their own medieval-style book using real vellum, quills, gold leaf and ink (all donated to the program). The instructor also talks about the "invention" of the table of contents and the index, which came about after the paged and bound book was invented. The program teaches students the value of books in a world dominated by computers and the Web.

Students will also be able to look at and touch a real medieval manuscript page. □

Event title correction: This event is now titled "The 25th Annual Concert Celebrating the Life and Achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr."

What: Title change
Contacts: Jen Jackson, School of Music, (612) 626-1094
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

25th annual concert celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Feb. 5

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/25/2006)--The University of Minnesota Office for Multicultural and Academic Affairs and the School of Music present "The 25th Annual Concert Celebrating the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." The concert will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis. The concert is free and open to the public, and no advance tickets are required. Parking is available in the 21st Avenue parking ramp, one block southwest of the concert hall. (Due to trademark issues the university is no longer using any reference to the previous program title. This event is now "The 25th Annual Concert Celebrating the Life and Achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.")

Featured artists at the event include Twin Cities' favorites Bruce A. Henry, Debbie Duncan and Gwen Matthews.

Also appearing on the 90-minute program is the University of Minnesota's African Music Ensemble, led by Sowah Mensah. Mensah is an ethnomusicologist, composer and a "Master Drummer" from Ghana, West Africa. The university's and only student-run a cappella group 7 DAYS also will perform in the program. Comprised of both men and women spanning all ages and majors, the group specializes in pop and R&B music. □

Event rescheduled to 1:30 - 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1

When: 1:30 - 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1
Where: Randolph Heights School, 348 Hamline Ave. S., St. Paul
Contacts: Kelly O'Brien, College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-4109
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Medieval book making event rescheduled for Feb. 1

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/25/2006)--The University of Minnesota Center for Medieval Studies visit to elementary students at Randolph Heights School, 348 Hamline Ave. S., St. Paul has been rescheduled for 1:30 - 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1. At the event university student Elizabeth Bowser will teach elementary students about the invention of the bound book and help them create their own books using vellum, quills, gold leaf and ink.

The Center for Medieval Studies (CMS) conducts an outreach program to elementary schools presenting the invention and history of the book as we know it today. Through this program, a costumed student from CMS goes to area schools and teaches the students how to make their own medieval-style book using real vellum, quills, gold leaf and ink (all donated to the program).

Students will also be able to look at and touch a real medieval manuscript page. □

What: Grand reopening of Nicholson Hall, University of Minnesota
When: noon – 1:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 27
Where: 216 Pillsbury Drive S.E. (near 15th & University Avenues S.E.)
Who: Steven Rosenstone, dean of the College of Liberal Arts
Contacts: Kelly O'Brien, College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-4109
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M's historic Nicholson Hall to reopen Jan. 27; newly remodeled building will house four units of the College of Liberal Arts

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/25/2006)--Nicholson Hall, once home to the chemistry department, a Navy machinists mates school and a U Film Society auditorium, has been completely renovated. A public celebration will take place from noon – 1:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 27, at Nicholson Hall, 216 Pillsbury Drive S.E., Minneapolis.

The new-and-improved building, which was built in 1890, will be the new home to the department of cultural studies and comparative literature, the department of classical and Near Eastern studies, the Center for Writing, and honors, all units of the College of Liberal Arts.

The project included HVAC, telecommunications, fire suppression and Americans with Disabilities Act upgrades; replacement of the structure for the foundation, floors and roof; and much-needed classrooms and auditoriums. Additional features include an outdoor courtyard on the south side of the building and a rebuilt turret, which was removed during an addition in the 1920s. Although the auditorium added to the south side of the building in the 1940s was removed as part of this project, improvements to the building's third floor increased the amount of assignable space available in Nicholson Hall.

The beloved art deco entry vestibule, Fireplace Room and other historic elements were retained during the renovation.

The original architect for Nicholson Hall was LeRoy Buffington, whose work for the University of Minnesota also included Eddy, Burton and Pillsbury Halls. However, Buffington may be best known for his ill-fated patent for building skyscrapers—before any had ever been built—and his subsequent attempts to enforce his patent. Renovation architects were Minneapolis-based Collaborative Design Group, whose other historic/reuse projects have included Landmark Center, International Market Square and Midtown Exchange.

“With the opening of Nicholson Hall, the university and the College of Liberal Arts continue our commitment to being good stewards of the public’s resources,” said Steven Rosenstone, dean of the College of Liberal Arts. “We are very grateful for the support of the state and people of Minnesota, and I trust they will be proud of the renovation of Nicholson Hall, which not only preserves a historic and beautiful structure but also provides a state-of-the-art facility that serves thousands of students each year.”

Opening day activities will include an open archaeology lab, mini-writing consultations, recitations of Latin poetry, film screenings, music and more.

Nicholson Hall, along with the recently renovated Jones Hall, is part of the burgeoning humanities district in the historic Knoll area of the east bank campus.

Tours of Nicholson Hall are available now. The following people are available for interviews regarding Nicholson Hall: Steven Rosenstone, dean, College of Liberal Arts; Architect Michael Jordan and others from Collaborative Design Group; and leaders of the units housed in Nicholson Hall. To schedule a visit or interview, please contact Kelly O’Brien at 612-624-4109. □

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

University of Minnesota comments on Rochester higher education report

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/25/2006)--The following is a statement from University of Minnesota Senior Vice President for System Administration Robert Jones in response to the release of today's report of the Rochester Higher Education Development Committee:

“The University is pleased with the committee’s recommendations and is excited about taking a leadership role in this undertaking. The Rochester Higher Education Development Committee’s report offers a solid blueprint for expanding higher education opportunities in Rochester—and economic opportunities across the whole state. By leveraging the research expertise of the University, Mayo Clinic, IBM and other partners, this plan will develop signature academic programs that will attract students from around the region and the world.” □

**Embargoed by Nature until noon Central (1 p.m. Eastern) time
Wednesday, Jan. 25**

What: Carbon dioxide releases from plants
Who: Peter Reich, (612) 624-4270
Contacts: Deane Morrison, University Relations, (612) 624-2346

Of mice, men, trees and the global carbon cycle

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/25/2006)--A team led by a University of Minnesota researcher has found a universal rule that regulates the metabolism of plants of all kinds and sizes and may also offer a key to calculating carbon dioxide emissions from plants, a number that must be known precisely in order to construct valid models of global carbon dioxide cycling. Emissions of the gas occur in both plants and animals through the process of respiration; Peter Reich, a professor of forest resources, and his colleagues have found that plant emissions can be deduced from the nitrogen content of any plant. The study also reveals that the respiration, or metabolic, rates of plants and animals follow different laws of scaling with respect to body size. The work will be published in the Jan. 26 issue of the journal *Nature*.

In revealing nitrogen content as the key to plant metabolic rates, the work uncovered a fundamental difference between plants and animals in how their metabolism varies with size. The larger an animal, the slower its metabolism on a per-weight basis. For example, an elephant burns many more calories per hour than a mouse, the mouse has a much higher rate per pound of body weight. An elephant with the same rate per pound as a mouse would generate so much heat it would have serious problems maintaining body temperature and eating fast enough to keep up. Instead of a one-to-one ratio between body size and metabolic rate, as an animal's body weight quadruples, its respiration rate only triples.

In contrast, when Reich and his colleagues studied 500 plants from 43 species, they found that within a wide range of plant sizes, a quadrupling of weight leads to a quadrupling of respiration rate. The important variable was nitrogen content: The more nitrogen in a plant, the more it respired and the more carbon dioxide the plant emitted. Similarly, if two plants were the same size but had different concentrations of nitrogen in their tissues, the one with the higher nitrogen concentration had a higher respiration rate. Conversely, a big plant and a small plant with the same total nitrogen content would put out equivalent amounts of carbon dioxide over the same time period.

The universal rule linking plant metabolism to nitrogen can also assist efforts to measure the global carbon cycle. Through the process of photosynthesis, plants absorb and store more carbon dioxide than they emit through respiration. But global plant respiration is a huge variable that must be taken into

account.

“If we estimate the nitrogen content of plants, we can model their metabolic rates, helping us to better assess the global plant metabolic rate,” said Reich, a professor in the university’s College of Natural Resources. “The amounts of carbon dioxide given off by plants is one of the weak spots in models of global carbon cycling.”

To predict how fast atmospheric carbon dioxide will rise in the future, it is important to know all the sources that emit the gas and all the sources that soak it up. The amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is well known, as is the rate of emissions from fossil fuel burning. The rate of photosynthesis, in which carbon dioxide is absorbed and stored as plant tissue, is difficult to measure but can be estimated globally from satellites, based on the visible plant cover. The plant cover indicates how much light the plants will intercept. Even harder to calculate are the global amounts of carbon dioxide released by living, respiring plants; the amounts released as plants are decomposed by microbes; and the amounts being absorbed and emitted by oceans.

“If all the carbon dioxide emitted from fossil fuel burning were to stay in the atmosphere, its rate of accumulation in the atmosphere would be two-and-a-half times as fast as it actually is and climate would change two-and-a-half times faster,” said Reich. “Therefore, somewhere there’s a ‘fantastically important global carbon sink’ that’s soaking up 60 percent of the carbon dioxide that’s emitted, with the oceans and land surfaces each playing a major role. However, researchers have estimated that plant respiration releases five to 10 times as much carbon dioxide as fossil fuel burning. It’s crucial, therefore, to know the amount of plant emissions more accurately because that number makes a huge difference in calculating how much of the gas is being absorbed from the atmosphere and staying in the biosphere. This in turn will help scientists figure out what the carbon sink is and what its capacity might be.”

Reich’s colleagues were Mark G. Tjoelker of Texas A&M University, Jose-Luis Machado of Swarthmore College and Jacek Oleksyn of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The work was supported by the National Science Foundation and the Wilderness Research Foundation. □

What: U of M China Center sponsors seminar on doing business in China
When: 1-4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31
Where: 2501 Wayzata Blvd., Minneapolis
Who: Author James McGregor, attorney Anthony Zeuli
Contacts: Joan Brzezinski, China Center, (612) 624-1002
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M China Center sponsors seminar on doing business in China

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/26/2006)--James McGregor, author of the best seller "One Billion Customers: Lessons from the Front Lines of Doing Business in China," will provide tips and advice on how to do business in the world's most populous nation at a seminar from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31, in the office of Lurie Besikof Lapidus & Company, LLP, 2501 Wayzata Boulevard, Minneapolis. The seminar is sponsored by the University of Minnesota China Center's China Business Colloquium.

McGregor's experience of living and working in China goes back more than 20 years. His first trip in 1985 convinced him that China was where he needed to be. Since then, he has been The Wall Street Journal China bureau chief in Beijing, a partner and China managing director for GIV Venture Partners, chief executive of Dow Jones & Co. in China, and a vice president in the Dow Jones International Group. McGregor will share some of the lessons from his book and more information from his vast background doing business in China.

Also speaking at the seminar will be Anthony Zeuli, who will discuss the litigation of intellectual property rights in China. Zeuli is a trial lawyer with Merchant & Gould who specializes in intellectual property litigation, including patent and trademark litigation, and has handled patent and copyright litigation in China for multiple clients.

Cost of the seminar is \$75 per person if pre-registered or \$85 at the door. To pre-register contact the China Center at (612) 624-1002. □

Embargoed until Jan. 26, 11 a.m. Pacific (2 p.m. ET)

Who: Helene Muller-Landau, assistant professor of ecology, (651) 278-7177
David Tilman, professor of ecology, (612) 625-5740

Contacts: Peggy Rinard, College of Biological Sciences, (612) 624-0774
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Underdogs in the understory: Study suggests nature favors rarer trees

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/26/2006)--A study of seven tropical forests around the world has revealed that nature encourages biodiversity by favoring the growth of less common trees. The landmark study, conducted by 33 ecologists from 12 countries and published in the Jan. 27 issue of the journal *Science*, conclusively demonstrates that diversity matters and has ecological importance to tropical forests. Helene Muller-Landau, an assistant professor of ecology in the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences, is a co-author of the study, which supports previous research by her colleague David Tilman, a Regents Professor of Ecology, into the causes and value of biodiversity.

"This research has the surprising finding that biodiversity in tropical rain forests and Minnesota prairies arises from the same kinds of underlying processes. It brings us a step closer to understanding the causes of the world's amazing biodiversity," Tilman said.

Muller-Landau contributed quantitative skills for analyzing and interpreting the data.

"After all the effort that went into the analyses, it was neat to see that results from such different forests were so similar," Muller-Landau said.

The study was conducted on seven undisturbed forest plots, or "tropical forest observatories," maintained and studied by research institutions in Borneo, India, Malaysia, Panama, Puerto Rico and Thailand, under the coordination of the Center for Tropical Forest Science of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, based in Panama. Christopher Wills, professor of biology at the University of California, San Diego, was the lead author.

The forest plots are themselves diverse. They range from dense and species-rich wet rain forest to drier and more open forest that is often swept by fires. Even so, all the forests show the same pattern of increasing local diversity as trees age.

The authors say rare trees may have an advantage because they are less vulnerable to animals, fungi, and microorganisms that prey on common trees and because they don't have the same resource needs as common trees.

Trees in “monoculture” forests, where all individuals are the same species, are very susceptible to predators and diseases, and also compete with each other for the same resources.

The new study raises questions about whether other ecosystems, from temperate forests to coral reefs, also select for biodiversity.

(Photos of Muller-Landau and a tropical forest are available on request.)

□

What: Mayors summit on affordable housing
When: 3–5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15
Where: Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
Who: Mayors Chris Coleman (St. Paul), R.T. Rybak (Minneapolis), Stephanie Klinzing (Elk River) and Nancy Tyra-Lukens (Eden Prairie)
Contacts: Jamie Proulx, Humphrey Institute, (612) 625-9436
 Ann Benrud, Weisman Art Museum, (612) 625-9685

Local mayors will discuss environmental and economic sustainability for affordable housing

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/27/2006)--The University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, the Weisman Art Museum, the Family Housing Fund and the American Institute of Architects Minnesota will present the “Mayors Summit on Affordable Housing’s GREEN Issues: Environmental and Economic Sustainability.” The summit will bring together mayors Chris Coleman (St. Paul), R.T. Rybak (Minneapolis), Stephanie Klinzing (Elk River), and Nancy Tyra-Lukens (Eden Prairie) to discuss bringing environmental and economic sustainability to affordable housing from 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, at the Humphrey Institute, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. This event is free and open to the public but reservations are required. To reserve a space, RSVP by calling (612) 375-9644 or e-mailing miko@fhfund.org.

Humphrey Institute professor Edward Goetz will moderate a discussion with the mayors, which will be followed by a larger dialogue with representatives from housing studies, development, planning and design.

The program is presented in conjunction with the Weisman Art Museum exhibition “The HOME House Project: The Future of Affordable Housing” on view from Jan. 28 through April 30. The “HOME House Project” features award-winning architectural designs for affordable single-family homes from a competition organized by the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem, N.C. The exhibition showcases 80 innovative design approaches that use sustainable materials, technologies and methods. Local affordable housing efforts are highlighted in drawings, scale models and building sections.

The program will be followed by a reception in the Humphrey Center atrium. □

Contacts: **John Byrnes, College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, (612) 625-4743 (office) or (612) 251-3107 (cell)**

Aimee Viniard-Weideman, U of M Extension Service, (612) 625-1759 (office) or (612) 388-9223 (cell)

Daniel Wolter, News Service director, (612) 625-8510

University of Minnesota welcomes discussion on agricultural research and outreach

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/27/2006)--A report released today through the Minnesota Farm Bureau is a well-intentioned effort to begin a discussion about the future of agricultural research and outreach, said Charles Muscoplat, vice president and dean of the University of Minnesota College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences.

"The report accurately portrays the financial challenges the university faces in funding agricultural research, but doesn't accurately describe the research and outreach efforts at the University of Minnesota," Muscoplat said.

The numerical errors that lead to inaccurate overall conclusions include miscounting the total number of faculty and university personnel assigned to various program units, he said. The university informed the sponsors of the report of these errors before the report was issued.

"The report's very narrow definition of what research benefits farmers excludes research and outreach affecting 85 percent of Minnesota farmers," said Beverly Durgan, dean and director, University of Minnesota Extension Service. The definition is also contrary to federal statutes that describe how federal money should be spent, and adopting such a definition could jeopardize \$16 million of federal funding, Durgan said.

"The report's evaluation excluded most of the university research and outreach on animal agriculture and all of the university's work on renewable energy," said Jeffrey Klausner, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. Research and outreach on soil water drainage, manure management, integrated pest management, plant breeding and climatology was also excluded from the evaluation.

"We look forward to working with Minnesota's farm groups to build on the university's 155-year history of service to Minnesota agriculture," Durgan said. □

What: **Researcher solves mystery of deep Earth layer**

Contacts: **Renata Wentzcovitch, department of chemical engineering and materials science, (612) 625-6345**

Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M researchers unlock mystery of layer encircling the Earth's core

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/30/2006)-- University of Minnesota associate professor of chemical engineering Renata Wentzcovitch and her team of researchers have confirmed the properties of a mineral (post-perovskite) that may form near the Earth's core in a layer called the D'' region. The work offers new insight for interpreting properties of this region. The D'' (Dee double prime) layer surrounds Earth's core and is between 0 and 186 miles thick. It is at the interface between two chemically distinct regions, the rocky mantle and the metallic core. The article, "MgSiO₃ post-perovskite at D'' conditions," was published on Jan. 17 in Proceedings of the National Academy of Science (www.pnas.org/content/vol103/issue3/#GEOPHYSICS).

The research "tells us how to better model Earth's internal processes," said Wentzcovitch. "Proper geodynamical modeling of the Earth is necessary to get a better grasp of the dynamics of the surface. You can't fully understand Earth's surface motion without understanding how it moves inside. What's unbelievable is how well we can model Earth on a big scale. At this scale, small details don't matter."

In 2004, Japanese researchers at the Tokyo Institute of Technology found that high temperatures and pressures transform perovskite, the major mineral in Earth's mantle, into a new mineral called post-perovskite. Wentzcovitch's group contributed to this discovery by determining the structure of post-perovskite and by calculating the pressure and temperature conditions for its existence. They matched the conditions in the D'' layer.

In the current work, Wentzcovitch and colleagues demonstrate that the seismic properties of post-perovskite are much like the previously inexplicable properties found in the D'' layer. This is the most convincing evidence that post-perovskite is in the D'' layer and produces its strange seismic properties.

As the Earth cools, D'' becomes thicker. Its thickness is related to Earth's age and its aging processes. The discovery of post-perovskite in the D'' layer will also help us understand how the Earth has evolved Wentzcovitch said. □

- What:** New book examines effects of military and defense-related procurement on the development of new technology
- When:** 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1
- Where:** University of Minnesota Bookstore, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
- Who:** Vernon Ruttan, University of Minnesota Regents professor
- Contacts:** Kari Erpenbach, University of Minnesota Bookstore, (612) 625-6564, kari@umn.edu
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Local author and University of Minnesota professor Vernon Ruttan will discuss his new book, 'Is War Necessary for Economic Growth'

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/30/2006)-- Local author and University of Minnesota professor Vernon Ruttan will discuss his new book, "Is War Necessary for Economic Growth: Military Procurement and Technology Development," at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, in the U of M Bookstore in Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. Ruttan is a Regents Professor Emeritus with the department of applied economics at the University of Minnesota.

Ruttan examines what effects military and defense-related procurement have had on the development of new technology in many American industries, and what that means for the future growth of the economy in the United States. This book asserts that the development of general purpose technologies such as mass production, computers, commercial aircraft and the Internet would have occurred more slowly or not at all without military spending.

"Is War Necessary for Economic Growth" raises several concerns, including what impact and support the public can provide to foster commercially oriented research and whether a major war, or the threat of war, will be necessary to mobilize the scientific, technical and financial resources necessary to induce the development of new general-purpose technologies.

Ruttan will sign copies of his book following the discussion. This event is free and open to the public. For more information or to order a signed copy, visit www.bookstore.umn.edu/genref/authors.html. □

What: International leader in efforts to conserve important world heritage sites to speak at the U of M

Who: Dinu Bumbaru

Contacts: Krista Bergert, College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, (612) 624-7808
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

International leader in efforts to conserve important world heritage sites to speak at the U of M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/30/2006)--Dinu Bumbaru, an international leader in efforts to conserve important world cultural sites, will speak at 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, in the U of M's Rapson Hall auditorium, 89 Church Street S.E., Minneapolis. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The lecture is sponsored by the new Center for World Heritage Studies, part of the U's College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (CALA). CALA established the Center for World Heritage Studies in an effort to study and help preserve cultural or natural sites around the world that face destruction.

Bumbaru will share his expertise in those efforts. He is the general secretary of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), a non-governmental organization that advises the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on matters concerning built, archaeological and landscape heritage. ICOMOS sets standards for conservation practices involving sites around the world, and Bumbaru will speak about those regulations and practices.

Currently, UNESCO has designated 812 properties as World Heritage Sites-places to be preserved because of their outstanding cultural or natural importance to the common heritage of all humankind. More and more World Heritage Sites are making news lately, and Bumbaru can offer important insight for students, professors and others interested in conservation of such sites, said Arthur Chen, director of the U of M Center for World Heritage Studies.

"Most of the World Heritage Sites are in cities, and they are subject to a variety of urban development pressures," Chen said.

For example, a planned development in Edinburgh, Scotland that includes two 11-story towers would substantially change the city skyline. ICOMOS officials have said that change could lead to Edinburgh being stripped of its status as a World Heritage Site.

Bumbaru has a degree in architecture from the University of Montreal and a degree in conservation

studies from the University of York in England. Since 1982 he has worked for Heritage Montreal, a community organization that promotes the protection and proper use of the historical, architectural, natural and cultural heritage of Montreal and the surrounding area. □

What: **Martin Luther King III speech postponed due to Coretta Scott King's death**

Contacts: **Kate McMillan, Twin Cities Student Unions, (612) 625-8269**
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

Martin Luther King III Feb. 6 speech postponed due to Coretta Scott King's death

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/31/2006)--The University of Minnesota's Minnesota Programs and Activities Council (MPAC) presentation "My Father's Dream, My Mission," an evening with social activist Martin Luther King III, son of Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King, scheduled for Monday, Feb. 6, has been canceled due to Coretta Scott King's death. MPAC representatives will be working to reschedule the presentation and information regarding that will be distributed as soon as it becomes available. □

fact sheet

University News Service
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2/1/2006

TOPIC: PRESIDENT BUSH'S VISIT TO MINNESOTA

Note: In advance of President Bush's visit to Minnesota on Thursday to discuss competitiveness and renewable energy, here are some facts about the University of Minnesota.

FACT: The University of Minnesota is one of the nation's leading research universities, making the state and region more competitive in the global marketplace. As the state's only research university, the U of M received more than \$560 million in research grants in 2005.

FACT: The entire region is more competitive because of U of M research. A recent survey of alumni from the U's Institute of Technology showed that 4,150 companies worldwide have been started by graduates, employing more than 175,000 people and generating \$46 billion in annual revenues.

FACT: The University of Minnesota receives 98 percent of all federal research dollars coming to Minnesota's higher education institutions – more than \$400 million a year.

Some examples of federally funded research at the U of M include:

- **Robotics** – Nearly 30 robots, developed at the University with federal grant dollars, are being deployed in Iraq in partnership with the U.S. Department of Defense. Developed in the Center for Distributed Robotics, the all-terrain robots have the ability to help save lives in a variety of homeland security-related uses.
- **Alzheimer's** – Federally funded research being done by the neurology department at the University's Medical School has found a way to reverse memory loss in mice, opening the door for doing the same thing in humans with Alzheimer's disease;

- more -

- **Earthquakes** – Home of the Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES), research at the U's MAST Laboratory finds new ways to build buildings to mitigate earthquake damage and save lives. (www.mast.umn.edu);
- **Mathematics** –The nation's leading math institute, the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications brings together mathematicians and other researchers from around the world to find mathematical answers to everyday problems. (www.ima.umn.edu).

FACT: The University of Minnesota is one of the nation's leaders in renewable energy research.

The University's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE), which was funded by the Legislature in 2003, is designed to provide leadership in the research and development of environmentally sound production, distribution and use of energy and renewable resources. (www.iree.umn.edu)

- **Hydrogen** – U of M researchers are looking for new ways to create hydrogen that could be used in electricity or transportation. In a project funded in part by the U.S. Department of Energy, they have already developed a highly efficient way to convert ethanol and water into hydrogen. Research is also under way to develop more effective fuel cells.
- **Wind Energy:** To make wind energy more viable and support the continued development of large-scale wind farms, U of M researchers are developing techniques to address issues such as wind variability, fluctuating demand for electricity and storage.
- **Bioenergy** – Researchers are looking for new ways to refine plant material into energy and other products, including biodiesel and polymers.

For more information on research at the University of Minnesota, please contact the University News Service at 612-624-5551.

-end-

What: Martin Luther King III to speak at University of Minnesota
When: 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27
Where: Great Hall, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
Contacts: Kate McMillan, Twin Cities Student Unions, (612) 625-8269
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

Martin Luther King III speech rescheduled for Monday, Feb. 27

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/2/2006)--The University of Minnesota's Minnesota Programs and Activities Council (MPAC) will present "My Father's Dream, My Mission," an evening with social activist Martin Luther King III, son of Martin Luther King Jr., at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, in the Great Hall of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. Doors open at 7 p.m. King's speech was to originally take place this Monday, but was postponed due to Coretta Scott King's death. All tickets purchased for the original date will be honored for the rescheduled date. If ticket holders wish to receive a refund, they may go to the Coffman information desk and present their ticket to receive a refund.

Tickets cost \$10 for U of M students with a valid student ID and \$15 for the general public. Tickets can be purchased at the Coffman information desk during regular business hours. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the door. If the event is sold out, tickets for overflow seating will be made available.

During the event, King will address hallmarks of his father's vision such as the fight against poverty and social, political and economic injustice. He will also speak about his strategies to implement his father's ideas into today's society. King currently serves as president of the King Center, an organization dedicated to continuing the work and vision of Martin Luther King Jr. The King Center was founded in 1968 by Coretta Scott King.

The Minnesota Programs and Activities Council is the main campuswide programming board for the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Its programming committees are responsible for initiating, developing and implementing a comprehensive and diverse activities program that anticipates and responds to the needs of U of M students and the campus community. For more information, visit www.coffman.umn.edu.

Complete information, including directions and how to purchase tickets, is available online at www.coffman.umn.edu/mlk. □

- What:** A week-long seminar of mathematicians, computer scientists and people from the film industry and associated industries dedicated to film editing and restoration
- When:** Monday through Friday, Feb. 6-10 (registration begins at 8:15 a.m., Monday Feb. 6)
- Where:** Room 400, Lind Hall, 207 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis
- Contacts:** Doug Arnold, IMA, (612) 624-6066
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

The U of M Institute for Math and Its Applications takes a look at the math behind movie magic with a workshop on film editing, restoration and special effects

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/2/2006)--Most people who enjoy movies are rarely aware of the image processing involved in creating and editing a film. Today, virtually every film undergoes some form of digital processing such as format conversion, compression, scratch and blotch removal, introducing special effects, motion estimation, camera calibration, segmentation and super-resolution. These techniques are very important to quality film production and restoration, but fundamental problems remain unsolved, often involving significant mathematical and engineering challenges and very time-consuming manual labor.

The University of Minnesota Institute for Math and Its Applications (IMA) will hold a week-long, uniquely interactive workshop where engineers, mathematicians and artists in the film editing, restoration and post-processing business will inform and instruct each other about possible solutions and directions of film editing and restoration research.

The workshop "The Mathematics and Art of Film Editing and Restoration" runs Monday through Friday, Feb. 6-10, Room 400 Lind Hall, 207 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. For complete registration and program information visit www.ima.umn.edu/2005-2006/W2.6-10.06/.

"Mathematics has enabled amazing advances in imaging applications in medical diagnosis, mineral prospecting, military intelligence and astronomy. But perhaps none are more spectacular than the applications of mathematical imaging science in the film industry," said Doug Arnold, director of the IMA.

Highlights of the workshop include:

- Daniel Rosen of Warner Bros. – "But You Said it was 99% Accurate! Why Is There a Defect In the First Frame?" Gentle Techniques For Using Mathematics In Motion Picture Processes To Marry

Film and Digital” (10:30 a.m. Wednesday)

- Jay Cassidy of Mathematical Technologies, Inc. - “The Grammar of Storytelling on Film Survives Technology” (9:20 a.m. Monday)

- Toni Buades of the Universitat of Illes Balears – “Movie Restoration Methods” (9 a.m. Friday)

The Institute for Mathematics and its Applications was established at the University of Minnesota in 1982 by the National Science Foundation. The primary mission of the IMA is to increase the impact of mathematics by fostering research of a truly interdisciplinary nature, linking mathematics of the highest caliber and important scientific and technological problems from other disciplines and industry. Allied with this mission, the IMA also aims to expand and strengthen the talent base engaged in mathematical research applied to or relevant to such problems. □

What: America's favorite choral ensemble Chanticleer in concert
When: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 7
Where: Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis
Contacts: Jen Jackson, School of Music, (612) 626-1094; jenj@umn.edu
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

World-renowned all-male choral ensemble Chanticleer to perform at U of M Mar. 7

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/2/2006)--The University of Minnesota School of Music (SOM) will present world-renowned all-male choral ensemble Chanticleer on Tuesday, March 7. The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis.

Led by music director Joseph Jennings, Chanticleer will perform an eclectic program titled "EarthSongs" which features works by Renaissance, Baroque and contemporary composers as well as popular English folk tunes and American spirituals. Tickets are \$31 and \$41 (plus a \$4 handling fee) and can be purchased by calling the University of Minnesota Arts Ticket Office at (612) 624-2345. Student rush tickets (\$10 plus a \$4 handling fee) are available at the box office on the day of the performance. Parking is available in the 21st Avenue parking ramp, one block southwest of the concert hall.

Celebrating its 28th season, Chanticleer performs more than 100 concerts a year throughout the world. The Grammy-award winning group has developed a remarkable reputation for its vivid interpretations of vocal literature, from Renaissance to jazz and from gospel to venturesome new music. With its seamless blend of twelve male voices, ranging from countertenor to bass, the ensemble has earned international renown as "an orchestra of voices."

Named for the "clear-singing" rooster in Geoffrey Chaucer's "The Canterbury Tales," Chanticleer was founded in 1978 by tenor Louis Botto, who sang with the group until 1989, and served as artistic director until his death in 1997. □

Contacts: **Aimee Viniard-Weideman, University of Minnesota Extension Service, (612) 388-9223 (cell), (612) 625-1759 (office)**
Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

U of M appoints Durgan director of Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/2/2006)--The University of Minnesota has appointed Beverly Durgan, current dean and director of the University of Minnesota Extension Service, to also serve as the director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station.

“Having one person serve as the director for both the Extension Service and the Experiment Station ensures that the research and outreach of these university organizations is aligned and continues to be connected with the needs of Minnesota communities,” explained Robert Jones, senior vice president for system administration. “Bev Durgan has spent her career connecting the research of the university with the practical needs of Minnesotans.”

Before being appointed dean and director of Extension in September 2005, Durgan held several administrative positions at the university, including chief fiscal officer and associate dean for the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences. Durgan continues to serve as a state Extension faculty member in the department of agronomy and plant genetics.

“I know first hand the important contributions that both Extension and the Experiment Station make to Minnesota,” Durgan said. “This connection between Extension and the Experiment Station enables us to continue to plan for the needs of the state. In addition, we will be better able to leverage the resources we have to meet the needs of agriculture, youth, families, communities and the environment through university research and outreach education.”

The Experiment Station receives state and federal funding to support research to meet Minnesota’s economic, social and environmental needs. It funds faculty research in several colleges and at Research and Outreach Centers in agriculture, natural resources, human nutrition, and family and community development. Its research goals are closely aligned with Extension’s programs that make a difference for food and agriculture, youth, families, communities and the environment. Extension has, and will continue to, draw on the results of Experiment Station research to achieve its outreach mission of connecting community needs with university resources to deliver practical and useful information and educational programs. □

What: Talk about Kurdish social, economic and cultural self-determination

When: 7:30 – 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9

Where: Nolte Center lounge, 315 Pillsbury Drive S.E., Minneapolis

Who: Kani Xulam, Kurdish human rights activist

Contacts: Kelly O'Brien, U of M College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-4109, obrie136@umn.edu

Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Kurdish human rights activist Kani Xulam to speak at U of M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/2/2006)--Kani Xulam, founder and director of the American Kurdish Information Network (AKIN) and noted human rights activist, will speak from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Nolte Center lounge, 315 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., Minneapolis.

The topic of his talk is "U.S.- E.U. Public Policy and Kurdish Social, Economic and Cultural Self-Determination: Implications for Turkey's Integration into the European Union." This event is sponsored by the University of Minnesota's Center for German and European Studies. It is free and open to the public.

Xulam's talk will address issues surrounding Kurdish self-determination in a global context, such as:

- United States, European Union and transatlantic public policy and foreign policy impacts on Kurdish civil society, cultural self-determination and the creation of an independent Kurdistan;
- The impact of civil rights and human rights violations, ethnic cleansing, state-sponsored genocide, and socio-economic discrimination against Kurdish communities in Turkey, Iraq and Iran;
- The implications of Kurdish social, economic and cultural self-determination for the admission and integration of Turkey into the European Union, and;
- The role of U.S. and E.U. policies for positive Kurdish-Turkish reconciliation and integration into the European Union, transatlantic region and global system.

Xulam is a native of Kurdistan and speaks nationally about the efforts of Kurdistan to establish an independent state. He has appeared on NPR's "Talk of the Nation" and "Democracy Now" with Amy Goodman. His advocacy work on behalf of the Kurdish people, coupled with his efforts to free himself from Turkish tyranny, were highlighted in the documentary "Good Kurds, Bad Kurds: No Friends But the Mountains," (2001) a film the New York Times called, "searing...delves deeply into the history and politics of Kurdistan."

Xulam is available for interviews in Minneapolis on Thursday, Feb. 9 and Friday, Feb. 10. Please contact Kelly O'Brien at (612) 624-4109 for availability and further information.

The Center for German and European Studies (CGES) is a consortium of the University of Minnesota (Twin Cities) and the University of Wisconsin (Madison) that promotes knowledge about Germany and Europe among established and emerging scholars, students, K-12 teachers, policymakers, business leaders and other professionals, and the general public. □

When: 4-6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9

Where: Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E.
Minneapolis

Contacts: Lourdes Cancel Rodriguez, Office of Multicultural and Academic
Affairs, (612) 625-8524

Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M recognizes Wallin Scholars

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/3/2006)--Approximately 200 University of Minnesota students who receive scholarships through the Wallin Scholarship Program will be recognized at a ceremony from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, in the Mississippi Room in Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The Wallin Scholarships were instituted in 1991 at Minneapolis South High School by former Medtronic CEO and South High graduate Win Wallin and his wife, Maxine. The scholarship program extended to all city high schools in 2000 and continues to evolve with other scholarship partners. The Wallin Foundation was established to administer these scholarships on behalf of the respective donors. Currently, the following scholarships -- Eric, Cornwell, McCary, Holman, Finch, Technology, Excel Bank, Ronald and Junior League of Minneapolis--are offered under the Wallin Foundation.

"One of the goals of the foundation is to encourage additional scholarship support from the community for academically deserving students who demonstrate financial need," Wallin Foundation President Rebecca Wallin said.

Over 1,800 scholarships have been awarded since 1991. All Minneapolis public high school seniors with financial need are eligible to apply. Students must demonstrate past academic performance, rigor in prior academic coursework, continued academic potential and motivation to continue their studies. This year's scholarship recipients each receives \$3,500 for four years.

Students are eligible to attend four-year accredited colleges and universities within Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Iowa, as well as historically black colleges and universities. The foundation sponsors about 240 scholars at the University of Minnesota.

At the reception, Wallin Scholars who achieved honor status and those who are graduating from the U of M will be recognized. Present at the occasion will be Win and Maxine Wallin, Wallin scholars, families and friends. □

- When:** 4-6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9
- Where:** Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E.
Minneapolis
- Who:** U of M scholars, Wallin Foundation members, Wallin Partners,
scholarship allies and community partners
- Contacts:** Lourdes Cancel Rodriguez, Office of Multicultural and Academic
Affairs, (612) 625-8524
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foundation sponsors about 240 scholars at the University of Minnesota.

At the reception, Wallin Scholars will be celebrated and those who achieved honor status and those who are graduating from the U of M will be recognized. Present at the occasion will be Win and Maxine Wallin, partners including McCary's, Cornwells, Ms. Erickson, Ms. Ardes Johnson, Wallin scholars, their families and friends, student speakers, academic and community allies, and U of M College of Liberal Arts Dean Steven Rosenstone.



- When:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8 and noon Thursday, Feb 9
- Where:** Feb. 8, Room 125, Willey Hall, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis and Feb. 9, Shepherd Room, Weisman Art Museum, 333 E. River Pkwy, Minneapolis,
- Who:** Dr. Dan Rockmore, professor of mathematics and computer science at Dartmouth College
- Contacts:** Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Painting by numbers: renowned mathematician to speak at U of M on the connections between art and math

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/3/2006)--Dan Rockmore, professor of mathematics and computer science at Dartmouth College, will give two lectures at the University of Minnesota on Feb. 8 and 9 about the connections between mathematics and art.

On Feb. 8, in Room 125, Willey Hall, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, Rockmore will give a lecture on "Artful Mathematics." According to Rockwell, all too often mathematics and the arts are seen as two sides of the science/humanities coin. In his talk, he will show how the two come naturally together in exciting new research. In today's world in which almost all aspects of life are brought to the common medium of the computer, it is now possible to quantify and extract the style of an artist via computation, said Rockmore. Examples are taken from the literary, visual and dance arts. Taken together, Rockmore reveals just how stylish math can be. This lecture is part of the Math Matters public lecture series sponsored by the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications at the University of Minnesota. For more information on this lecture please visit www.ima.umn.edu/2005-2006/PUB2.8.06/.

From noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, in the Shepherd Room of the Weisman Art Museum, 333 E. River Pkwy, Minneapolis, Rockmore will present "Mathematics: Maker and Muse for Modern Art." At this presentation, Rockmore will talk about math throughout the history of modern art and surprising ways in which mathematical ideas have been and continue to be an enabler as well as inspiration for some of the big ideas in the visual arts. For more information about this event please visit www.weisman.umn.edu/events/eventscal.php.

Rockmore is a professor of mathematics and computer science at Dartmouth College, where he has taught since 1991. He recently published "Stalking the Riemann Hypothesis : The Quest to Find the Hidden Law of Prime Numbers." Rockmore's work on digital techniques for art authentication has been reported in the New York Times, Newsweek, Washington Post and other major papers. His research has

garnered support from the Department of Defense, National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health and the Keck Foundation.

Both events are free and open to the public.



When: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9
Where: Radisson Metrodome Hotel, 615 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
Who: Leonard Evans, president of Science Serving Society
Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Traffic safety expert to speak at U of M Center for Transportation Studies event on the 'unique failure of U.S. traffic safety policy'

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/6/2006)--Leonard Evans, president of Science Serving Society, will speak at the University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies (CTS) Winter Luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Radisson Metrodome Hotel, 615 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. Evans will address the factors that led to the "uniquely U.S. failure of traffic safety policy -- and the lack of recognition that it is indeed a dramatic failure."

In the 1960s, the United States had the safest traffic in the world, as measured by traffic fatalities per thousand vehicles. The U.S. now ranks 16th and is sinking. "If our traffic fatality rate had declined as it has in Canada, Great Britain, and Australia (and other countries), we would now be killing 15,000 fewer people on our roads every year."

The talk, sponsored by the Intelligent Transportation Systems Institute at CTS, will include observations from Evans' years with General Motors Corporation and technical material from his book "Traffic Safety."

Evans is an internationally known traffic safety expert. He has a doctorate in physics from Oxford University, England, and is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering. In 2000, he formed Science Serving Society, a one-man informal organization, to facilitate ongoing professional activities after completing a 33-year research career with General Motors Corporation.

For registration information, please contact Julie Grazier at (612) 624-3044 or visit the Web site www.cts.umn.edu/events/luncheon/2006/winter/index.html. o

When: Wednesday, Feb. 8 - Friday, Feb. 10
Where: 600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis
Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

New regent to be sworn in at U of M Board of Regents meeting this week

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/7/2006)--The newest member of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents, Cynthia Leshner, will be sworn in at this week's board meeting.

Appointed by Gov. Tim Pawlenty earlier this week, Leshner is currently president and CEO of Xcel Energy in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. She replaces former Regent Richard "Pinky" McNamara, who resigned in December.

In other business at this week's meeting, university President Robert Bruininks will announce an expansion of university scholarship support.

"We want to continue tearing down the financial walls that keeps students who are prepared to succeed from attending the University of Minnesota," said Bruininks, who will make the announcement at the full board meeting on Friday morning.

In addition, the board will also consider approval for a number of collective bargaining agreements, hear results of a student experience and senior exit survey and review the annual report on admission, enrollment and graduation.

The schedule for the meeting is as follows:

- Wednesday, Feb. 8

2 - 3:15 p.m., Ad Hoc Committee on the Stadium, West Committee Room. The committee will receive an update on the environmental impact statement for the proposed on-campus football stadium.

- Thursday, Feb. 9

8:15 - 10:15 a.m., Facilities Committee, West Committee Room. The committee will review a study of Folwell Hall and Northrop Auditorium, two university facilities in need of renovation.

8:15 - 10:15 a.m., Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, East Committee Room. The Board will act on six collective bargaining agreements with university employee labor unions. The director of Boynton Health Service, Dr. Ed Ehlinger, will present on the issue of student alcohol use and the initiatives to combat the problem. In addition, Vice Provosts Craig Swan and Jerry Rinehart will present the results of the latest student experience and senior exit surveys.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Educational Planning and Policy Committee, West Committee Room. The

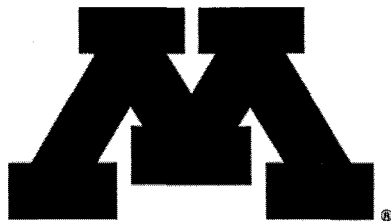
committee will receive an update from Wayne Sigler, director of admissions, and Rich Howard, director of institutional research and reporting, on admission, enrollment and graduation numbers.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Finance and Operations Committee, East Committee Room. The committee will have a discussion of trends in tuition, fees and financial aid. In addition, the committee will consider approval of a contract for consulting firm to manage the strategic planning of UMore Park in Rosemount.

- Friday, Feb. 10

9 - 11:30 a.m., Board of Regents meeting, Boardroom. Minnesota Supreme Court Chief Justice Russell Anderson will swear in the newest member of the Board, Cynthia Leshner. The Board will recognize Diana Xuan Fu, a College of Liberal Arts honors student, who was named a 2006 Rhodes Scholar. A presentation will also be given on the report of the Rochester Higher Education Development Committee as well as an update on the university's performance and accountability report. In addition, the Board will take action on an extension of the stadium naming rights agreement with TCF Bank.

For more information on the Board of Regents meeting go to www.umn.edu/regents. □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXPERT ALERT

University News Service
O: 612.624.5551 • F: 612.626.9388
unews@umn.edu • www.unews.umn.edu

Feb. 7, 2006

Contact: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, 612-624-0214

ELECTIONS IN HAITI

Haiti is electing a president today and choosing a parliament in the first election since 2000. University of Minnesota experts are available to talk about elections in Haiti:

April Knutson, senior lecturer in the Department of French and Italian

Knutson is an expert in the history and literature of Haiti. She has taught classes on Haitian history and literature and led U of M students to the Caribbean island nation to conduct research through the SPAN program in 1999. In June 2005, she spent two weeks in Port-au-Prince interviewing women community organizers, labor leaders, and writers. Knutson is one of the founders of the Haiti Justice Committee of Minnesota.

Ruben Joanem, a native of Haiti studying at the U of M

The election in Haiti hits close to home for French and Italian doctoral student Ruben Joanem, a native of Haiti who still has family there. He makes frequent trips to Haiti and has been in touch with friends and families throughout the election.

To interview Knutson or Joanem contact Asim Dorovic at 612-624-0214 or at dorovic@umn.edu.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect University experts to today's breaking news and current events.



- What:** Festival to feature electronic music pioneer Alvin Lucier and British sound artist Scanner
- When:** Tuesday, Feb. 21 and Sunday, Feb. 26
- Where:** Various venues in the West Bank Arts Quarter and neighboring community
- Contacts:** Jen Jackson, University of Minnesota School of Music, (612) 626-1094
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M School of Music presents the fourth annual Spark Festival of electronic music

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/8/2006)--The University of Minnesota School of Music (SOM) presents Spark, a festival showcasing the latest in electronic and electroacoustic music and art. The festival runs Tuesday, Feb. 21 to Sunday, Feb. 26, at various locations in the West Bank Arts Quarter (WBAQ) on the university's Minneapolis West Bank campus. For a complete schedule of events, including times, dates and locations, visit the Web site www.spark.cla.umn.edu.

Currently in its fourth year, Spark brings internationally recognized scholars and performers of electronic music to the university for an intensive weekend of lectures, performances, master classes and multimedia installations. This year's keynote guests are composer Alvin Lucier and media artist Scanner. Lucier is the John Spencer Camp Professor of Music at Wesleyan University. Lucier has pioneered many areas of music composition and performance, including the notation of performers' physical gestures, the use of brain waves in live performance, the generation of visual imagery by sound in vibrating media, and the evocation of room acoustics for musical purposes. His recent works include a series of sound installations and works for solo instruments, chamber ensembles and orchestra in which sound waves are caused to spin through space by means of close tunings with pure tones. Lucier will present his keynote lecture at 11:15 a.m. Friday, Feb. 24 in Room 370, Anderson Hall, 257 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Several of Lucier's works will be presented in Spark concerts Friday and Saturday.

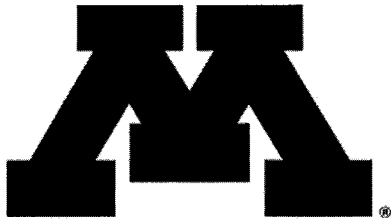
Scanner, British artist Robin Rimbaud, traverses the experimental terrain between sound, space, image and form, creating absorbing, multilayered sound pieces that twist technology in unconventional ways. From his early controversial work using found mobile phone conversations, to his focus on trawling the hidden noise of the modern metropolis as the symbol of the place where hidden meanings and missed contacts emerge, his restless explorations of the experimental terrain have won him

international admiration.

At Spark 2006, Scanner will give a keynote lecture on his work, be interviewed and demo his process as part of the "Making Music" series (sponsored by The Whole at Coffman Memorial Union), and will participate in a live Internet performance with DJ members of free103point9.org, a Transmission Arts group based in New York. In the performance, several free103point9 DJs will create music in New York and send it over the Internet to Minneapolis, where Scanner will mix the multiple feeds into a single live musical stream.

During Spark, dozens of additional artists from across the country and around the world (France, Hong Kong, Greece, India, the U.K., Canada, Switzerland, Korea, Italy, Bulgaria, Finland, Argentina, Japan, Portugal, Germany and more) will present lectures, mount installations and give performances throughout the weekend. Participating artists will also include university students and faculty, as well as a number of regional independent artists. This year's featured performing artists include Swiss violinist Maja Cerar, who has been praised in the *Neue Zuercher Zeitung* as a "magnificent violinist" with "breathtaking technique" and "a completely natural musicality," an artist who "listens to her inner self." Praised by the *New York Times* as "an inventive musician, fresh and surprising, and vividly lyrical," saxophonist Brian Sacawa also performs. (Complete bios are available on the Spark Web site.)

"Spark provides local arts patrons a unique opportunity to sample the best cutting-edge electronic art and music works from everywhere on the planet," said Douglas Geers, university professor of composition and founder and director of the Spark festival. "And best of all. most events are free!" □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXPERT ALERT

University News Service

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Feb. 8, 2006

Contact: *Asim Dorovic, University News Service, 612-624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu*

IRAN AND THE NUCLEAR STANDOFF

Iran has announced that it will resume nuclear activities and severely limit inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency. University of Minnesota experts are available to talk about Iran and the implications of its actions for the region and the world:

Michael Barnett, Harold Stassen Chair of International Relations at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs and an adjunct professor of political science at the University of Minnesota

Barnett can comment on recent developments and Iran's referral to the U.N. Security Council. He is an expert on international relations, international organizations, the United Nations, and the politics of the Middle East. Barnett is an award-winning writer, and his scholarly writings have appeared in major professional journals. He was also a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow at the U.S. mission to the United Nations.

Ronald Krebs, professor of political science at the University of Minnesota

Krebs is an expert on international relations theory, international security, and counterterrorism. He has been named a McKnight Land-Grant Professor at the University of Minnesota for 2006-2008. He has also been awarded research fellowships by, among other institutions, the John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies at Harvard University, the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University, and the Eisenhower World Affairs Institute.

Iraj Bashiri, professor and chair of the Slavic and Central Asian Languages and Literatures Department at the University of Minnesota

Bashiri is a native of Iran who came to the United States in 1966 as a graduate student in linguistics. A distinguished College of Liberal Arts teacher, he also has an honorary doctorate in history and culture from Tajikistan State University. Bashiri has traveled extensively in Iran, and he presents a balanced view of the dynamics of greater Iran.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect University experts to today's breaking news and current events.



What: Sociologist/journalist Todd Gitlin to meet students, give lecture at U of M

When: Monday, Feb. 27, Tuesday, Feb. 28

Where: Various sites on campus

Who: Todd Gitlin

Contacts: Mark Pedelty, associate professor, General College, (612) 625-6383, pedeltmh@umn.edu

Laura Weber, General College communications, (612) 625-6566, l-webe@umn.edu

Sociologist/journalist Todd Gitlin to meet students, give lecture at U of M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/9/2006)--Sociologist, journalist and public intellectual Todd Gitlin will visit the University of Minnesota to give a lecture on "The Necessity of Public Intellectuals" at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, in the Coffman Union Auditorium, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Gitlin, a professor of journalism and sociology at Columbia University, has also scheduled several meetings with students, faculty and staff. On Monday, Feb. 27, he will meet General College faculty and staff at 9 a.m. and meet with student leaders from noon to 2 p.m. in Appleby Hall. Gitlin will conduct a seminar with graduate students in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Murphy Hall. On Feb. 28, he will host a seminar with graduate students in the Department of Communication Studies from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Ford Hall before giving the lecture at 6 p.m.

Public intellectuals today are more heralded than read, let alone emulated, said Gitlin. Three men of the past generation, he feels, illustrate the possibilities of both intellectual and political achievement in accessible prose and comprehensive ambition: sociologists David Riesman and C. Wright Mills, and the literary critic Irving Howe. Gitlin's talk will address why, though their achievements have withered, they remain exemplary—and, in fact, badly needed in American intellectual life.

Gitlin's latest book is "The Intellectuals and the Flag" (Columbia University Press: 2006), a collection of writings that argue for a renewed sense of patriotism based on a willingness to look anew at the global role of the United States in the aftermath of 9/11.

Gitlin taught previously at New York University and the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of 10 books, including "The Sixties: Years of Hope, Days of Rage;" "The Whole World is Watching;" and "Letters to a Young Activist." He has contributed to many books and has published widely in general periodicals, online magazines and scholarly journals. He holds degrees from Harvard

University (mathematics), University of Michigan (political science), and the University of California, Berkeley (sociology). He was the third president of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), in 1963-64, and coordinator of the SDS Peace Research and Education Project in 1964-65, during which time he helped organize the first national demonstration against the war in Vietnam.

Gitlin's visit is sponsored by General College, the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, the Department of Communication Studies and the College of Liberal Arts Scholarly Events Fund. □

- What:** Renewable Energy Workshops
- When:** Monday, Feb. 27 and Tuesday, Feb. 28
- Where:** University of Minnesota West Central Research and Outreach Center (WCROC), Morris and University of Minnesota, Morris campus student center
- Contacts:** Judy Riley, U of M Morris, (320) 589-6050
John Byrnes, U of M College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences, (612) 625-4743
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

Renewable Energy Workshops on Feb. 27 & 28 in Morris

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/9/2006)--Minnesota's potential for taking the next step in renewable energy will be explored in two separate meetings in Morris. An Advanced Wind Energy Workshop will be held Monday, Feb. 27 and is aimed at people interested in large community or locally-owned wind systems. The Home Grown Energy Conference Tuesday, Feb. 28 will cover a wider scope of renewable energy opportunities and is aimed at anyone interested in renewable energy.

The University of Minnesota West Central Research and Outreach Center (WCROC) in Morris is hosting the meeting in cooperation with the University of Minnesota, Morris. "Minnesota has the potential to be the leader in wind energy, biomass, renewable hydrogen and other renewable fuels. Our goal is to provide ideas and practical tips for those wanting to be involved in renewable energy," said Greg Cuomo, head of the WCROC.

The Advanced Wind Energy Workshop will be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Feb. 27, at the WCROC in Morris. Speakers at the conference will provide detailed information on wind farm development, financing, legal considerations, site assessment and other information about developing community or locally-owned wind systems.

The Home Grown Energy Conference will be held from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Feb. 28, at the student center on the University Of Minnesota, Morris campus. Participants will hear speakers on renewable energy technologies such as wind energy, biomass, biofuels and hydrogen energy systems. The Home Grown Energy Conference will feature a more general look at renewable energy resources and plans for future development.

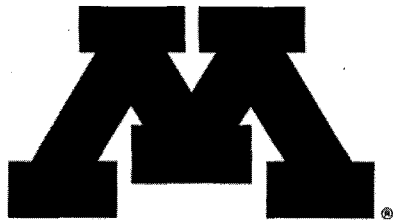
Registration for the Feb. 27 Advanced Wind Energy Workshop is \$60. Registration for the Feb. 28 Home Grown Energy Conference is \$30 for the general public and \$15 for students. Lunch is included

in both events. For more information or to register, visit the renewable energy Website at energy.coafes.umn.edu or call (320) 589-1711.

The two conferences are part of a larger effort known as the University of Minnesota Renewable Energy Research and Demonstration Center that is led by the university in partnership with stakeholders in rural west central Minnesota.

The WCROC, part of the university's College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, is an agriculture-based research station emphasizing interdisciplinary research designed to improve the lives of Minnesota citizens. For more information on its programs, see wcroc.coafes.umn.edu.

The University of Minnesota, Morris, is an academically rigorous public undergraduate liberal arts college. It is the only college in the Midwest named among the top three public liberal arts colleges in the nation by U.S. News & World Report in its 2005 rankings of America's Best Colleges. For more information about UMM, see www.morris.umn.edu. □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXPERT ALERT

University News Service

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Feb. 9, 2006

Contact: Patty Mattern, University News Service, 612-624-2801

ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIPS AND FINDING AN ONLINE VALENTINE

Wayne Caron, assistant professor in family social science

Caron can speak about intimate relationships, long distance relationships and the impact the Internet has had on people who are forming and maintaining relationships. For example, the Internet allows people to maintain multiple relationships at once—something that is much more difficult to do in the real world, Caron said. The Internet also opens up a new opportunity for people who might not get out of their homes much because of their age or because of a disability, he said. Caron will be leading a lecture and discussion on “Love in the New Millennium: Electronic Dating. Gender Roles. Cyber-Sex. How have the rules for dating changed?” at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16, in Room 2-137 Jackson Hall, 321 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Heather Haberman, researcher in the department of family social science,

Haberman can speak about Cyber Romance. Haberman has conducted research about online dating and taught classes on Cyber Romance. She can talk about how romantic relationships are initiated, developed and maintained using the Internet. She can also talk about safety precautions people should take when developing Cyber relationships. When she started her research in 1999, there were about 500 people on Match.com (an online dating site) and today there are millions of people using it, Haberman said. People can find love on the Internet, she said. In fact, research has indicated that people who start relationships online are just as successful as relationships started in more traditional ways, she said.

To interview the experts, contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect university experts to today's breaking news and current events.



EMBARGOED UNTIL 1 A.M., FRIDAY, FEB. 10, 2006**Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038****U of M expands financial support to low-income and transfer students: All Minnesota Pell-eligible students guaranteed coverage of tuition/fees**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/10/2006)--The University of Minnesota will announce Friday that it will expand its Founders Opportunity Scholarship program to cover transfer students as well as qualified incoming freshmen. Once the program is fully phased in, all undergraduate students from Minnesota who are eligible for a federal Pell Grant will be guaranteed scholarships and grants to cover 100 percent of their tuition and required fees.

The guarantee will eventually benefit more than 4,500 low and moderate-income undergraduates each year across the university's four campuses.

In announcing this expansion of support for low-income students, university President Robert Bruininks said, "Becoming one of the best public research universities in the world requires that we remain a place of great educational opportunity for all students, regardless of their financial background. Today's announcement makes our commitment to preserving access as strong as that of any institution in the country."

Under the plan, the university will also restructure its programs that provide financial assistance to Pell-eligible students from Minnesota by consolidating them under a new "Founders Opportunity Award" program. The new program will guarantee gift and grant assistance in an amount at least equal to tuition and required fees, with funding come from a mix of federal and state grants, private scholarships, and university resources. The university will also match whatever Pell grant award a student receives. For the lowest income students, this could result in additional financial support for housing and other expenses.

Bruininks estimated that, once fully implemented, the consolidated program would require \$22 million a year above and beyond the grant and gift assistance that eligible students receive from Pell grants, Minnesota state grants and academic scholarships.

"Expanding access to this powerful financial tool is an important way for us to help students who start their college careers at a community college or other academic institution attend and succeed at

the U,” Bruininks said.

Bruininks said that the new award program would provide financial assistance to nearly every student from families with an annual income of less than \$50,000. The award program’s financial commitment would be for four years. Students would need to meet all of the university’s preparation requirements and be registered full-time. ○

Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

'U of M Moment' feature links for the week of Feb. 13

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/11/2006)--"University of Minnesota Moment" radio features for the week of Monday, Feb. 13, are available to Minnesota radio stations for free.

The features are as follows:

Monday, Feb. 13: "MySpace.com Phenomenon"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/myspace_phenomenon.mp3

Tuesday, Feb. 14: "Black History Month"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/black_history_month.mp3

Wednesday, Feb. 15: "uSuits"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/uSuits_iPod_covers.mp3

Thursday, Feb. 16: "Teasing and Easting Disorders"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/teasing_study.mp3

Friday, Feb. 17: "Vital Aging"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/vital_aging_network.mp3

All of the features will be posted the day for which they are scheduled at
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/> □

- What:** U of M Disabled Student Cultural Center to host wheelchair basketball game at halftime of Gopher women's basketball game
- When:** 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16
- Where:** Williams Arena, 1925 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
- Who:** U of M students, Courage Center Rolling Gophers
- Contacts:** John Lukanen, Disabled Student Cultural Center, (612) 202-3991
Julia Trachy, Disabled Student Cultural Center, (612) 624-2620

U of M Disabled Student Cultural Center to host wheelchair basketball game at halftime of Gopher women's basketball game

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/13/2006)--The University of Minnesota Disabled Student Cultural Center (DSCC) will sponsor a wheelchair basketball game at halftime of the Gopher women's basketball game Thursday, Feb. 16. The Gophers will be playing the Ohio State Buckeyes at 7:30 p.m. and the DSCC will host a wheelchair game between two Rolling Gopher teams from the Courage Center.

"We want to bring to the crowd the idea that people with disabilities can be active and participate in fun events like playing sports and other activities," said DSCC co-director John Lukanen. "We want to increase awareness that there are many students with disabilities at the U and that we are a vital part of this campus."

In addition to sponsoring the game, DSCC members will also hand out buttons and T-shirts at the doors.

DSCC is a student-run organization composed of disabled and abled students. Its missions are to foster the culture of individuals with a disability, provide learning opportunities for all students and increase the level of disability awareness on campus. □

What: Drawn to Nature Benefit for Bell Museum of Natural History
When: 6 p.m. Friday, Mar. 31
Where: McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis
Who: Jim Brandenburg
Contacts: Nina Shepherd, Bell Museum, (612) 624-7389
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M's Bell Museum to honor photographer Jim Brandenburg at benefit and art sale

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/13/2006)--Photographer Jim Brandenburg will be the featured artist and special guest at "Drawn to Nature," a public benefit and art sale for the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History at 6 p.m. Friday, March 31 at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Internationally known wildlife photographer, best-selling author and philanthropist, Brandenburg, will be honored for his contributions to environmental awareness and preservation with a multi-media program and an honorary degree from the university.

In addition to Brandenburg, nationally-known artists will be at the event, including contemporary artist Daniel Wheeler, painter Cole Johnson, photographer Chris Faust, botanical painters Tim Trost and Wendy Brockman, landscape painter Scott Lloyd Anderson, naturalist Jim Rataczak and environmental sculptor Alis Olsen.

The sale will feature more than 150 original pieces of art by Brandenburg and the guest artists. Live and silent auctions will feature art, as well as one-of-a-kind experiences including a fishing trip with university President Robert Bruininks, a weekend for four at Lake Itasca and a five-course, in-home dinner by Chef Michael MacKay of The Sample Room. A martini bar and food by D'Amico Catering will round out the evening.

Tickets for the gala dinner and auctions are \$125 per person; \$110 for museum members. All proceeds will go toward the Bell Museum's exhibit and educational programs. For tickets, call (612) 624-9050 or visit www.bellmuseum.org. The event is co-sponsored by ULINE, Mayer Electric, Bolger and Mpls.-St. Paul Magazine. The Bell Museum is part of the College of Natural Resources. □

- What:** The politics surrounding infectious diseases, bioterrorism and epidemics, including bird flu
- When:** 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16
- Where:** Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Institute, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
- Who:** Dr. Stephen Morse, School of Public Health and department of Epidemiology, Columbia University, and former program manager for Biodefense at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, U.S. Department of Defense.
- Contacts:** Sue Banovetz, U of M College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-1359, banovetz@umn.edu
- Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M symposium hosts national experts to discuss infectious disease and bioterrorism, with a focus on global surveillance, early warning systems and bird flu

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/13/2006)--“The Politics of Infectious Diseases: Global Surveillance and Early Warning Systems” will be presented by Dr. Stephen Morse, director of the Center for Public Health Preparedness at Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health, at 7:30 p.m Thursday, Feb. 16, in Cowles Auditorium, the Humphrey Institute, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The event is sponsored by the university’s Institute for Advanced Study.

Morse’s presentation is the keynote address for “Epidemics in the Making: Politics and the Production of Infectious Disease,” part of the university symposium “The Politics of Populations.” The event will bring together various perspectives on the issues of epidemics and the politics surrounding infectious diseases, allowing policy makers, epidemiologists, social scientists, historians and members of the community to discuss their various concerns and explore ways to understand divergent perspectives on the contentious issues of the causes, implications, contexts and responses to infectious disease outbreaks.

To further explore the issues raised in Morse’s speech, there will be two panel discussions involving national experts on Friday, Feb. 17, at the Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., Minneapolis. The first session, from 9:30-11:30 a.m., focuses on the history, science and social issues of infectious diseases. The second panel discussion, from 2-5 p.m. will focus on bridging policy and on social critique. Panelists include: Walter Tsou of the American Public Health Organization; Michael Osterholm, U of M Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy; and Harry Hull, Minnesota State Epidemiologist. The discussions will be moderated by Susan Craddock, a faculty member with the university’s department of

women's studies and whose research has focused on infectious diseases, health and social justice.

“With the rise in discourses on emerging infectious diseases, the heightened threat of bioterrorism and the declaration of infectious diseases as a security threat, attention has become focused on the diseases themselves, the threats they pose and responses to them,” said Ann Waltner, director of the Institute for Advanced Study. “This two-day conference—Stephen Morse’s lecture and the panel discussions which follow it—provides an opportunity to bring together people with various perspectives to discuss important issues which surround the politics of infectious diseases. Discussions like these are extremely important in helping people to understand different perspectives, and will perhaps inform policy makers as they think about how to deal with episodes of infectious disease in the future.” □

When: 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 7
Where: McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis
Who: Thomas Tiller, CEO of Polaris Industries
Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-8770
Registration Contact: (612) 626-9634, firsttuesday@csom.umn.edu

CEO of Polaris to discuss manufacturing competitiveness at U of M Carlson School of Management's 'First Tuesday' luncheon

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/13/2006)--Thomas Tiller, CEO of Polaris Industries Inc., will speak at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management "First Tuesday" luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 7 at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St., S.E., Minneapolis.

In his presentation, "Manufacturing in Minnesota Today: A practical perspective through the lens of Polaris," Tiller will discuss the keys to survival, success today and what manufacturers must do differently to succeed in the future. Polaris, like several Minnesota companies, continues to feel the escalating pressures of keeping up with production and feeding the local economy.

Polaris has engineered and manufactured snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, watercraft, motorcycles and sport boats for nearly 50 years. It is one of Minnesota's largest manufacturing companies with revenues of \$1.9 billion and 3,600 employees. Polaris is not just known in Minnesota. Its products are distributed throughout the Midwest, Australia, Canada, France, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Tiller joined Polaris as its president and chief operating officer in 1998 after serving 15 years in various management positions with General Electric Corporation. He was named Polaris' chief executive officer in 1999. Since Tiller's arrival, the company has increased revenue and earnings each year and delivered superior shareholder returns.

Tiller serves as president of the Minnesota Business Partnership (MBP) and is a member of the Twin Cities Chapter of Young President's Organization (YPO). He also is involved with the United Way Foundation and the Carlson School of Management's Mentor Program. In addition, Tiller is a member of the board of directors of Polaris Industries Inc. and KTM Powersports AG.

Each month the First Tuesday luncheon draws about 300 local business leaders, Carlson School

alumni, students and educators, who hear from the leading business voices on today's economy.

Advance registration by March 2 is \$23 and \$28 for walk-in as space allows. The fee includes lunch and parking in the Washington Avenue Ramp. Register by calling (612) 626-9634, visiting www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/events, or by e-mail at fristtuesday@csom.umn.edu. 0

- What:** U of M students to hold "Three Days Late Valentine" charity date auction
- When:** 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17
- Where:** Great Hall, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E. Minneapolis
- Who:** U of M students, staff, community members
- Contacts:** Patrick Jaszewski, auction marking co-chair, (612) 804-4004
Smita Patel, BAM secretary, (612) 301-4455
Bill Ly, auction marking co-chair, (612) 269-9365

U of M students to hold "Three Days Late Valentine" charity date auction

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/14/2006)--Sixteen University of Minnesota students from 11 multicultural campus organizations will be "auctioned" off to the highest bidders in a "Three Days Late Valentines" charity date auction from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17, in the Great Hall of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave., S.E., Minneapolis. All proceeds will be going to benefit Katrina victims through the American Red Cross as well as benefit heart research through the American Heart Association.

"We are holding the auction on Feb. 17 instead of on Valentine's Day because we want it to be on a Friday night so more people can attend," auction co-chair Patrick Jaszewski said. "Last year we raised \$2,700 for the tsunami victims and we hope to surpass that this year."

There is no admission but the audience is asked to donate \$2 for the charity.

The event is organized by the Business Association of Multicultural Students (BAM), a student organization at the university's Carlson School of Management dedicated to providing students with a diverse perspective of today's global corporate environment and assisting them in their pursuit of professional excellence and community leadership.

Student organizations participating in the date auction are: Alpha Tau Omega, Indian Student Association, Business Association of Multicultural Students, Minnesota International Student Association, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, La Raza Student Cultural Center, Black Student Union, Asian American Student Union, Chinese American Student Union, Sigma Lambda Beta, and Minnesota Asian-American Collegians. □

What: Panel discussion of the play 'The Trial of Osama bin Laden'
When: 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 1
Where: Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
Who: Peter Goldmark, co-author, and John Clark Donahue, director
Contacts: Jamie Proulx, Humphrey Institute, (612) 625-9436
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Discussion and performance of the 'Trial of Osama bin Laden' at the U of M Humphrey Institute

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/14/2006)--What would happen if Osama bin Laden was captured and put on trial in the United States? A new play, "The Trial of Osama bin Laden," explores this possibility and imagines the arch-terrorist himself on trial in New York City. The University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs will host a performance of selected scenes from the play and a panel discussion at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, in Cowles Auditorium, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The panel discussion will include co-author Peter Goldmark and director John Clark Donahue, who will engage in a conversation on justice, destiny and free will in the aftermath of the 9/11 tragedy. J. Brian Atwood, dean of the Humphrey Institute and former head of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), will moderate.

Goldmark is the former chair and CEO of the International Herald Tribune and a former executive director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (which owned the World Trade Center towers). Currently, he is the director of the climate and air program at Environmental Defense, a nonprofit environmental research and advocacy organization based in New York City.

The program is free and open to the public. The Trial of Osama bin Laden will run Thursdays through Sundays, Feb. 16 through March 5, at Old Arizona, 2821 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis. For reservations and information, call (612) 871-0050, ext. 4. □

What: Conference on public polling and campaigns
When: Noon–4:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27
Where: Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
Who: National experts on polling, media coverage and political campaigns
Contacts: Jamie Proulx, Humphrey Institute, (612) 625-9436
 Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Conference on the ‘Crisis of Polling’ at the Humphrey Institute

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/14/2006)--Are pre-election polls accurate? Are they helpful or harmful? The Center for the Study of Politics and Governance at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs will co-sponsor a conference on “The Crisis of Polling: The Accuracy, Reporting, and Campaign Uses of Public Opinion Surveys” to address these questions from noon to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, at the Humphrey Institute, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The proliferation of polls, press preoccupation with polling and the campaign strategy of attacking pollsters have contributed to a sense among journalists and many Americans that polls cannot be trusted. National experts on polling, media coverage and political campaigns will examine the central criticisms of polling—the accuracy of polling, the media’s coverage of polls, and their use by election campaigns—in three separate discussions.

The first panel, which includes Frank Newport, editor-in-chief of the Gallup Poll, will focus on the accuracy of polling. The second panel with the director of the Project for Excellence Journalism, Tom Rosenstiel, and WCCO-TV anchor Don Shelby, will analyze the misreporting of polling. The final discussion, which includes veteran Los Angeles Times reporter Tom Hamburger, political consultant Tom Horner and Carleton College professor Steve Shier, will look at polling and campaigning.

Additional conference sponsors include the Minnesota chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, Public Opinion Quarterly, the American Association for Public Opinion Research, and the University of Minnesota’s department of political science.

The registration fee is \$25. For the conference agenda and complete registration information, visit www.hhh.umn.edu/centers/cspg/upcoming_events/feb27.html or call (612) 625-5340. □

CORRECTION: The Great Conversation on Protecting Water Quality for Future Generations is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28; not Saturday, February 28, as inadvertently stated in previously sent release.

What: Great Conversations - Protecting Water Quality for Future Generations
When: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28
Where: Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis
Who: Deb Swackhamer, co-director of the University of Minnesota's Water Resources Center and professor of environmental chemistry, and Canadian researcher David Shindler, a leading environmental scientist
Contacts: Liz Turchin, College of Continuing Education, (612) 625-1274
 Heather Skatter, College of Continuing Education, (612) 624-7770
 Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

U researcher, Canadian expert to make water's murky future crystal clear: Great Conversations 2006 kicks off with thought-provoking evening event

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/14/2006)--We live in an increasingly interconnected world. We can look ahead and see a healthy ecosystem teeming with diverse life, but we each need to be a part of realizing that future. On Tuesday, Feb. 28, Minnesotans will have the opportunity to meet with two pioneering environmentalists and gather information on what's beneath the surface in the debate about one of life's most basic requirements - water.

Deb Swackhamer, codirector of the University of Minnesota's Water Resources Center and professor of environmental chemistry, joins Canadian researcher David Shindler, a leading environmental scientist, for "Protecting Water Quality for Future Generations." This is the first event of the 2006 season of Great Conversations - a program of the university's College of Continuing Education.

Since 2002, Great Conversations has welcomed nearly 15,000 Minnesotans to 21 ground-breaking discussions between the U's faculty experts and their peers around the world - an inspiring group of visionary activists, political strategists, ground-breaking researchers and Nobel and Pulitzer Prize-winners.

The February event will continue the tradition as these two experts lead a thought-provoking discussion on water's future.

Swackhamer's extensive research has focused on persistent organic contaminants in freshwater aquatic systems. She serves on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Science Advisory Board and

is a member of the International Joint Commission of the United States and Canada.

Shindler is professor of ecology at the University of Alberta, Edmonton. His breakthrough research has yielded gains in environmental protection, such as banning phosphates in detergent and the creation of hundreds of wastewater treatment facilities. He was instrumental in tracing the environmental impact of acid rain and has helped usher in a new era of research on ecosystems. He is the recipient of the Volvo International Environment Prize and was the first winner of the Stockholm Water Prize.

Future Great Conversations topics are affordable housing (March 28), rethinking urban environments (May 1), and social forces reshaping retirement (May 16). All conversations take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis. Series tickets are \$95, single event tickets are \$28.50 (\$80 and \$23.50 respectively for U of M faculty, staff, students, and University of Minnesota Alumni Association members). Tickets can be ordered from the U of M Ticket Office at (612) 624-2345. More information is available at www.cce.umn.edu/conversations. □

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- What:** Beautiful U Day, a University of Minnesota, Twin Cities tradition since 1997 has expanded, awarding project grants to groups throughout the university system
- Contacts:** Aaron Strozinsky, University Services, (612) 625-1522
Lori-Anne Williams, University Services, (612) 624-2863
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

Grants awarded to help university departments and student groups beautify campuses

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/15/2006)--Vice president for University Services Kathleen O'Brien has announced 36 Beautiful U Day grants for projects taking place on or near Beautiful U Day, April 20. Funding was awarded to university departments and student groups across the state for projects including litter clean up, landscaping improvements, academic symposia, arts projects, and building clean outs.

Since its inception in 1997, Beautiful U Day has evolved into an annual University of Minnesota tradition that promotes the revitalization of physical campus spaces and helps build a renewed sense of pride in this world-class university. Funding amounts range from \$264 to \$3,000, and all university departments provide a dollar-for-dollar match for funds received. Over the years, Beautiful U Day has involved more than 10,000 volunteers and participants, and nearly 4,000 volunteers are expected to take part in this year's Beautiful U Day.

This year, dozens of grants were awarded across the state, including:

- "What's Up in Sustainable Agriculture," a Twin Cities student group, received a \$1,000 grant and will purchase perennial plants that are both economically and environmentally beneficial. The project will enhance the entrance to the St. Paul campus.
- West Central Research and Outreach Center near the Morris campus received a \$2,800 grant that will enhance their tree arboretum. This project will be part of an educational program for elementary students to learn about planting trees.
- Minnesota Sea Grant received a \$1,550 grant to create an Earth Day (week) campus clean up and educational signage across a Duluth campus trout stream.
- The Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence on the Twin Cities campus received a \$3,000 grant to beautify Klaeber Court by creating a super-graphic courtyard garden.
- University of Minnesota, Crookston, Horticulture Club received a \$1,700 grant and will label plants in the new Perennial Study Garden.
- The American Chemical Society student group received a \$700 grant to paint a mural in the new

science building on the Morris campus.

- Minnesota Public Interest Research Group, a student group, will increase sustainability at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, by educating the campus community about fair trade and waste reduction.

For a complete list of awards and for information about Beautiful U Day, visit <http://www.buday.umn.edu>.

What: Researchers argue social and ethical issues must be considered alongside safety concerns

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service (612) 624-8038

New report from the U of M Humphrey Institute urges coordinated and integrated oversight of nanotechnology

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/15/2006)--New technology can enhance our quality of life, but how can we ensure the health and environmental safety of its applications? The Center for Science, Technology and Public Policy (CSTPP) at the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs has released a new report that addresses this question as it relates to nanotechnology, a rapidly emerging area with hundreds of applications, many already in the marketplace. The report captures recommendations and information developed at a conference held at the Humphrey Institute last fall.

Practitioners, academics and scientists contributed to the report, "The Nanotechnology-Biology Interface: Exploring Models for Oversight," and their conclusions raise issues for government bodies, scientists, the private sector and consumers. According to the report, the applications of nanotechnology require revised risk models and standards of safety. Researchers and others argue that it is increasingly urgent we address the issue of oversight as several new products already are in use by consumers and many more are on the way.

The effects of nanoparticles can be dual in nature leading to several safety concerns that must be considered. For example, some nanoparticles have the rare ability to cross the blood-brain barrier, which can assist the medical field by delivering drugs to the brain; however, those same capabilities can pose greater risk if toxic particles are inhaled. In environmental applications, the penetration capabilities of nanoparticles could lead to unwanted contamination of our resources if not used properly. Because of these and other issues, the report suggests increased funding for health and environmental safety research on nanoparticles and requests that basic information on the nature and toxicity of nanomaterials be made available to the general public before the products enter the market. Much of this information is now considered confidential.

Unfortunately, amending or developing new laws to regulate the use of nanotechnology is difficult in the short- and even long-term. The report calls for immediate ways to ensure that nanotechnology is

used responsibly in the interim. It supports current efforts underway in the public and private sector to implement voluntary programs and industry standards.

“These voluntary programs can provide the necessary bridge for ensuring health and environmental safety, but they should not be considered a permanent fix, as they will not ultimately foster public confidence,” said Jennifer Kuzma, CSTPP associate director and editor of the report. “With the growing number of nanotech products on the market, it will be even more difficult for government and industry to keep up if they don’t start thinking now about nanotechnology oversight in a coordinated and comprehensive way.”

The report also calls for more conversation about nanotechnology that is not confined to science and safety. Many experts believe nanotechnology could someday be used to improve human senses, memory, strength and appearance; delay or stop aging; and even control emotion and personality traits. Are these ethical applications? Would some applications be illegal in selected parts of the world?

“Novel applications such as those improving our cognitive abilities will present society with fundamental social, cultural and ethical issues that we only have begun to discuss,” said Kuzma. “We need more dialogue on the many issues surrounding the nanotechnology-biology interface.”

The report outlines other important issues in technology oversight. How will new applications affect the structure of industry? Will the technology be deployed equitably? What are the rights of consumers to be informed and make choices about nanotechnology? What are appropriate limits of nanotechnology? The report concludes that we need better institutions for discussing societal issues surrounding the nanotechnology-biology interface.

For more information and to read the complete report, visit CSTPP online at www.hhh.umn.edu/centers/stpp/. ○

When: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21

Where: Room 40 in the University of Minnesota Law School, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Contacts: Patrick Finnegan, Human Rights Center, (612) 626-0041
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

U of M Human Rights Center to screen and discuss film on sex trafficking

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/15/2006)--The University of Minnesota Human Rights Center will feature a screening of the documentary film "Anonymously Yours" at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, in Room 40 in the University of Minnesota Law School, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

This film is the third in the Human Rights Center's 2005-2006 film series. The screening is free and open to the public and will be followed by a community discussion with panelists.

"Anonymously Yours" is the outcome of a daring filmmaking operation on sex-trafficking in a military state where nothing is as it seems. Four Burmese women's strikingly different life experiences come together to reveal an institution that enslaves them and as many as 40 million women worldwide in the fastest growing industry on earth: human sales. Clandestinely shot deep in the uncharted world of Southeast Asian sex trafficking, the film chronicles the merchandising of women commonplace in a land afflicted with staggering poverty and widespread corruption, according to Aerial Productions.

Academic and community experts on the panel include:

- Tung Duc Truong, a Humphrey Fellow and National Project Coordinator for the Vietnamese component of the International Labor Organization Mekong Sub-Regional Project to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children.
- Chittaphone Santavasy, Humphrey Fellow and Project Manager for the Lao component of Save the Children UK Cross-Border Community-Based Initiatives Against Trafficking in Children in the Mekong Sub-Region.
- Lauren Gilchrist, outreach coordinator, University of Minnesota Debra E. Powell Center for Women's Health.
- Jonna Cohen, a U of M student and representative of the Campus Coalition Against Trafficking.
- Babina Tuladhar, a College of St. Catherine student, and lecture coordinator for St. Kate's Activities Team.

Through screenings and panel discussions, the Human Rights Center brings experts and community members together to raise awareness, promote discussion and take action on issues affecting the human rights community in Minnesota, the United States and the world.

Event sponsors are the University of Minnesota Human Rights Center, the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program, the Campus Coalition Against Trafficking and the Debra E. Powell Center for Women's Health. □

What: Contributions to allow Law School's Deinard Memorial Lecture Series to be offered annually

**Contacts: Dana Bartocci, Law School, (612) 625-6691
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801**

Contributions to allow Law School's Deinard Memorial Lecture Series to be offered annually

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/15/2006)--Two new gifts to the University of Minnesota Law School will allow the Deinard Memorial Lecture Series on Law & Medicine to be offered annually.

Twin Cities-based Leonard, Street and Deinard law firm is contributing \$25,000 to increase the endowment of the Deinard Memorial Lecture Series on Law & Medicine at the University of Minnesota. Professor Amos Deinard, Jr., department of pediatrics, and his sister, Miriam Kelen, are also contributing \$25,000 to the lecture series endowment.

This lecture series was established in memory of Amos S. Deinard, Sr. (1898-1985) and Benedict S. Deinard (1899-1969) to present educational programs on law, medicine, public health and biomedical ethics. The series is co-sponsored by the Joint Degree Program in Law, Health & the Life Sciences (www.jointdegree.umn.edu) and the Center for Bioethics (www.bioethics.umn.edu).

The Deinard brothers were founding partners of the law firm of Leonard, Street and Deinard. Both attended the University of Minnesota Law School and Harvard Law School. Amos Deinard was a distinguished attorney, widely known for his persistent work to eliminate discrimination in hiring. Appointed to the Minneapolis Fair Employment Practices Commission in 1945 by Mayor Hubert H. Humphrey, he served on the commission for 17 years, 15 of them as chairman. Benedict Deinard was a successful trial lawyer, an adjunct professor of law at the University of Minnesota, a deputy attorney general in the U.S. Department of Justice during World War II, and one of the four civilians asked to participate in the Nuremberg war crimes trials.

Leonard, Street and Deinard supports the University of Minnesota Law School in numerous ways. Past major gifts from the firm include the Leonard Street & Deinard Scholarship (established 1969), a major gift to Campaign Minnesota which supported the creation of the Law School's Wireless Network, and the Leonard Street & Deinard Foundation Scholarship (established 2001). □

What: Modern simulation technology will make the U of M the best equipped dental school in the Big Ten

Contacts: Claudia Kanter, School of Dentistry, (612) 625-0402
Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

3M gives \$1 million to U of M to renovate School of Dentistry teaching labs

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/16/2006)--The University of Minnesota School of Dentistry has received a gift of \$1 million from the 3M Foundation to renovate the teaching labs for beginning dentistry students. This is the lead gift toward a \$10.5 million project that will revolutionize dental education at the University of Minnesota and position the U as the best equipped dental school in the Big Ten.

The university plans to renovate the preclinical teaching laboratory in the School of Dentistry and replace outdated instructional equipment with patient mannequins and virtual reality-based simulation equipment. This technology creates a realistic clinical environment, providing life-like patient experiences for beginning dental students. It also uses interactive multimedia to give students real-time feedback on their performance. Research shows that students learn better and faster with virtual reality-based technology.

"We are overwhelmed by 3M's generosity," said School of Dentistry dean Patrick Lloyd. "Their gift is important in so many ways. It not only gets us closer to our goal of raising \$10.5 million, it demonstrates to all the importance of the project. As Minnesota's only dental school, we have a far-reaching responsibility to educate tomorrow's dental professionals in a way that most efficiently and effectively prepares them to treat patients. Our work affects the lives of nearly every resident in the state."

"Our gift to the School of Dentistry builds on our commitment to education and to the residents of Minnesota," said Alex Cirillo, vice president for community affairs at 3M. "We are pleased to make this investment in students and their success in the field of dentistry. We also hope that this gift encourages others to support this important project, which benefits so many people because of the role the university plays in training Minnesota's dental practitioners and providing continuing dental education to practicing professionals in the region."

The University of Minnesota educates nearly 80 percent of the state's practicing dentists and 60 percent of its dental specialists. Dental students typically spend their first two years studying biomedical sciences and biomaterials, and practicing on models to fine-tune the eye-hand coordination and manual dexterity skills they'll need for the practice of dentistry. Third and fourth-year students treat patients in

the school's on-campus and community dental clinics.

Computer-based teaching technology has revolutionized educational programs across a variety of professions. According to Judith Buchanan, associate dean for Academic Affairs in Dentistry, who has conducted research on dental simulation technology since 1998, the educational benefits of advanced simulation equipment are unmatched. "It combines life-like patients and computerized, 3-D images to create a virtual reality-based environment that introduces students to the complexities of patient care without having a real patient present. From day one, students learn faster and better."

According to Dean Lloyd, the new technology also allows for self-paced learning, which means that faster learners will transition more quickly into patient care experiences. Ultimately, the school plans to move senior dental students into rotations at community-based educational facilities around the state, such as the ones located in north and south Minneapolis, Hibbing, and a soon-to-be new educational facility in Willmar. "By 2007, I expect every dental student to spend at least eight weeks treating public program patients in community clinics around the state," said Lloyd.

The planned renovation will combine both patient simulation equipment and virtual reality-based technology, making it the most advanced teaching lab among the Big Ten schools. The project involves renovating 11,200 square feet on the fourth floor of Moos Tower and building 120 advanced workstations.

The university is seeking funding for a portion of the project in its 2006 supplemental request. □

- What:** Kathy Saltzman Romey, U of M director of choral activities, to conduct concert that features a premiere by U of M student composer Jocelyn Hagen
- When:** 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26
- Where:** St. Andrews Lutheran Church, 900 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi, Minn.
- Contacts:** Jen Jackson, School of Music, (612) 626-1094; jenj@umn.edu

Women's choruses from area colleges join forces to present Womanvoice 2006

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/16/2006)--Local women's choruses from Augsburg College, Northwestern College, College of St. Catherine, Hamline University and the University of Minnesota will combine forces for the annual WomanVoice concert. This year's concert, titled "Songs of Community, Survival and Celebration," will take place at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26, at Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church, 900 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi. The concert is open to the public and a free-will donation will be taken at the door. To contact the church call (651) 426-3261.

The concert features the world premiere of a commissioned work titled "Someone Will Remember Us" by University of Minnesota composer Jocelyn Hagen and excerpts from "Songs of Survival," music remembered, arranged and performed by women in a prison camp during World War II.

Established in 1902, the School of Music offers a dynamic, comprehensive program to 640 music students in undergraduate and graduate programs, led by a world-class faculty of over 50 artists, scholars and teachers. Thanks to strong partnerships with the Twin Cities music community, another 40 professionals from organizations like the Minnesota Orchestra and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra enrich the learning environment as adjunct faculty. The School of Music presents over 400 free concerts and recitals per year. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.music.umn.edu or call the School of Music events hotline at (612) 626-8742. □

When: 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17 and 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 18
Where: Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., Minneapolis
Contacts: Susan Noakes, director, Center for Medieval Studies, (612) 625-3034
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M's Center for Medieval Studies takes look at historic plagues, epidemics and medieval hospitals

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/17/2006)--The University of Minnesota Center for Medieval Studies and the Institute for Advanced Study are presenting lectures and panel discussions on historical plagues and epidemics around the symposium's theme "Medieval Inventions: the Hospital?" at the Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury, Minneapolis, on Feb. 17 and 18.

At 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17, Melanie Holcomb, assistant curator, department of medieval art and the cloisters, the Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York City: <http://www.metmuseum.org>) will discuss objects in the Metropolitan Museum's collections used for healing in medieval times.

Beginning at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 18, the center will present a reader's theater performance that will set the stage for examination of the current scholarly controversy about the earliest hospitals. Included in this performance is the famous description of the Black Plague in Florence, Italy, in 1348, written by Giovanni Boccaccio as part of the introduction to the first day of his "Decameron."

The performance will be immediately followed by several lectures by scholars on topics relating to the prevention and treatment of infectious disease in various parts of the medieval world and the ways medieval societies organized institutions to deal with plague and with sickness more generally.

Presentations will draw parallels to current health care debates such as the idea of medical care being closely allied with a particular cultural or religious tradition or how do hospitals aspire to care for both the body and the soul.

All lectures are free and open to the public. □

- When:** Opening reception, 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 4. Exhibit runs through May 2
- Where:** Hennepin History Museum, 303 Third Ave. S., Minneapolis
- Contacts:** Glen Beltt, College of Human Ecology, (612) 624-4232
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

Exhibition to feature interior design students' work to create culturally sensitive housing for Hmong and Somali residents

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/17/2006)--An exhibition opening March 4 at the Hennepin History Museum will showcase the work of University of Minnesota interior design students who developed designs for affordable housing that serve the unique cultural needs of Somali and Hmong residents of the Twin Cities.

An opening reception for the exhibition will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at the museum, located at 2303 Third Ave. S., Minneapolis. The exhibition runs from March 5 through May 2. Hours are available on the museum's web site at www.hhmuseum.org. Admission is \$2 for adults, \$1 for children and seniors, and free for museum members.

The work for the exhibition "Building Ties" was developed under the direction of Tasoulla Hadjiyanni, a professor in the department of design, housing, and apparel within the university's College of Human Ecology. Nearly 40 students worked in teams of two to create the designs, which include site and floor plans, elevations, interior views, material selections and models. The programmatic and conceptual direction of the students' projects is largely based on Hadjiyanni's research on housing needs of Hmong and Somali refugees.

The students faced cultural issues in developing their designs. They took into account typical family sizes, patterns of gathering, religious practices and particular cooking and eating practices. The practice of veiling among Somali women in the presence of men suggested a need for private spaces for women within their living spaces where they could be without veils. In designing housing for Hmong families, community spaces were planned to accommodate gatherings of large extended families and Shamanist celebrations.

By designing housing that better fits the needs of these communities, students hope to improve the mental, emotional and physical well-being of those residents and ease their adjustment to American life. Because immigrants are an important force behind the economic vitality of communities, accommodating their needs benefits the larger society as well, Hadjiyanni said. □

- What:** University of Minnesota Law School students to put on musical "West Bank Story"
- When:** 7:30 p.m. March 2, 3 and 4 and at 2 p.m. March 4
- Where:** Theater, St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave. St. Paul
- Contacts:** Josh Colburn, Theatre of the Relatively Talentless, (612) 309-4468
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

University of Minnesota Law School students to put on musical "West Bank Story"

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/17/2006)--University of Minnesota Law School students will step out of the courtroom and onto the theatrical stage when they put on the production of "West Bank Story" at 7:30 p.m. March 2, 3 and 4 and at 2 p.m. March 4 in the theater at the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave. St. Paul.

The Theatre of the Relatively Talentless (TORT) production is a loose parody of Leonard Bernstein's musical theatre classic, "West Side Story." The production pits the PILS (Public Interest Law Students) against the Sharks (Corporate Law Students).

The fourth annual Theatre of the Relatively Talentless is a theatrical musical parody of the law school experience. Each year, U of M Law School students write, direct and perform an original musical. Students say this is an opportunity to see normally reserved and staid law students burst into song and dance, and do it well.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for others. Limited tickets are still available. To inquire about ticket availability, e-mail tort@umn.edu. □

What: Getting to the cores of Jupiter, Saturn and exoplanets
When: Published Feb. 17 in Science
Who: Renata Wentzcovitch, associate professor of chemical engineering and materials science
Contacts: Deane Morrison, University Relations, (612) 624-2346
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M researcher simulates characteristics of planetary cores

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/17/2006)--University of Minnesota researchers Renata Wentzcovitch and Koichiro Umemoto and Philip B. Allen of Stony Brook University have modeled the properties of rocks at the temperatures and pressures likely to exist at the cores of Jupiter, Saturn and two exoplanets far from the solar system. They show that rocks in these environments are different from those on Earth and have metallic-like electric and thermal conductivity.

These properties can produce different terrestrial-type planets, with longer-lasting magnetic fields, enhanced heat flow to the planetary surfaces and, consequently, more intense "planetquake" and volcanic activity.

This work builds on the authors' recent work on Earth's inner layers and represents a step toward understanding how all planets, including Earth, come to acquire their individual characteristics. The research is published in the Feb. 17 issue of Science.

In the previous work, Wentzcovitch and her colleagues studied the D'' ("Dee double prime") layer deep in the Earth. D'' runs from zero to 186 miles thick and surrounds the iron core of our planet. It lies just below Earth's mantle, which is largely composed of a mineral called perovskite, consisting of magnesium, silicon and oxygen. Wentzcovitch and her team calculated that in D'' the great temperatures and pressures changed the structure of perovskite crystals, transforming the mineral into one called "post-perovskite."

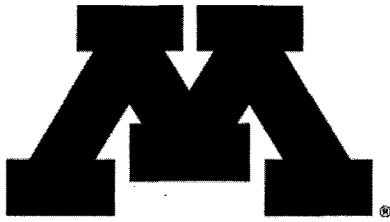
In the new work, the researchers turned their attention to the cores of the giant planets of our solar system--Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune--and two recently discovered extrasolar planets, or exoplanets, found elsewhere in the Milky Way. One, referred to as Super-Earth, is about seven times the mass of Earth and orbits a star 15 light-years away in the constellation Aquarius. The other, Dense-Saturn, has about the same mass as Saturn and orbits a star 257 light-years away in the constellation Hercules.

The researchers calculated what would happen at temperatures and pressures likely near the cores of the two exoplanets, Jupiter and Saturn, where temperatures run close to 18,000 F and pressures 10 million bars (a bar is essentially atmospheric pressure at sea level). They found that even post-perovskite could not withstand such conditions, and its crystals would dissociate into two new forms. Focusing on one of those crystals, the researchers discovered that they would behave almost like metals. That is, electrons in the crystals would be very mobile and carry electric current. This would have the effect of supporting the planet's magnetic field (if it has one) and inhibiting reversals of the field. The increased electrical activity would also help transport energy out of the core and toward the planet surface. This could result in more severe activities such as quakes and volcanoes on the surface. The effect would be much stronger in Dense-Saturn than in Super-Earth.

The interiors of the icy giants Uranus and Neptune don't exhibit such extremes of temperature and pressure, and so post-perovskite would survive in their cores, she said.

"We want to understand how planets formed and evolved and how they are today. We need to understand how their interiors behave under these extreme pressure and temperatures conditions. Only then it will be possible to model them. This will advance the field of comparative planetology," said Wentzcovitch. "We will understand Earth better if we can see it in the context of a variety of different kinds of planets."

The work was supported by the National Science Foundation and the Minnesota Supercomputing Institute. □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXPERT ALERT

University News Service

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Feb. 17, 2006

Contact: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, 612-624-0214

\$365 MILLION POWERBALL

The Powerball jackpot is at a record-high, with an estimated \$365 million after Wednesday's drawing did not yield a winner. University of Minnesota experts to talk about the Powerball are:

Felix Meschke, assistant professor in the department of finance at the U's Carlson School of Management

Meschke can discuss investment and spending options of a potential win. You just won \$365 million, but now what? Should you take the cash payout, or should you agree to installment payments? Would it make sense to simply put the money into a savings account and live off the interest, or should one invest, and, if so, where? Meschke can answer those and other practical, real-life questions on spending and investment of potential winnings from the Powerball jackpot.

Doug Arnold, director of the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications and professor of mathematics at the U

Arnold can discuss odds and numerical chances of winning the jackpot as well as any other mathematical questions related to it. For example, how much money can you spend right away and still have a million a year for the next three generations of your family? Arnold can also offer very interesting facts about the Powerball, such as whether you are more likely to get hit by lightning or win, or what the odds are of your ticket winning vs. you dying in the next 30 seconds.

To interview Meschke or Arnold, contact Asim Dorovic at 612-624-0214 or at dorovic@umn.edu.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect university experts to today's breaking news and current events.



Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

'U of M Moment' feature links for the week of Feb. 20

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/17/2006)--"University of Minnesota Moment" radio features for the week of Monday, Feb. 20, are available to Minnesota radio stations for free.

The features are as follows:

Monday, Feb. 20: "Tax Tips"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/tax_credits.mp3

Tuesday, Feb. 21: "Diabetes Research"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/diabetes_research.mp3

Wednesday, Feb. 22: "Scholarship Opportunities"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/scholarship_opportunities.mp3

Thursday, Feb. 23: "The Nose Knows"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/the_nose_knows.mp3

Friday, Feb. 24: "Dentistry Technology"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/dentistry_school.mp3

All of the features will be posted the day for which they are scheduled at
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/> □

What: U of M to host International Women's Day celebration
When: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 4
Who: Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
Contacts: Mary Hunt, Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, (612) 341-3302 ext. 107
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

U of M to host International Women's Day celebration March 4

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/20/2006)--Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights and the Human Rights Program at the University of Minnesota will hold the 11th annual International Women's Day celebration from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The event will bring together scholars, community activists, advocates for women's causes and community members for a day of reflection and celebration of women's issues. The event is free and open to the public.

Naomi Tutu, the daughter of South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, will deliver the keynote address. In her speech "Women's Rights Are Human Rights," Tutu will talk more specifically about women's human rights and the challenges facing women, viewed through the lens of her experience. Tutu founded and was chairperson of the Tutu Foundation which, from 1985 to 1990, helped South African refugees in African countries. Since the beginning of 2005, Tutu has worked as a motivational speaker, conference diversity facilitator and women's retreat leader.

The event will also feature workshops and panels on a variety of human rights issues including human trafficking; violence against women and children; LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender) rights; and racism and health. Panelists include Susana de Leon, Peggy Flanagan, Farheen Hakeem, Pakou Hang and Nyango Melissa Nambangi. For a complete schedule, visit http://www.mnadvocates.org/International_Women_s_Day.html

Inspired by the 1995 U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, the local International Women's Day event is designed to celebrate the strength and diversity of Minnesota women, encourage activism and increase understanding and tolerance in our community. The workshops were selected to raise awareness of international women's human rights on the local and global levels, and to draw attention to the 12 areas of concern articulated in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

For more information about the event, visit www.mnadvocates.org or call Mary Hunt at (612) 341-3302 ext. 107.

International Women's Day has been made possible with the support of the Women's Foundation of Minnesota and the following University of Minnesota groups: the Office for University Women; Institute for Global Studies, through a Title VI grant in International Studies from the U.S. Department of Education; Center on Women and Public Policy, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs; Human Rights Center; Department of Women's Studies; MacArthur Program/Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change; The Arleen C. Carlson Chair in Political Science; Event Partnership Grant provided by the Student Activities Office; the University of Minnesota Academic, Community, and Campus Life Initiatives in Partnership with Coca-Cola; TCF Bank; and the Diversity Education Fund of the Minnesota Student Association. □

- What:** President Robert Bruininks' State of the University Address
- When:** 3 p.m., Thursday, March 2
- Where:** Proscenium Theatre, Humanities Fine Arts, 600 East Fourth St.,
University of Minnesota, Morris
- Contacts:** Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

State of the University address to be held at University of Minnesota, Morris

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/20/2006)--For the first time in history, the University of Minnesota's annual State of the University address will be given from one of the university's coordinate campuses. On Thursday, March 2, University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks will deliver the speech from the University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM).

"For a number of years, members of the UMM community asked for this address to be held on their campus, and I am glad to accept their invitation," Bruininks said. "By holding this all-university event in Morris, we get a chance to highlight UMM's distinctive, high-quality liberal arts program as well as the contributions of retiring Chancellor Sam Schuman."

Bruininks' speech will reflect on the progress of efforts to transform the university into one of the top public research universities in the world. He will also discuss ideas for further improvement in undergraduate education and affordability and the contributions of UMM and the West Central Research and Outreach Center to the region.

An informal media availability with Bruininks and Schuman will be held immediately following the speech. Hundreds of members of the university community and the public are expected to watch the address from remote locations in the Twin Cities (Coffman Union), Duluth, Crookston and Rochester.

Directions to UMM can be found at <http://www.morris.umn.edu/visitor/directions.shtml>. Event parking is available at the North Parking Lot. □

MEDIA ADVISORY

- What:** President Bruininks to highlight importance of organ donation
- When:** Half-time - 7:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23
- Where:** Gopher women's basketball game vs. Indiana, Williams Arena, 1925 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
- Who:** Robert Bruininks, University of Minnesota president, Keith Fahnhorst, former Gopher and two-time Super Bowl champion and kidney recipient, and Dr. John Najarian, a pioneer in organ transplantation
- Contacts:** Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

President Bruininks to highlight importance of organ donation and sign organ donor card during Golden Gopher women's basketball game

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/21/2006)--President Robert Bruininks will be joined by Keith Fahnhorst and Dr. John Najarian to bring attention to the cause and need of organ donation during the Golden Gopher women's basketball half-time program. Get Game, Give Life, a national awareness campaign designed to educate college students and others about the need for organ donations, is organizing the event.

According the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, about 74 people receive an organ transplant each day. However, 18 people die each day waiting for transplants that can't take place because of the shortage of donated organs. More than 90,000 people are currently on the national organ transplant waiting list. As of Tuesday, Feb. 21, more than 2,300 people are waiting for organ transplants in Minnesota. For more information on organ donation, visit <http://www.organdonor.gov/> or <http://www.unos.org/>.

The University of Minnesota's Transplant Center is one of the nation's pioneers in transplant care. In 1966, University of Minnesota surgeons performed the first pancreas transplant in the world. By 2003, more than 6,000 kidney transplants and 9,600 total transplants have been performed by University of Minnesota physicians. □

- What:** Forum to examine policy implications of recent child care & early education research
- When:** 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, March 3
- Where:** Cowles Auditorium at the Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
- Contacts:** Linda Bernin, Center for Early Childhood Education and Development, (612) 626-9579
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

Policy forum to examine child care and early education research

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/23/2006)--“Using the Evidence: Policy Implications of Recent Child Care & Early Education Research” is the topic of a forum that will highlight five years of studies by the Minnesota Child Care Policy Research Partnership on Friday, March 3.

The forum will be held from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, March 3, at Cowles Auditorium at the Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

“Family Choices and Market Forces” and “Quality, Quality Improvement and School Readiness” will be the themes addressed by researchers during presentations and discussions. The interactive panel session will include time for audience questions and be followed by a lunch discussion and an opportunity to offer feedback.

Forum presenters are:

- Richard Chase, consulting scientist, Wilder Research, Amherst-Wilder Foundation.
- Elizabeth Davis, associate professor of applied economics, University of Minnesota.
- Deborah Swenson-Klatt, director, Child Development Services, Minnesota Department of Human Services.
- Kathryn Tout, program director, Early Care and Education, Child Trends.
- Avisia Whiteman, research specialist, Early Learning Services, Office of Student Support Services, Minnesota Department of Education.
- Martha Zaslow, vice president for research, Child Trends.

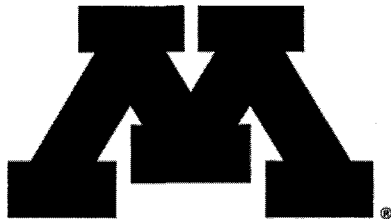
The cost is \$25 which includes forum registration, continental breakfast and lunch. Attendees will also receive a notebook containing policy partnership and study materials. The cost of nearby parking is up to \$10 for the day. Education CEU credits will be available. The forum is co-sponsored by the Minnesota Child Care Policy Research Partnership, the Minnesota Department of Human Services and

the University of Minnesota's Center for Early Education & Development.

Participants are also encouraged to attend the free afternoon session of the McEvoy Lecture Series: "Snapshot of Minnesota's Policies and Best Practices," a panel discussion of the agenda for the Early Childhood Caucus for the upcoming legislative session. More information about this and other McEvoy events can be found here: <http://education.umn.edu/ceed/events/mmlectureseries/>.

The registration form for both of these events is available online at:
<http://education.umn.edu/ceed/CEEDSeasontickets.pdf>

If you are unable to download the form, please call 612-625-3058 or email CEED@umn.edu for assistance. □



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Feb. 23, 2006

Contact: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, 612-624-0214

LEGAL DISPUTES AT THE OLYMPICS

While the Olympics can be all fun and games, legal disputes occasionally arise during the Games. During the current Olympiad, the Austrian cross-country team was accused of using banned substances, and an investigation is underway. Two weeks ago, U.S. skeleton team member Zach Lund was suspended over a previous failed drug test. Here is a University of Minnesota expert to talk about legal disputes at the Olympics:

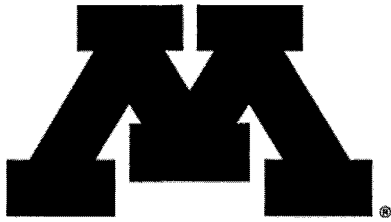
Allan Erbsen, associate professor of law at the University of Minnesota Law School

Erbsen can talk about various legal disputes that may arise during the Olympic Games. The failed drug test or the alleged doping scandal are just some of the issues Erbsen can discuss. Erbsen attended the Athens Olympics in 2004, and he was counsel to several athletes and sports federations in arbitration matters during the Olympics. He has also written extensively about Olympic dispute resolution.

To interview Erbsen, contact Asim Dorovic at 612-624-0214 or at dorovic@umn.edu.

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Feb. 24, 2006

Contact: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, 612-624-0214

VIOLENCE IN IRAQ

The recent ethnic violence in Iraq has cost more than 138 lives since Wednesday. Some go as far as to say that Iraq is on the verge of civil war. Here is a University of Minnesota expert who can put the violence in perspective:

Iraj Bashiri, professor and chair of the Slavic and Central Asian languages and literatures department at the University of Minnesota

Bashiri is an expert on Islam and the West and the roots of conflict between the two. He is available to comment on the recent religious violence in Iraq by describing the differences between Sunnis and Shiites and the roots of their conflict from a historical perspective. Please note that Bashiri does not wish to comment on the U.S. war in Iraq.

Bashiri is a native of Iran who came to the United States in 1966 as a graduate student in linguistics. A distinguished College of Liberal Arts teacher, he also has an honorary doctorate in history and culture from Tajikistan State University.

To interview Bashiri, contact Asim Dorovic at 612-624-0214 or at dorovic@umn.edu.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect university experts to today's breaking news and current events.



Martin Luther King III press conference at 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27

- What:** Martin Luther King III to hold press conference
When: 5 p.m. press conference, 7:30 p.m. lecture
Where: Room 325, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
Contacts: Kate McMillan, Twin Cities Student Unions, (612) 625-8269
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

Martin Luther King III to speak Monday, Feb. 27

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/24/2006)--Martin Luther King III will hold a press conference at 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, in room 325, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The University of Minnesota's Minnesota Programs and Activities Council (MPAC) is bringing King to campus to speak about "My Father's Dream, My Mission." The evening with the social activist and son of Coretta Scott King and Martin Luther King Jr., is at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, in the Great Hall of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Tickets cost \$10 for U of M students with a valid student ID and \$15 for the general public. Tickets can be purchased at the Coffman information desk during regular business hours. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the door. If the event is sold out, tickets for overflow seating will be made available. □

Media advisory: Martin Luther King III press conference at 5 p.m. today

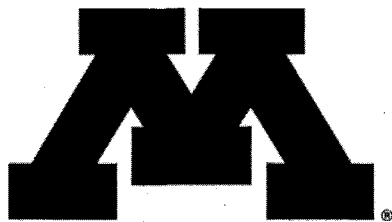
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Feb. 27, 2006

Contact: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, 612-624-0214

SOUTH DAKOTA'S BAN ON ABORTION

Both houses of the South Dakota Legislature have passed a bill that bans almost all abortions, including in cases of rape or incest. The bill awaits signature by Gov. Mike Rounds who has stated that he is inclined to sign it. University of Minnesota experts who can comment on this topic:

Sally Kenney, professor and director of the Center on Women and Public Policy

Kenney is a professor at the U's Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs and she directs the U's Center on Women and Public Policy. Her areas of expertise include: women, law, and public policy; judicial selection; women and electoral politics; feminist organizations. Kenney is also the author of *For Whose Protection? Reproductive Hazards and Exclusionary Policies in the United States and Britain*.

Dale Carpenter, associate professor of law at the University of Minnesota Law School

Carpenter teaches and writes in the areas of constitutional law and sexual orientation and the law.

Jill Hasday, associate professor of law at the University of Minnesota Law School

Hasday teaches and writes in the fields of anti-discrimination law, constitutional law, family law, and legal history.

Joanne Miller, assistant professor of political science at the University of Minnesota

Miller's areas of expertise include motivations of political participation and news media effects on citizens' attitudes and behaviors. She can comment on the abortion ban issue from a public opinion and legislation perspective.

Timothy Johnson, assistant professor of political science at the University of Minnesota

Johnson's expertise includes judicial politics, U.S. Supreme Court decision-making, U. S. Supreme Court oral arguments; and the evolution of precedent. Johnson can comment on the process of this case going to the U. S. Supreme Court and potential developments in that arena.

Kathleen Hull, sociology professor at the University of Minnesota

Hull teaches the class Love, Sex and Marriage, and her research interests lie in law and social movements related to gender and sexuality.

Michelle Mason, assistant professor of philosophy at the University of Minnesota

Mason can provide brief written commentary on the issue in regards to ethical implications.

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What: U of M to hold panel on Native women activism
When: 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, March 1
Where: Room 175 Willey Hall, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
Who: Winona LaDuke
Contacts: Claire Walter-Marchetti, Office of University Women, (612) 625-6039
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M to hold panel on Native women activism

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (2/28/2006)--Author, activist and political candidate Winona LaDuke will headline a University of Minnesota Office for University Women panel discussion on Native Women Activism from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 1 in room 175, Willey Hall, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

LaDuke will be joined on the panel by Renee Gurneau, president of the Red Lake Nation College; and Carly and Kate Beane, leaders of the University of Minnesota American Indian Cultural Center who are working on Dakota language preservation.

The panel discussion is the kickoff event as the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities campus begins celebration of Women's History Month. The event is sponsored by the American Indian Studies Department, the American Indian Student Cultural Center, the Circle of Indigenous Nations of the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence and the Department of Women Studies. □

- What:** Study on the contributions and impact of artists' centers in Minnesota
- Where:** Report available online at www.hhh.umn.edu/projects/prie
- Who:** Ann Markusen, Humphrey Institute, (612) 625-8092, office; (612) 925-1727, home; (218) 591-9105, cell
- Contacts:** Jamie Proulx, Humphrey Institute, (612) 625-9436
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

New U of M study shows artists' centers' impact on Minnesota's creative economy

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/1/2006)--A new study from the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, "Artists' Centers: Evolution and Impact on Artists, Neighborhoods, and Economies," shows that Minnesota's strong creative economy owes much of its success to the unusual number and quality of dedicated gathering spaces for artists in Minnesota. In total, Minnesota is home to dozens of artists' centers that provide workspace, equipment and networking opportunities for amateur and professional writers, musicians and visual and performing artists.

"The centers provide an enduring convening space where artists can hone their skills and overcome the isolation of working alone," said Ann Markusen, Humphrey Institute professor and chief author of the study.

At the centers, the artists take and teach classes, get feedback on their work, view leading edge work in progress, listen to accomplished artists share career stories, compete for grants and opportunities to present their work, and find mentors, inspiration and encouragement. Access to expensive equipment and workspace is especially precious, say the more than 200 artists interviewed.

"The centers maximize what economists call 'spill over' and help artists become better entrepreneurs as well as better artists," said Markusen.

In previous research, Markusen documented the economic impact artists have on the local economy as they directly export their work, sell their skills to area companies and stimulate innovation among their suppliers. This new research, co-authored by Markusen and Humphrey Institute graduate student and research associate Amanda Johnson, finds that artists' centers help Minnesota "home grow" more artists than other regions while attracting additional artists from around the country. The Twin Cities' artistic density is high and comparable to metro areas like Boston, Seattle, and San Francisco.

The centers also play a key role in their host neighborhoods, as Twin Cities' centers are spread

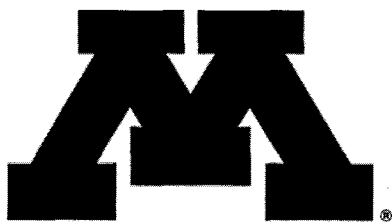
around town in a cultural mosaic rather than in a single arts district. On an even greater scale, artists' centers in smaller cities in greater Minnesota have revitalized declining downtown commercial districts, as seen in Northfield and New York Mills.

"The centers bring people onto the streets day and night," notes Markusen, "which increases safety and helps to boost sales for nearby businesses."

The authors urge policymakers and business leaders to recognize the strong contribution that artists' centers make to local and regional economies. They are a unique national resource—no other region in the country hosts the depth and range of centers found in Minnesota. Continued nurturing of dedicated artistic spaces will help the state hold onto its lead in cultural and non-arts industries, according to Markusen.

"In the report, we document how these centers have evolved over time and detail the fiscal challenges that center directors have faced," said Markusen. "Minnesota's foundations and state and local arts and economic development agencies have given significant and sustained resources to the emerging centers, a major reason for their pre-eminence here."

The complete study including profiles of 22 centers and selected artists can be found online at www.hhh.umn.edu/projects/prie. Information on ordering copies of the publication can be found on the Web site. □



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MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 1, 2006

Contacts: Sarah Youngerman, Academic Health Center, 612-624-4604
Daniel Wolter, University News Service, 612-625-8510
Molly Portz, Academic Health Center, 612-625-2640

UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES NEW STRATEGIES FOR BONDING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH SPACE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- In the University of Minnesota's annual State of the University speech, to be delivered in Morris, Minnesota, tomorrow, Thursday, March 2, President Robert Bruininks will propose a new approach to financing very expensive and technologically sophisticated research space for biomedical research.

WHAT: Briefing for reporters on the Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities Authority

WHO: Frank Cerra, M.D., senior vice president for health sciences
Richard Pfutzenreuter, vice president and chief financial officer

WHEN: Thursday, March 2, 2006
9:30-10:30 a.m. CST

WHERE: Teleconference:
Phone: 1-800-357-0498
Ask for the University of Minnesota call. You will be placed on a music hold and then placed in conference when Cerra and Pfutzenreuter join the call.

RSVP: If interested in receiving overview documents, contact syounger@umn.edu.



- What:** U of M panel to review 1969 Morrill Hall takeover
- When:** 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 7
- Where:** Room 207 Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
- Who:** U of M students, faculty and staff
- Contacts:** Barb Kappler, Office of International Student and Scholar Service,
(612) 626-7100
- Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M panel to review 1969 Morrill Hall takeover

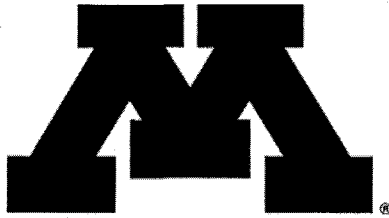
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/2/2006)--The 1969 takeover of Morrill Hall by University of Minnesota black student leaders to demand better academic services resulted in the creation of the African American and Afro studies department, the Black Student Union and the Martin Luther King Jr. Advising Program. The protest also opened up the University of Minnesota to significant numbers of black students for the first time in the school's history.

Has the climate at the university toward race and diversity improved since the takeover? What more need to be done to create a better environment for students at the university? Those are questions a panel will address from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 7 in Room 207 Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis

The panel is titled: Creating Supportive Environments: African American and African Perspectives, 1969 to Today. Six faculty and staff will review that historic event in 1969 and share views on how that event relates to students and the U of M campus today. Panelists are: Victor Collins, Director of the Martin Luther King Program, Keith Mayes, professor of the African American and African Studies Program, and Black Student Union leaders, Aurelius Butler II, Miski Noor and Lewis Flanagan, and Remi Douah, a staff member of the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence.

"The panelists will share their views on how to use a historical perspective to provide services to students today," said Barbara Kappler of the Office of International Student and Scholar Services. "They will discuss what has changed, what remain the same, and what we need to know to move forward to create a supportive environment."

The university's Black Student Union, the Office of International Student and Scholar Services and the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence sponsor the free event. □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

MEDIA ADVISORY

University News Service

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 2, 2006

Contacts: *Sarah Youngerman, Academic Health Center, 612-624-4604*
Daniel Wolter, University News Service, 612-625-8510
Molly Portz, Academic Health Center, 612-625-2640

UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES NEW STRATEGIES FOR BONDING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH SPACE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- In the University of Minnesota's annual State of the University speech, to be delivered at UM-Morris today, President Robert Bruininks will propose a new approach to financing very expensive and technologically sophisticated research space for biomedical research.

WHAT: Briefing for reporters on the Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities Authority

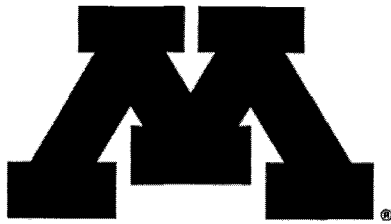
WHO: Frank Cerra, M.D., senior vice president for health sciences
Richard Pfutzenreuter, vice president and chief financial officer

WHEN: Today, March 2, 2006
9:30-10:30 a.m. CST

WHERE: Teleconference:
Phone: 1-800-357-0498
Ask for the University of Minnesota call. You will be placed on a music hold and then placed in conference when Cerra and Pfutzenreuter join the call.

RSVP: If interested in receiving overview documents, contact syounger@umn.edu.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 2, 2006

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, 651-485-3214 (cell)

BRUININKS: TRANSFORMED 'U' ESSENTIAL TO REGION'S SUCCESS
~University president calls for new approach to funding biomedical R&D infrastructure~

MORRIS, MINN. -- The University of Minnesota is essential to the economic and cultural vitality of Minnesota and the entire region, university President Robert Bruininks said in his annual "state of the university" address today.

"The state of the university is strong," Bruininks said. "And we're making great strides in the impact of our public mission."

In a speech delivered at the University of Minnesota, Morris, Bruininks outlined the university's progress in reaching its strategic goal of becoming one of the top three public research universities in the world. He lauded the nearly 500 people who have worked on task forces that have helped implement wide-ranging changes and brought forth new ideas for transforming the university.

Bruininks also called for the creation of a new approach to funding critical biomedical research infrastructure. The university is introducing a proposal that will create a new state bonding financing authority that would provide for \$330 million in general obligation bonding for new buildings and biomedical science research infrastructure. The proposal will be brought to the Board of Regents next week.

"Investments in the critical biomedical field will be essential in our vision to become one of the world's top public research universities," said Bruininks. "Twenty other states, including California and our neighbor Wisconsin, are making enormous investments in biomedical science research. In order to be competitive and not fall behind in this vital arena, we must add five state-of-the-art buildings – and the researchers to fill them – in the next decade."

Over the last ten years, the university has bonded, built and opened three state-of-the-art research facilities at a cost of \$30-\$70 million each. Bruininks said the university expects to need 750,000 square feet of new, technologically sophisticated research space over the next ten years.

- more -

The next step in the university's strategic positioning process, Bruininks announced the proposed names of the three new colleges created as a result of a realignment of academic programs on the Twin Cities campus: the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, the College of Design and the College of Education and Human Development. The Board of Regents will consider the new names at their meeting next week.

Saying the university needs to expand its position as a leader in environmental research, Bruininks also announced the formation of a systemwide "Institute on the Environment" to bring together the relatively fragmented programs throughout the university.

By coordinating efforts in this area, the university "can become more than the sum of its parts" to retain and recruit the world's best talent and more ably respond to research opportunities in this critical field, Bruininks said.

Bruininks closed with a call to action for Minnesotans and members of the university community: "We must each work to increase public recognition and support of the university, by communicating to our neighbors and elected officials the new excitement at the U and the long-term importance of a leading research university to our region's future."



When: 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 8
Where: 495 Hodson Hall, 1980 Folwell Ave., St. Paul
Contacts: Ramona Ilea, department of philosophy, (612) 623-7615,
ilea0001@umn.edu
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Experts to discuss future of animal agriculture

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/2/2006)--Animal agriculture has played a key role in the development of human societies for thousands of years. However, rapid changes in our cultures, environment and farming practices in recent decades have raised new questions about this role.

As part of a panel discussion at the University of Minnesota, experts will offer a variety of viewpoints on the economic, environmental and ethical issues concerning modern animal agriculture. The discussion will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 8, in 495 Hodson Hall, 1980 Folwell Ave., St. Paul.

Panelists include:

- Dennis Johnson, West Central Research and Outreach Center, U of M, Morris, and Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture
- Mark Kastel, co-founder and senior farm policy analyst, the Cornucopia Institute
- John Fetrow, veterinary population medicine department, U of M, Twin Cities

Our food choices will have wide scale impact on everything from affordability to land use in the coming decades. "The meteoric rise of consumer demand for organic food, and increased interest in farmers markets and other direct marketing, clearly illustrates a heightened awareness in the relationship of food to environmental, humane animal husbandry and economic justice issues pertaining to livestock agriculture," said Kastel of the Wisconsin-based Cornucopia Institute.

The panelists will share some of their own ideas and expertise and then take questions from the audience.

Visit <http://www.philosophy.umn.edu/singer.html> for more information. □

Media Advisory

When: Noon, Monday, March 6

Where: Minnesota State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul

Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-8770 (office)
(612) 702-8984 (cell), dskelly@csom.umn.edu

Mark Cassutt, University of Minnesota News Service, (612) 624-8038
(office) (612) 396-5332 (cell)

U of M Carlson School undergraduate students plan March 6th "Expansion Expedition" rally at State Capitol to seek Legislative funding for undergraduate building

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/2/2006)--An undergraduate "Expansion Expedition" from the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management will land on the steps of the State Capitol at noon Monday, March 6, to encourage lawmakers to provide \$26.6 million, or two-thirds of the total cost of a new building for the Carlson School expansion, as part of the university's 2006 capital request.

To meet increasing demand for a business education, the Carlson School plans to expand its undergraduate program to serve 50 percent more students by 2008. Currently, the Carlson School can only serve 12 percent of students who apply, turning away many of the state's brightest students who then leave the state.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES: Students will march up the front steps of the State Capitol wearing business suits, backpacks, stickers, buttons, safari hats and carrying signs as they encourage lawmakers to help them 'explore their futures' and 'build on excellence.' They will be followed up the steps and into the rotunda by faculty, staff and alumni. A rally inside the rotunda will include presentations by the deans of the Carlson School, students and alumni.

WHO: Undergraduate students from the Carlson School of Management will rally support for the Carlson School of Management's capital request for a new building for its undergraduate program during a Day at the Capitol.

WHEN: Noon, Monday, March 6th, march up the Capitol Steps, with rally in the Capitol rotunda, immediately following.

WHERE: Minnesota State Capitol building front steps, and rotunda, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul. □

What: Carlson School students, staff and alumni to rally in Capitol Rotunda
When: Noon, Monday, March 6
Where: Minnesota State Capitol steps and rotunda
Contacts: Catherine Peloquin, Carlson School of Management
 (612) 626-0556, cpeloquin@csom.umn.edu
 Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038, cell (612) 396-5332

U of M Carlson School students, staff and alumni to rally at State Capitol today Lawmakers encouraged to support undergraduate building expansion

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/6/2006)--The Carlson School of Management will hold a rally beginning at noon today on the steps of the State Capitol, to encourage lawmakers to support the school's capital request to expand its highly ranked undergraduate program and serve 50 percent more students by 2008.

A group of undergraduate students dressed in business suits and wearing backpacks and safari hats will lead an "expansion expedition" rally, with Carlson alumni and staff members, and ask lawmakers to help them 'explore their futures.' They want lawmakers to provide \$26.6 million for the Carlson School expansion, as part of the university's 2006 Capital Request.

Presentations by interim Deans Jim Campbell and Michael Houston, as well as students and alumni will follow in the Capitol Rotunda, where they will outline the need for an undergraduate expansion. Currently the Carlson School serves only 12 percent of applicants. Seventy-seven percent of applicants are Minnesotan. And 42 percent of those not admitted leave the state.

A recent survey of Carlson School alums showed that they have founded more than 1,800 Minnesota-based businesses that employ more than 110,000 people and generate annual revenues of \$21.2 billion.

"We are able to attract and retain students who produce this kind of statewide impact not just because we are one of the top-ranked business schools in the country, but because we are also committed to providing an affordable and accessible education," Campbell said. "Affordability and accessibility are two missions made possible by state support."

Alum Dale Olseth, founder and executive chairman of the board of Eden Prairie-based SurModics Inc., will speak at the rally. "We should be doing everything we can to make sure the next generation of

business founders get the same chances to succeed that I did,” he said.

The Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota is an AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) accredited business school with more than 4,400 students, (1,700 undergraduates, 2,600 graduate students, 110 doctoral students), nine degree programs, 130 faculty, 300 staff and 46,000 alumni from around the world.

The Carlson School is internationally ranked. In the April 2005 U.S. News & World Report graduate business school ranking, the Carlson School Full-Time MBA program ranked 23rd and the Carlson Executive MBA program ranked 20th. The Carlson Part-Time MBA program is ranked sixth by Forbes and the Undergraduate program ranked 12th by U.S. News or seventh among public schools. For more information, visit www.carlsonschool.umn.edu. □

What: "Locked Out: Felon Disenfranchisement and American Democracy"
Who: Christopher Uggen, U of M sociology professor
Contacts: Nina Shepherd, sociology media relations, (612) 599-1148
 Mark Cassutt University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Felon disenfranchisement impacts U.S. election outcomes, according to U of M Study

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/6/2006)--America's skyrocketing incarceration rate is not only breaking international records, it's having an impact on election outcomes, according to a study by University of Minnesota researcher Christopher Uggen. In his new book, "Locked Out: Felon Disenfranchisement and American Democracy," Uggen, a professor in the university's department of sociology, demonstrates that among the elections affected was George Bush's 2000 win over Al Gore.

At present, 5.3 million Americans—one in every 40 adults and one in 12 African-Americans—cannot legally vote because of a past or current felony conviction. Less than one-third of convicted felonies are violent crimes and the vast majority of these people are not in prison, but living in their communities. Uggen argues the increase in disenfranchisement numbers comes from stiffer penalties for nonviolent crimes rather than an increase in criminality.

Uggen's book shows that if the 600,000 former felons in Florida had been allowed to vote in the 2000 election, democrat Al Gore would almost certainly have defeated George W. Bush in that state and in the national election.

"The practice of denying a person the right to vote who's served their sentence gnaws away at the health of American democracy," says Uggen. Not only do ex-cons who vote do better at assimilating back into society (hold jobs, pay taxes, etc.) than those who don't vote, Uggen found that most Americans believe a person who's served their time should have their voting rights restored. "The two major parties in American have traditionally used this issue in a who's-tougher-on-crime-argument, but as domestic crime has taken a back seat to terrorism, the arguments are getting fainter and fainter."

Uggen also argues the boundaries between law-abiding citizens and criminals are more permeable than what most people think. Like poverty, people move out of crime, in fact, half of all urban males will be arrested at some point, but most move on to productive lives. "I'm not saying we should empty the prisons, but we need a more realistic appraisal of crime that is focused on public safety," he says.

“A democracy is not about picking and choosing who gets to vote.”

“Locked Out: Felon Disenfranchisement and American Democracy” is co-authored by Northwestern University sociology professor Jeff Manza and is published by Oxford University Press.

The book will be available in stores on Friday, March 10.0

- What:** Center for Urban and Regional Affairs to discuss Sustainability of Small to Mid-Size Neighborhood-based community development corporations
- When:** Noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 24
- Where:** Room 2-215, Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
- Who:** Leaders of Twin Cities community development corporations
- Contacts:** Kaydee Kirk, CURA, (612) 625-2086
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

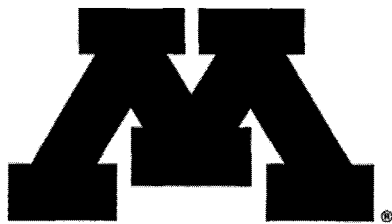
Center for Urban and Regional Affairs to discuss Sustainability of Small to Mid-Size Neighborhood-based community development corporations

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/6/2006)--The sustainability of small to mid-size neighborhood-based community development corporations (CDCs) will be the topic of the University of Minnesota Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) monthly forum on Minnesota housing issues and research. The free event will be from noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 24, in Room 2-215 at the Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Panelists include Steve Cramer of Project for Pride in Living, Nieeta Presley of the Aurora/St. Anthony Neighborhood CDC and Dawn Stockmo of the Fannie Mae Foundation. Paul Williams of the Twin Cities Local initiative Support Corporation (LISC) is the moderator.

Community-based development is most effective when motivated by interests and needs of community members in a neighborhood or "place." Organizations that can maintain close ties with community members and evolve development and programming to reflect changes in the community are the most successful at this. Inherently, small to mid-size CDCs are the most nimble but it is also this size and often, narrow focus that makes these organizations most difficult to sustain - financially, and with the right skills and leadership to accomplish goals. The panelists will offer their perspectives on how CDCs (small, mid-size and large) can survive in this environment. Comments on how this issue plays out nationally will also be provided.

Those interested in attending should RSVP by Wednesday, March 22 by calling (612) 625-1551. For more information contact Kaydee Kirk at (612) 625-2086. □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 6, 2006

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, 651-485-3214 (cell)

PUCKETT SCHOLARS PROGRAM IS A LASTING LEGACY TO MINNESOTA LEGEND

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A scholarship program created by the late Kirby Puckett and Tonya Puckett in 1994 will be a lasting legacy to a Minnesota legend, University of Minnesota officials said on Monday. The Minnesota Twins baseball legend died after suffering a stroke in Arizona.

"People will forever remember Kirby Puckett as a legendary Minnesota Twin," said university President Robert Bruininks. "But here at the U, he'll forever be a 'Minnesota Gopher' for his long-term commitment to enabling young people to achieve their dreams."

Gerald Fischer, president and CEO of the University of Minnesota Foundation said, "The Puckett Scholars program has made a profound difference in the lives of young people. To date, these scholarships have changed the lives of 45 students, and over time, the program will help hundreds more. Because the Puckett Scholars program was set up as an endowment, it will forever be helping young people achieve a college education. What a legacy."

Ibanga Umanah, a senior in the university's Carlson School of Management and a Puckett Scholar, said, "Kirby was a great man, it was an honor to have met him, and it means a lot that he would give back to students like me so generously."

The Program

- The Puckett Scholars Program was created in 1994 by Kirby Puckett and Tonya Puckett. Said Kirby at the time, "We believe strongly in the importance of education and in building a better world for our children."
- The Program provides scholarships for up to five years to incoming University of Minnesota freshmen from Minnesota and with a preference for students of color.

Scholarship Awards

- \$4,000 for the first year at the U of M, renewable annually for up to four additional years for a base award of up to \$20,000 per student.
- A merit award of \$1,000 is given to Puckett Scholars who earn a GPA of 3.0 to 3.49 the prior academic year; \$2,000 is awarded those who earn a GPA of 3.5 to 4.0.

- more -

The Impact

- Since the Puckett Scholars Program began, it has helped 45 students attend the University of Minnesota and get the education they needed to succeed.
- This year, there are 12 Puckett Scholars.

Funding

- The Pucketts provided an initial gift of \$250,000 in 1994 to create the Puckett Scholars program, and this was matched by another \$250,000 from an anonymous donor.
- For more information about the Puckett Scholars program, contact the University of Minnesota Foundation; 200 Oak St., SE, Suite 500; Minneapolis, MN 55455; 612-624-3333, or visit www.giving.umn.edu.



What: 'Darfur Diaries: Messages from Home' film screening
When: 7 p.m. Friday, March 31
Where: Room 25, Mondale Hall, 229 19th Ave. S, Minneapolis
Contacts: Kelly O'Brien, College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-4109
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Screening of documentary 'Darfur Diaries' by co-director at U of M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/7/2006)--The University of Minnesota Institute for Global Studies is presenting a special screening of "Darfur Diaries: Messages from Home," a new documentary about the genocide occurring in southern Sudan, at 7 p.m. Friday, March 31. The screening takes place in room 25 Mondale Hall, 229 19th Ave. S, Minneapolis, and co-director Jen Marlowe will be present. This event is co-sponsored by university's Institute for Advanced Study, Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies and Human Rights Center.

Darfur Background

In February 2003 the Sudanese Liberation Army in Darfur (the western region of Sudan) responded to decades of oppression by taking up arms against the Sudanese government. The government and allied militias, known as Janjaweed, answered the rebellion with the large-scale murder of civilians, mass-rapes of women and girls, and destruction of villages, resulting in one of the world's largest current political and humanitarian crises. Up to 400,000 civilians have died since the beginning of the conflict and more than two million people have been displaced.

The U.S. government acknowledged in September 2004 that what is going on in the Sudan constitutes genocide. In July of 2005, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice visited the refugee camps in Chad. Yet despite United Nations resolutions and peacekeeping missions, the crisis is ongoing and the United States continues to pursue relations with the genocidal regime.

The Documentary

In October and November 2004, after watching woefully inadequate media coverage on the crisis in Darfur, Sudan, a team of three independent filmmakers trekked to Darfurian refugee camps in eastern Chad and, with the help of the rebel movement, snuck across the border into Darfur. Aisha Bain, Jen Marlowe and Adam Shapiro met hundreds of Darfurians. They interviewed refugees and displaced people, civilians and fighters resisting the Sudanese government, teachers, students, parents, children and community leaders. The documentary "Darfur Diaries: Message from Home," chronicles the history,

hopes, and fears of the people of Darfur and the tragedy they are living. A book is under development.

Marlowe spent four years coordinating and directing the program at the Seeds of Peace Center for Coexistence in Jerusalem, creating and implementing co-existence programs for hundreds of Palestinian and Israeli youth. In addition, she was the program director for Seeds of Peace in Afghanistan, and facilitated conflict groups of youth from India and Pakistan, the Balkans, and Turkish and Greek Cypriot youth.

Marlowe is available in Minneapolis on Thursday, March 30 and Friday, March 31 to discuss “Darfur Diaries” and the ongoing crisis in Darfur, along with Stephen Feinstein, director of the university’s Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies. Marlowe is also available via telephone until March 22. □

What: 'Cinema and Society in the Arab World' symposium and film event

When: March 24 – 26 (see schedule at end of release)

Where: Symposium: Nicholson Hall, 216 Pillsbury Drive S.E., Minneapolis
Screenings: Oak Street Cinema, 309 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis

Who: Arab filmmakers Omar Amiraly (Syria), Michel Khliefi (Palestine) and Inas Al Degheidy (Egypt)

Contacts: Kelly O'Brien, College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-4109, obrie136@umn.edu
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Film screenings by Arab directors are part of four-day event at U of M that will examine cinema and society in Arab world

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/7/2006)--The University of Minnesota Institute for Global Studies, Institute for Advanced Study and department of cultural studies and comparative literature will present a symposium examining "Cinema and Society in the Arab World" March 24 – 26, Friday through Sunday, at Nicholson Hall, 216 Pillsbury Drive S.E., Minneapolis. Film screenings will take place at the Oak Street Cinema, 309 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

The symposium will include panel discussions on Cinema and National Identity, Cinema and the Arts, and Cinema and The Culture Industry. Each evening will feature film screenings and discussions by noted Arab filmmakers Omar Amiraley of Syria, Inas Al Degheidy of Egypt and Palestinian Michel Khliefi. The conference will be a gathering of intellectuals, filmmakers, and curators from the United States, Europe, and the Arab world to engage in a dialogue and evaluate 100+ years of Arab cinema: its origins and influences, political events that shaped it, and how it has shaped and was shaped by the consciousness of the Arab people. A schedule of events can be found at the end of this release. These events are free and open to the general public.

The department of cultural studies and comparative literature (CSCL), part of the College of Liberal Arts, is growing its program in the study of world cinema. Courses in African, Indian and Chinese cinema have been offered for several years. With the recent introduction of Arab cinema into the curriculum, CSCL is poised to become the premier department in the country for the study of national cinemas.

Professor Hisham Bizri, himself a practicing filmmaker, is the chief organizer for the symposium. He considers the timing of this symposium critical in relation to world events. "At this time, when the

U.S. is engaged in war in the Arab world, the study of Arab cinema becomes important for our students, who will benefit enormously not only from the political and social aspects of Arab cinema but also from the personal and the aesthetic aspects that are shaped by a living culture and a society that is the cradle of civilization, be it Jewish, Christian, or Islamic.”

Bizri is available to talk about the symposium, filmmakers and the film studies program at the University of Minnesota.

Symposium and screening schedule:

Friday, March 24

• 3:30–5:30 p.m. 275 Nicholson Hall, 216 Pillsbury Drive S.E.

Cinema & National Identity panel discussion

Moderator: Mazhar Al-Zo'by; Panelists: Mohammed Bamyeh, Joseph Massad, Michelle Stewart

• 7 p.m. Oak Street Cinema, 309 Oak St. S.E.

Special screenings with Syrian filmmaker Omar Amiralay

Saturday, March 25

• 2–4 p.m. 275 Nicholson Hall, 216 Pillsbury Dr. S.E.

Cinema & The Arts panel discussion

Moderator: Hisham Bizri; Panelists: Catherine David, Laura Marks and Mohammad Soueid

• 4:30-6:30 p.m. 275 Nicholson Hall, 216 Pillsbury Drive S.E.

Cinema & The Culture Industry panel discussion

Panelists: Viola Shafik, Livia Alexander and Mazhar Al-Zo'by.

• 7 p.m. Oak Street Cinema, 309 Oak St. S.E.

Screening of “Route 181” with Palestinian filmmaker Michel Khliefi

Sunday, March 26

• 7 p.m. Oak Street Cinema, 309 Oak St. S.E.

Screening of “Al Behathat An Al Horeya” followed by Q&A with the filmmaker Inas Al Degheidy

More information about the symposium and film screenings can be found at
<http://www.hishambizri.com/arabfilmconf.html> □

When: Wednesday, March 8 - Friday, March 10, 2006
Where: 600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis
Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

U of M Regents to act on new college names, biomedical bonding initiative

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/7/2006)--The University of Minnesota Board of Regents will take the next step in the university's strategic positioning process this week by voting on the names of new colleges formed as a result of the integration of six colleges into three new entities. The board will also be updated on the strategic positioning efforts underway at two of the university's coordinate campuses--Crookston and Morris.

"Some may ask those words made famous by William Shakespeare, 'What's in a name?'" said university President Robert Bruininks. "But in this case, these new names represent a historic transformation of our academic programs that are designed to put the University of Minnesota in a position to lead the world."

The proposed names of the three new colleges are: the College of Design; the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; and the College of Education and Human Development (which will remain the same as before).

The regents must approve the two new names. In addition, the university is naming a new department within the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD): the Department of Postsecondary Teaching and Learning. That department will incorporate many of the programs of General College, which is being integrated into CEHD as part of the academic transformation. Regents approval is not required for the new department name.

In addition, the board will review and act on the university's plan to ask the Legislature to create a new funding authority to finance costly but critical biomedical science research buildings.

The schedule for the meeting is as follows:

Wednesday, March 8

1 - 2:30 p.m., Ad Hoc Committee on the Stadium, West Committee Room. The committee will review and act on the environmental impact statement for the proposed on-campus football stadium.

Thursday, March 9

8 - 9:30 a.m., Audit Committee, East Committee Room. The committee will hear a presentation on non-profit fiduciary responsibilities from Melissa Stone, associate professor at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs.

9:45 - 11:45 a.m., Educational Planning and Policy Committee, West Committee Room. Chancellor Charles Casey from the University of Minnesota, Crookston, and Chancellor Sam Schuman from the University of Minnesota, Morris, will update the committee on their campuses' strategic positioning progress. In addition, the name proposals for the new colleges will be considered.

1:45 - 3:45 p.m., Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, East Committee Room. Vice Provost for Student Affairs Jerry Rinehart and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Craig Swan will present the results of the "Student Experience and Senior Exit Surveys."

1:45 - 3:45 p.m., Facilities Committee, West Committee Room. The committee will review and act on plans for an upgrade to the Crookston campus steam plant and the "wall of discovery," which would be part of the Scholars Walk on the Twin Cities campus. Committee members will also receive an update on planning for the Central Corridor and discuss the university's policy principles for that project.

Friday, March 10

9 - 11:45 a.m., Board of Regents meeting, Boardroom. The board will review and act on the plan to ask the Legislature to create a new biomedical science bonding authority. In addition, the board will discuss and act on a resolution regarding higher education in Rochester. Provost Tom Sullivan will provide a progress report on the academic strategic positioning recommendations.

More information on the Board of Regents meeting can be found at www.umn.edu/regents.

□

When: 7 p.m. Thursday, March 23, 2006
Where: Ted Mann Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis
Who: Peter Singer, renowned bioethicist
Contacts: Ramona Ilea, (612) 623-7615, ilea0001@umn.edu
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Bioethicist Peter Singer to talk about 'Ethics and Animals' at the U of M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/7/2006)--Bioethicist Peter Singer, noted as one of the 100 most influential people by TIME Magazine, will present a lecture at the University of Minnesota at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at Ted Mann Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis. The lecture, entitled "Ethics and Animals," will look at the ethical questions that arise from our society's use of animals.

Widely regarded as one of the most influential living philosophers, Peter Singer is also known and esteemed for his work in medical ethics, famine relief, euthanasia and environmental ethics. Singer's books, including, "Animal Liberation" and "Practical Ethics," have been translated into 15 languages and are widely taught in ethics classes throughout the world. His work is credited with starting the modern animal rights movement.

The lecture is free and open to the public, and it will be followed by a public reception. Singer's visit is sponsored by the University of Minnesota philosophy department, University of Minnesota McKnight Arts and Humanities Endowment and Compassionate Action for Animals. Singer is available for interviews by phone or during his visit. Please contact Ramona Ilea at (612) 623-7615. For more information on the lecture, see www.philosophy.umn.edu/singer.html □

Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

'U of M Moment' feature links for the week of March 13

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/11/2006)--"University of Minnesota Moment" radio features for the week of Monday, March 13, are available to Minnesota radio stations for free.

The features are as follows:

Monday, March 13: "Earth Land Surface Transformation"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/land_surface.mp3

Tuesday, March 14: "Human Trafficking Watch"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/human_trafficking.mp3

Wednesday, March 15: "Front-End Blind Spots"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/front_end_blind_spots.mp3

Thursday, March. 16: "Studying Abroad"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/studying_abroad.mp3

Friday, March 17: "Oat Hulls"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/oat_hulls.mp3

All of the features will be posted the day for which they are scheduled at
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/>□

What: New book “Same Sex-Marriage: The Cultural Politics of Love and Law”

Who: Kathleen Hull, assistant sociology professor

Contacts: Nina Shepherd, sociology media relations, (612) 599-1148
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Same-sex couples use rituals to combat lack of legal rights, according to U of M researcher

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/15/2006)--The ferocious debate over legal same-sex marriage is largely a struggle about the power of law to make people legal and social equals, according to a new study by University of Minnesota researcher Kathleen Hull.

“Same-sex wedding ceremonies represent an effort to create a kind of legality outside official law, a way to create law when there isn’t any,” says Hull, an assistant professor in the university’s sociology department. “For many people, ceremonies help to make their commitments real.”

Hull’s new book, “Same-Sex Marriage: The Cultural Politics of Love and Law,” explores what marriage means to gays and lesbians in the United States. Through in-depth interviews with more than 70 people and years of media research, Hull found gay and lesbian couples use a variety of marriage-related cultural practices to establish the reality and importance of their commitments.

In addition to the obvious financial and legal benefits of marriage—tax breaks, access to health insurance and next of kin designation—Hull found the main reasons gays and lesbians are pushing for marriage are to claim their equal rights as citizens and increase their social legitimacy. “Despite the huge gains gay and lesbians have made in the past decades, and despite all the ceremonial attempts to legitimize relationships, many people believe that ultimately the law has the most powerful effect on what is considered equal and legitimate,” she says.

Hull found lesbian women in particular were interested in ceremonies to mark commitments, which range from simple in-home ring exchanges to elaborate religious rituals to catered extravaganzas in ballrooms and restaurants. For gay men, ceremonies often represented an important stage in their “coming out” process, and sometimes a symbolic detaching from the sexual adventurism of gay male culture.

Marriage has never been a static institution, says Hull, but it stands at the threshold of one of the most significant transformations in history. Hull believes same-sex marriage will likely further demystify marriage, much as divorce, cohabitation and unmarried parenting has done in the past few decades. “The

choice between marriage and non-marriage is rather confining and not in tune to people's needs throughout different life stages," says Hull.

"Same Sex-Marriage: The Cultural Politics of Love and Law" is published by Cambridge University Press and is available at www.cambridge.org. □

- What:** **Great Conversations 2006 continues with another thought-provoking discussion: "The Future of Affordable Housing"**
- When:** **7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, 2006**
- Where:** **Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis**
- Who:** **Ann Forsyth, director of the U of M's Metropolitan Design Center, Nicholas P. Retsinas, director of Harvard University's Joint Center for Housing Studies**
- Contacts:** **Liz Turchin, College of Continuing Education, (612) 625-1274**
Heather Skatter, College of Continuing Education, (612) 624-7770
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

Housing experts from U of M, Harvard offer urban communities something to build on

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/15/2006)--In an era of escalating real estate values, a strong commitment to affordable housing enables metropolitan areas to strengthen their communities and revitalize urban centers. March 28 at 7:30 p.m., Minnesotans will have the opportunity to meet with two community development experts as they examine the complex dynamics shaping the current affordable housing debate.

Ann Forsyth, director of the University of Minnesota's Metropolitan Design Center, joins Nicolas Retsinas, director of Harvard University's Joint Center for Housing Studies (a collaborative venture with the Kennedy School of Government) and former federal housing commissioner for the Clinton administration, for "The Future of Affordable Housing." This is the second event of the 2006 season of Great Conversations - a program of the university's College of Continuing Education.

Since 2002, Great Conversations has welcomed more than 15,000 Minnesotans to 22 ground-breaking discussions between the U's faculty experts and their peers around the world - an inspiring group of visionary activists, political strategists, ground-breaking researchers and Nobel and Pulitzer Prize-winners.

The March event will continue the tradition as these two experts lead a thought-provoking discussion.

Forsyth is Dayton Hudson Chair of Urban Design in the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. She holds a bachelor's degree in architecture from the University of Sydney, an M.A. in urban planning from University of California, Los Angeles, and a doctorate in city and regional planning from Cornell. Prior to joining the U of M faculty in 2002, she was a professor of urban planning at the Harvard School of Design. She is the author of *Constructing Suburbs: Competing Voices in a Debate*

over Urban Growth (1999) and Reforming Suburbia (2005).

In addition to his work at Harvard, Retsinas currently chairs Habitat for Humanity International and the Low Income Investment Fund. He lectures and writes extensively on housing, community development and banking. In 2004, he co-authored "Opportunity and Progress: A Bipartisan Platform for National Housing Policy." Retsinas has received numerous meritorious awards for his work and is recognized as one of the most influential people in real estate, home building, and multifamily housing.

Future Great Conversations topics are rethinking urban environments (May 1) and social forces reshaping retirement (May 16). All conversations take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Ted Mann Concert Hall. Single event tickets are \$28.50 (\$23.50 for U of M faculty, staff, students and University of Minnesota Alumni Association members). Tickets can be ordered from the U of M Ticket Office at 612-624-2345. More information is available at www.cce.umn.edu/conversations. □

Contacts: Bruce Erickson, Office of the Vice President for Research, (612) 625-2354

Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

University of Minnesota's Honeycrisp apple among 25 innovations that changed the world

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/15/2006)--Two University of Minnesota innovations were included as part of the inaugural "Better World Project" launched by the Association for University Technology Managers (AUTM) last week, when it released two reports touting the virtues of technologies that have been developed by universities and then brought to the marketplace.

The Honeycrisp™ apple, developed by university researchers James Luby and David Bedford, was highlighted in one report as one of 25 innovations "That Changed the World." The report describes how the Honeycrisp apple helped revive a withering apple industry with its taste, texture and toughness.

Honeycrisp came along in the early 1990s as a premium apple at a premium price (often retailing for \$2.50 a pound), but orchards found that the public was hungry for the apples and willing to pay a little more, and their profits rose accordingly. The report notes that one-third of the growers for Pepin Heights Orchard Inc. went out of business during the 90s, but those who switched to Honeycrisp apples are now doing well. The apple "with almost magical properties," the report says, "... marries sweetness sought by some and tartness touted by others, and it thrives in the hard climate of northern-tier states."

A method to cultivate agarwood, resin-soaked wood from the endangered Aquilaria tree, developed jointly by professor Robert Blanchette and The Rainforest Project was also used to showcase the benefits of technology transfer.

According to a report titled "Technology Transfer Works: 100 Cases From Research to Realization," this new method is helping to save the Aquilaria tree and grow the agricultural economy in Asia and the Middle East. According to the report, "instead of cutting down trees found in the forest, farmers can grow plantations of Aquilaria trees, induce the production of agarwood in those trees, and sell them as a new cash crop." Used in Buddhist and Islamic cultures for perfumes and incense, agarwood is valued as high as \$12,000 per pound in some areas of the world.

"These reports are additional examples of the value and impact of technology transfer to improve people's lives and benefit the economy," said Tim Mulcahy, vice president for research at the University of Minnesota. "The stories demonstrate how our faculty applies their research to help solve the problems faced here in Minnesota and in other parts of the world." □

- What:** Chicano studies professor Eden Torres to be featured at Eastcliff Book Club reading
- When:** 7 p.m. Thursday, March 23
- Where:** Eastcliff, 176 N. Mississippi Blvd., St. Paul
- Who:** Susan Hagstrum, U of M professor Eden Torres
- Contacts:** Jill Lietz Christenson, Office of the President, (612) 626-8187
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

Chicano studies professor Eden Torres to be featured at Eastcliff Book Club reading

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/15/2006)--Eden Torres, a professor in the University of Minnesota department of Chicano studies and women's studies program, will discuss her new book "Chicana Without Apology," at the Friends of Eastcliff Book Club meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at Eastcliff, 176 N. Mississippi Blvd, St. Paul.

Torres, who earned a doctorate from the University of Minnesota in American studies, is a well-known writer and activist. She lays the ground work for a new understanding of Chicana feminist thought in her book. Through compelling prose and highly personal recollections, she candidly details her own life as a first-generation Mexican-American. Readers can gain a better understanding of the challenges American society poses for women of complex cultural heritages through her intelligent reflections of lived experiences and social research.

The Friends of Eastcliff Book Club was established by University President Robert Bruininks and his wife, Susan Hagstrum, with the support of the Friends of Eastcliff, to showcase University of Minnesota authors who are faculty, staff, alumni or others who have a strong connection to the university. The club provides an opportunity for members of the University of Minnesota faculty, staff, alumni and community to participate in the sharing of literature and ideas at Eastcliff, the historic home of the university's president and family.

The Friends of Eastcliff Book Club hosts book discussions at Eastcliff throughout the year. Book club gatherings include a discussion led by the Friends of Eastcliff and the opportunity to discuss the book with Hagstrum. □

Petters is available for interviews on March 22 until 4 p.m.

When: 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 22
Where: Room 125 Willey Hall, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
Who: Arlie Petters, professor of mathematics and physics, Duke University
Contacts: Doug Arnold, Institute for Math and Its Applications, (612) 624-6066
 Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Arlie Petters, renowned mathematical astronomer to give lecture at U of M March 22

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/16/2006)--Arlie Petters, professor of mathematics and physics, Duke University, will give a lecture at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 22, in room 125 Willey Hall, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, on "Gravity's Cosmic Shadows: A Mathematical Unveiling."

Petters is a mathematical astronomer and was the first to develop the mathematical theory of gravitational lensing, which brought powerful methods from pure mathematics to bear on astronomy. He also pioneered new applications of gravitational lensing in physics, predicting effects that probe the nature of space and time around black holes and developing tests for theories of gravity such as Einstein's general relativity. As Petters points out, shadow patterns are all around us. We drive through them on the way to work and swim among them in pools. His lecture will explore similar patterns which cast throughout the universe by the gravitational fields of stars and galaxies. He will unveil some of the cosmic and mathematical secrets of these mysterious and beautiful patterns.

Douglas Arnold, the director of the U of M Institute for Mathematics and its Applications, said: "Arlie Petters has made seminal contributions to the understanding of gravitational lensing by applying mathematical ideas in astronomy. He is also a gifted expositor and teacher, able to convey the excitement of his research to a general audience."

Petters received his doctorate in mathematics from MIT in 1991 and served on the faculty at MIT and Princeton University prior to Duke University. He was the first African American to be elected to Duke University's prestigious Bass Society of Fellows.

This lecture is part of the Math Matters public lecture series sponsored by the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications. For more information on this lecture please visit <http://www.ima.umn.edu/2005-2006/PUB3.22.06/>

What: University of Minnesota student selected as one of 18 Luce Scholars in the nation

Who: Joseph Walla

Contacts: Alison Skoberg, Graduate School, (612) 625-7579
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

University of Minnesota student selected as one of only 18 Luce Scholars in the nation

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/16/2006)--College of Liberal Arts honors student Joseph Walla has been selected as one of only 18 Luce Scholars in the nation.

Walla, a political science student, won the Luce Scholarship for a professional internship experience in Asia. The University of Minnesota Graduate School nominated him for the award.

Each year the Henry Luce Foundation invites 70 colleges and universities to submit as many as three nominations for the award. From this group of more than 200 nominations, the Luce Scholars Program selects 18 young Americans for an experience in Asia designed both to broaden their professional perspectives and to sharpen their perceptions of Asia.

Unlike other Asian scholarship programs, it is directed toward young leaders in any field who have not had prior experience in Asia and who otherwise would not have such an opportunity in the course of their careers. The program is funded by the Henry Luce Foundation and administered in Asia in cooperation with the Asia Foundation.

The Luce Scholars will begin their assignments in September and continue through July 2007. Internship assignments are arranged for each scholar on the basis of individual career interests, experience and qualifications. The country Walla will be assigned will be decided by late spring when he will begin language training.

Walla will graduate with a bachelor of arts degree in political science in May. He has had a variety of professional experiences, including a political internship at the U.S. Embassy in Rome.

Involved in numerous campus activities, he is a member of the University of Minnesota debate team and is starting a nonprofit organization called Student Project Africa Network (SPAN).

Walla grew up in Edina, Minnesota, where his parents still live. □

Who: Sara Evans, University of Minnesota history professor
Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M historian contributes essay to “History Now” issue on women’s suffrage

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/16/2006)--Sara Evans, University of Minnesota history professor, has contributed an essay to the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History’s latest issue of the quarterly online journal, “History Now” [www.historynow.org]. Entitled “Women in American Politics in the Twentieth Century,” the issue is focused on women’s suffrage.

Evans is the author of several books on the history of women in the United States, including “Tidal Wave: How Women Changed America at Century’s End” and “Journeys That Opened Up the World: Women, Student Christian Movements, and Social Justice, 1955-75.”

Each issue of “History Now” addresses a major figure or theme in American history with articles by historians, lesson plans, links to related Web sites, bibliographies and many other resources.

Articles in the current issue by other historians include, “The Seneca Falls Convention: Setting the National Stage for Women’s Suffrage” by Judith Wellman, director, Historical New York Research Associates, and professor emerita, State University of New York at Oswego; “Reconstruction and the Battle for Woman Suffrage” by Ellen DuBois, professor of history at the University of California, Los Angeles; “The Legal Status of Women, 1776-1830” by Marylynn Salmon, a research associate in history at Smith College; “Thinking about Women: Nineteenth Century Feminist Writings” by Anne Firor Scott, the W.K. Boyd Professor of History Emerita at Duke University; and “Sisters of Suffrage: British and American Women Fight for the Vote” by Barbara Winslow, associate professor, School of Education and women’s studies program, and program coordinator, adolescence social studies, Brooklyn College. □

Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

'U of M Moment' feature links for the week of March 20

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/16/2006)--"University of Minnesota Moment" radio features for the week of Monday, March 20, are available to Minnesota radio stations for free.

The features are as follows:

Monday, March 20: "Small Store Success Strategies"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/small_store_success.mp3

Tuesday, March 21: "Bed Bugs"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/bed_bugs.mp3

Wednesday, March 22: "Go North! Online Learning"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/go_north.mp3

Thursday, March. 23: "Music and Math"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/music_math.mp3

Friday, March 24: "My Health Planner"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/my_health_planner.mp3

All of the features will be posted the day for which they are scheduled at
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/>□

What: U of M study reveals America's distrust of atheism
Who: Penny Edgell, associate professor of sociology
Contacts: Nina Shepherd, sociology media relations, (612) 599-1148
Mark Cassutt University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Atheists identified as America's most distrusted minority, according to new U of M study

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/20/2006)--American's increasing acceptance of religious diversity doesn't extend to those who don't believe in a god, according to a national survey by researchers in the University of Minnesota's department of sociology.

From a telephone sampling of more than 2,000 households, university researchers found that Americans rate atheists below Muslims, recent immigrants, gays and lesbians and other minority groups in "sharing their vision of American society." Atheists are also the minority group most Americans are least willing to allow their children to marry.

Even though atheists are few in number, not formally organized and relatively hard to publicly identify, they are seen as a threat to the American way of life by a large portion of the American public. "Atheists, who account for about 3 percent of the U.S. population, offer a glaring exception to the rule of increasing social tolerance over the last 30 years," says Penny Edgell, associate sociology professor and the study's lead researcher.

Edgell also argues that today's atheists play the role that Catholics, Jews and communists have played in the past—they offer a symbolic moral boundary to membership in American society. "It seems most Americans believe that diversity is fine, as long as every one shares a common 'core' of values that make them trustworthy—and in America, that 'core' has historically been religious," says Edgell. Many of the study's respondents associated atheism with an array of moral indiscretions ranging from criminal behavior to rampant materialism and cultural elitism.

Edgell believes a fear of moral decline and resulting social disorder is behind the findings. "Americans believe they share more than rules and procedures with their fellow citizens—they share an understanding of right and wrong," she said. "Our findings seem to rest on a view of atheists as self-interested individuals who are not concerned with the common good."

The researchers also found acceptance or rejection of atheists is related not only to personal religiosity, but also to one's exposure to diversity, education and political orientation—with more educated, East and West Coast Americans more accepting of atheists than their Midwestern counterparts.

The study is co-authored by assistant professor Joseph Gerteis and associate professor Doug Hartmann. It's the first in a series of national studies conducted the American Mosaic Project, a three-year project funded by the Minneapolis-based David Edelstein Family Foundation that looks at race, religion and cultural diversity in the contemporary United States. □

What: GradFest '06

When: Wednesday, March 29 and Thursday, March 30

Where: Great Hall, Coffman Memorial Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E.,
Minneapolis

Contacts: Kari Erpenbach, University of Minnesota Bookstore, (612) 626-1720,
kari@umn.edu

Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

University of Minnesota seniors prepare for graduation with a 'no hassle for a tassel' event at GradFest

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/21/2006)--The University of Minnesota is helping graduates take care of all of their commencement related needs at the 13th annual GradFest on March 29 and March 30 at the Great Hall of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Organized and hosted by the University of Minnesota Bookstore, GradFest promises U of M grads "no hassle for a tassel" service as students have the opportunity to take care of all their commencement needs at one convenient location. GradFest runs Wednesday, March 29 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Thursday, March 30 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Students attending GradFest '06 can to pick up their cap and gown, join the U of M Alumni Association, have their resumes evaluated, complete their financial aid exit interviews, have a graduation portrait taken and get advice or guidance for life after graduation. For more information on GradFest see <http://www.bookstore.umn.edu/grad/gradfest.html>. □

What: Four U of M students receive Barry Goldwater scholarships
Who: Elizabeth Barnes, Akash Kumar, Eman Haidari, Kimberly VanderWaal
Contacts: Sally Lieberman, College of Liberal Arts Honors Division, (612) 624-0399
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

Four U of M students receive Barry Goldwater scholarships

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/21/2006)--Four University of Minnesota-Twin Cities students have been named 2006 Barry M. Goldwater Scholars. Goldwater Scholarships are awarded annually to outstanding sophomores and juniors in mathematics, science and engineering who intend to pursue graduate study and research-oriented careers. The scholarships provide up to \$7,500 per year for up to two years of undergraduate study.

The 2006 Goldwater Scholars are all juniors, and all have participated in their colleges' honors programs. They are:

Elizabeth Barnes, Institute of Technology, physics major. Barnes intends to earn a doctorate in nuclear and particle physics and to pursue a career as a professor at a major research university. She is interested in many applications of particle and nuclear physics, including the development of alternative forms of energy. As an undergraduate, she has been involved in numerous aspects of the Main Injector Neutrino Oscillation Search (MINOS) project, holding internships both at the Fermi Laboratory in Illinois under the direction of Dr. Regina Rameika of Fermilab, and at the Soudan mine site in northern Minnesota under the direction of University of Minnesota physics professor Marvin Marshak. She has also conducted research under the direction of physics professors Priscilla Cushman and Keith Ruddick, and she volunteers as a mathematics, chemistry and physics tutor. She is a recipient of the A.O.C. Nier Undergraduate Scholarship in physics and the Harry and Viola St. Cyr Independent Research Scholarship. Barnes is from White Bear Lake and is a graduate of Mahtomedi High School.

Akash Kumar, Institute of Technology, chemical engineering/biochemistry majors. Kumar intends to earn a doctorate in molecular biology, and would like to conduct research and teach at a research-oriented medical school. Kumar, who is also a National Merit Scholar, completed two years of full-time coursework at the university while he was in high school through the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options program. Throughout his time at the university, Kumar has also studied and performed Indian dance. He has done cancer research at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine in Rochester under the

direction of professor Jim Maher, and is co-author of a recently published article based on this research. He has worked on research projects directed by professors Yiannis Kaznessis of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, and Vivek Kapur of the Department of Microbiology. His Goldwater Scholarship application was also supported by a letter of recommendation from Professor Jennifer Maynard, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science. Mr. Kumar resides in Plymouth, Minn., and graduated from Wayzata High School.

Eman Haidari, Institute of Technology and College of Biological Sciences, chemistry/genetics, cell biology and development majors. Haidari intends to earn a doctorate in cell biology. She would like to become a medical school professor and conduct research on cell transporters. She has done undergraduate research in the laboratory of professor Efe Kokkoli, department of chemical engineering and materials science, on the development of targeted drug delivery systems. Haidari earned many college credits while still in high school through her participation in the University of Minnesota Talented Youth Mathematics Program and the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Program. She serves on the Twin Cities Student Union Board of Governors, is active in the Persian Student Organization and the Society of Women Engineers, and plays basketball, badminton and soccer. In addition to professor Kokkoli, her Goldwater recommenders included professors Thomas Hoye (chemistry) and Harvey Keynes (mathematics). Haidari is from Eden Prairie and is a graduate of Eden Prairie High School.

Kimberly VanderWaal, College of Biological Sciences, ecology, evolution and behavior majors. VanderWaal plans to earn a doctorate in behavioral ecology and would like to teach at the university level and conduct research in mammalian social behavior. She has done research for the Serengeti Lion Research Center (SLRC) under the direction of professor Craig Packer, (ecology, evolution and behavior), since her senior year in high school. For her summa thesis, VanderWaal is conducting solo research on factors that lead to lion pride division. Her research will be used by the SLRC to identify lion prides that are on the verge of splitting, which will be translocated to another area to increase genetic diversity. She has been involved in several other research projects, including two studies of wolves in Yellowstone National Park. VanderWaal has been a member of the University Marching Band since her freshman year and is the trombone section leader. In addition to Professor Packer, VanderWaal was recommended for the Goldwater Scholarship by Anna Mosser (Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior) and CBS Dean Robert Elde. VanderWaal is from Bloomington and graduated from Jefferson High School.

Institutions are permitted to nominate four candidates per year. This year, 323 Goldwater Scholars were selected on the basis of academic merit from a field of 1,081 students who were nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide. This is the second consecutive year that four University of Minnesota-Twin Cities students have won Goldwater Scholarships. Since the scholarship program began in the late 1980s, 37 U of M students have been named Goldwater Scholars. Professor Robert Pepin, Director of the Institute of Technology Honors program, serves as the campus representative for

the Goldwater Scholarships and convenes a committee of faculty from diverse scientific disciplines to select the University's nominees.

The 2006 winners are listed on the Goldwater Foundation's website, <http://www.act.org/goldwater/>.

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- What:** U of M to host forum for finalist for Vice President for Access, Equity and Multicultural Affairs
- When:** 3 to 4 p.m. Monday, March 27
- Where:** Humphrey Room, Radisson University Hotel, 615 Washington Avenue, S.E., Minneapolis
- Who:** Nancy "Rusty" Barceló
- Contacts:** Katie Stuckert, Office of the President, (612) 625-8844
Dan Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

U of M to host forum for finalist for Vice President for Access, Equity and Multicultural Affairs

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/21/2006)--The University of Minnesota will hold a public forum and reception for Nancy "Rusty" Barceló, who has been named a finalist for the position of Vice President for Access, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs from 3 to 4 p.m. Monday, March 27, in the Humphrey Room of the Radisson University Hotel, 615 Washington Ave., S.E., Minneapolis.

Barceló, currently the Vice President and Vice Provost for Minority Affairs and Diversity at the University of Washington, will talk on "The Role of Diversity and Multiculturalism in a 21st Century Research University: A Vision and Strategies for Achieving Excellence."

The Vice President for Access, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs is a key leadership position responsible for developing and implementing a system-wide strategic plan for access, equity, and multicultural affairs consistent with the university's strategic positioning efforts. The plan is expected to include a system-wide vision, clear communication of relevant university values and goals, and development of accountability measures and benchmarks to underscore that diversity, inclusiveness and access to success at the University of Minnesota is a responsibility of all campuses, colleges and units.

Further information, including a copy of the position description and Barceló's vitae, is available at <http://www.academic.umn.edu/system/vpsearch/>. Copies of her vitae and evaluation forms will also be available at the public forum. □

- What:** Evaluations of how the I-394 MnPass express lanes are working to be presented Thursday at U of M
- When:** 9 to 11 a.m., Thursday, March 23
- Where:** Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
- Contacts:** Julie Lund, Humphrey Institute, (612) 624-1190
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

Evaluations of how the I-394 MnPass express lanes are working to be presented Thursday at U of M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/22/2006)--Results of a survey and evaluations of how the I-394 MnPass express lanes are working will be presented during the Rethinking Transportation Finance Roundtable "I-394 MnPASS - A New Choice for Commuters How is it Working?" from 9 to 11 a.m., Thursday, March 23, in the Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The I-394 MnPASS express lanes opened to the public in May 2005. MnPASS allows solo drivers to choose a faster, more reliable commute on I-394 for a fee. Drivers open a prepaid MnPASS account, install a MnPASS transponder and follow some simple rules. Carpools and bus riders still travel for free.

How are the I-394 MnPASS lanes working? The Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) commissioned an extensive independent evaluation of this first-of-its kind project for Minnesota. Cambridge Systematics, a transportation research and evaluation firm, is conducting an evaluation of the project using technical data that is being collected before and after the project opens.

The University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute's State and Local Policy Program is conducting a three-phase panel survey with NuStats, a national survey research firm. The results of the second phase of this survey conducted in November and December 2005 will be presented and discussed along with other information about how well the MnPASS express lanes are working.

A panel about I-394 MnPass begins at 9 a.m. Panel members are:

- Nick Thompson, I-394 MnPASS project manager, Mn/DOT.
- Susan Sheehan, I-394 MnPASS evaluation coordinator, Mn/DOT.
- Doug Sallman, technical evaluation project manager, Cambridge Systematics.
- Lee Munnich, senior fellow and director, State and Local Policy Program, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota.

- Johanna Zmud, president, NuStats.
- Bob Johns, director, University of Minnesota's Center for Transportation Studies, will moderate the panel.

At 10:15 a.m. there will be a roundtable discussion with the audience.

To RSVP, contact Janice Young at (612) 626-0347 or jyoung@hhh.umn.edu

The roundtable is sponsored by the University of Minnesota's Center for Transportation Studies and the Humphrey Institute's State and Local Policy Program with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. □

What: DNA fingerprinting to separate hemp from marijuana
When: Published in March Journal of Forensic Science
Who: George Weiblen, assistant professor, plant biology department
Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038
Peggy Rinard, College of Biological Sciences, (612) 624-0774

New DNA 'fingerprinting' technique separates hemp from marijuana

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/22/2006)--Using new DNA "fingerprinting" techniques, two University of Minnesota researchers have become the first to unequivocally separate hemp plants from marijuana plants with genetic markers. Hemp, a crop grown for durable fiber and nutritious seed, and marijuana, the most abundant illegal drug of abuse in the United States, both belong to the species *Cannabis sativa*. They differ in levels of the psychoactive drug tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) but are otherwise difficult to tell apart. The technique holds promise for distinguishing different cultivars (domesticated plant lines) in U.S. criminal cases. It may also prove useful in countries where the cultivation of hemp is permitted but marijuana is illegal, as in Canada and Europe. The work appears in the March issue (volume 51, No. 2) of the *Journal of Forensic Science*.

The new technique is an improvement on previous means of separating the two types of *Cannabis*, said author George Weiblen, an assistant professor of plant biology in the university's College of Biological Sciences and College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. For decades it has been possible to identify THC chemically, but the drug is not present in all plant tissues or throughout a plant's life cycle. And other researchers have found that genetic markers known as "short tandem repeats," which are used to identify individuals in paternity and criminal cases, lack the power to distinguish *Cannabis* cultivars unequivocally.

In tests with three different cultivars of hemp and one of marijuana, the DNA fingerprints of all the cultivars were distinct and nonoverlapping. Weiblen and Shannon L. Datwyler, a postdoctoral associate who is now on the faculty of California State University, Sacramento, found that the AFLP (amplified fragment length polymorphism) technique generated hundreds of genetic markers that together established separate identities for each of the four cultivars.

"We think this technique has the potential to distinguish marijuana varieties as well," said Weiblen. "It has implications not just for separating hemp from marijuana in countries where hemp cultivation is permitted, but in establishing origins of seized drugs and, therefore, conspiracy in drug distribution

networks. It also could be used in criminal defenses against claims of conspiracy.”

The technique chops up DNA and generates numerous fragments of DNA, each defined by particular “marker” DNA sequences that act like bookends. The lengths of the fragments within the bookends were found to vary according to the cultivar. Thus, the pattern of fragment lengths adds up to a composite picture of each cultivar.

“With this technique, we find hundreds of markers scattered across the genome,” said Weiblen. “The larger number of markers, compared to other techniques, gives us the power to separate the cultivars.”

The Cannabis plant has been cultivated for millennia and is important in the global economy as both a licit and an illicit crop, said Weiblen. Hemp is a source of durable fiber that provides an alternative to cotton fabric, among other uses. Cotton requires pesticide application and a hot climate, whereas hemp does not, which makes it suitable for local Minnesota agriculture. Weiblen seeks to screen a wider range of Cannabis cultivars to refine the technique. He is also working to identify regions of the Cannabis genome responsible for drug content in marijuana. If enough can be learned about the genome, it may one day be possible to produce an entirely drug-free hemp plant that looks different from marijuana. Currently, all hemp products are imported into the United States. Developing a new variety that could be cultivated in the United States would reduce American dependence on foreign products while creating a new alternative crop for American farmers.

The work was funded by the University of Minnesota and the David and Lucille Packard Foundation. □

When: 2-4 p.m. Saturday, March 26
Where: Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S, Minneapolis
Who: Joel Wurl, head of research collections and associate director,
wurlx001@umn.edu
Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M hosts open house to display internationally-renowned archival and published collections documenting immigration and ethnicity

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/22/2006)--The Friends of the Immigration History Research Center will be sponsoring "Voices from the Past - Looking Toward the Future," an open house from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, March 26, at the Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. The Immigration History Research Center (IHRC) collects, preserves, and makes available archival and published resources documenting immigration and ethnicity on a national scope. These materials are particularly rich for ethnic groups that originated in eastern, central and southern Europe and the Near East but are wide ranging and unique.

There will be a program at 3 p.m. featuring immigrant stories from the archives. Ethnic desserts will be served. The event is free and open to the public.

Founded in 1965, the Immigration History Research Center enriches society by preserving and promoting understanding of the history of the American immigrant experience. In doing so, it acts in partnership with various ethnic communities, historical agencies, research specialists, educators, and many others. The IHRC develops and maintains a library and archival collection, provides research assistance, produces publications, and sponsors academic and public programs.

The Friends of the Immigration History Research Center is a nonprofit national support group organized in 1977. Composed of both individuals and organizations, it is a bridge between the center and ethnic communities, encouraging donations of historical materials and funds and sponsoring educational and entertaining meetings. It provides an opportunity for members of different ethnic groups to join together in helping to preserve and promote America's immigrant heritage. □

Who: **Randall Olson, new general manager of UEL incubator, (651) 641-2808, rolson@uelmn.org**

Contacts: **Peggy Rinard, College of Biological Sciences, (612) 624-0774**
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

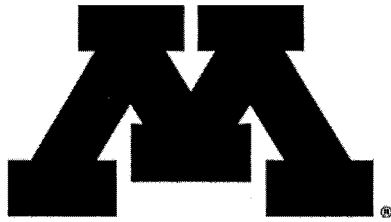
University Enterprise Laboratories hires new general manager

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/22/2006)--The board of directors of University Enterprise Laboratories Inc. (UEL) has hired Randall Olson as the new general manager. Most recently, Olson was a marketing and business development director for a law firm. He also has extensive background in business development for the technology sector as executive director of Minnesota Project Innovation, Inc., and a co-founder of the Minnesota Seed Capital Network.

"We are very pleased to have Randy on board and we look forward to his leadership to support the UEL tenants and the bioscience industry in Minnesota," said Robert Elde, dean of the College of Biological Sciences and chair of the UEL Board.

UEL is a nonprofit bioscience incubator established in 2005 in St. Paul's Bioscience Zone. The 125,000-square-foot-facility contains 13 biotech startup companies and the University of Minnesota's Office of Business Development.

Founding sponsors of UEL include the University of Minnesota, the University of Minnesota Foundation, the City of St. Paul, Xcel Energy, Allina, 3M, Medtronic, Boston Scientific, Dorsey and Whitney, Ecolab, Guidant Corporation and Surmodics. UEL is located at 1000 Westgate Drive, Suite 101, St. Paul, Minn., 55114. □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXPERT ALERT

University News Service
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March 23, 2006

Contact: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, 612-624-0214

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

In recent weeks, several cases of human trafficking have surfaced in Minnesota. This increase in labor and sex trafficking has prompted a number of human rights organizations to increase their efforts in this area. University of Minnesota experts who can discuss the issue of human trafficking are:

Barbara Frey, director of the Human Rights Program at the University of Minnesota

She was elected in 2000 as an alternate member of the U.N. Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, a body of independent experts who advise the United Nations on human rights policy. Frey has taught international human rights at the University of Minnesota in both the Law School and the Institute for Global Studies since 1989. She is an expert on the issue of human trafficking and will also be organizing a conference on April 21, 2006: "*United Front for Children: Global Efforts to Combat Sexual Trafficking of Children in Travel and Tourism.*"

Lauren Gilchrist, outreach coordinator for the University of Minnesota's Deborah E. Powell Center for Women's Health

The Powell Center is a member of the Minnesota Human Trafficking Watch, and Gilchrist assists in coordinating training, conducting public education and outreach, and providing comprehensive services to victims of trafficking in Minnesota.

David Weissbrodt, professor of law at the University of Minnesota Law School

Professor David S. Weissbrodt is a distinguished and widely published scholar of international human rights law. He established the University of Minnesota Human Rights Center and helped establish the University of Minnesota Human Rights Library.

To interview, Frey, Gilchrist, or Weissbrodt, contact Asim Dorovic at 612-624-0214 or at dorovic@umn.edu.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect university experts to today's breaking news and current events.



Who: Gerald Fischer, president and CEO of the University of Minnesota Foundation

Contacts: Martha Douglas, University of Minnesota Foundation, (612) 626-9712
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M Foundation CEO Gerald Fischer Receives Top Industry Award

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/23/2006)--Gerald Fischer, president and CEO of the University of Minnesota Foundation, is one of two recipients of this year's CASE Commonfund Institutionally Related Foundation award. This annual leadership award recognizes individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the advancement, quality and effectiveness of their foundations and the community of institutionally related foundations as a whole. It is presented by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and Commonfund, a provider of fund management services and investment advice.

Fischer has been president and CEO of the University of Minnesota Foundation since 1990. With a 45-member board of trustees, the foundation serves as the central development office for the University of Minnesota. It tracks and reports gifts to all university campuses, colleges and departments, including gifts made through affiliated university foundations.

In presenting the award, Jim Copeland, chair of the awards committee, praised Fischer for his "vital, groundbreaking contributions." Fischer was an early champion of donor privacy that resulted in the 1993 passage of a data practices act in Minnesota that included donor privacy. He was a leader in a partnership with the university's alumni association and the medical foundation to develop and finance the University Gateway Corporation and build the McNamara Alumni Center. He also led the effort to have the University of Minnesota Foundation provide seed money and management support for the creation of University Enterprise Laboratories, a biotech incubator facility.

"Receiving this award is humbling," said Fischer. "It really reflects the extraordinary performance of the foundation board, the entire professional development staff, university leadership, and – first and foremost – our donors."

In the last decade, gifts and commitments to the University of Minnesota have increased from \$85 million from 67,000 donors in 1996 to \$180 million from 92,700 donors in 2005. The foundation's endowment has increased from \$429 million to more than \$1 billion as of Dec. 31. □

Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

'U of M Moment' feature links for the week of March 27

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/23/2006)--"University of Minnesota Moment" radio features for the week of Monday, March 27, are available to Minnesota radio stations for free.

The features are as follows:

Monday, March 27: "Master Naturalist"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/u relate/radio/master_naturalist.mp3

Tuesday, March 28: "Affordable Housing"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/u relate/radio/affordable_housing.mp3

Wednesday, March 29: "Neverwinter Nights"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/u relate/radio/neverwinter_nights.mp3

Thursday, March 30: "Ready-to-Assemble Housing"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/u relate/radio/ready_house.mp3

Friday, March 31: "Arboretum Public Policy Program"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/u relate/radio/arboretum_public_policy.mp3

All of the features will be posted the day for which they are scheduled at
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/u relate/radio/>□

**A digital image of Sinclair can be obtained by emailing
matte016@umn.edu.**

- What:** Award-winning humanitarian architect to talk about designing ‘like you give a damn’
- When:** 5:45 p.m. Monday, March 27
- Where:** College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (CALA) auditorium, Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis
- Who:** Cameron Sinclair, Cass Gilbert visiting professor
- Contacts:** Patty Mattern, University news Service, (612) 624-2801

Award-winning humanitarian architect to talk about designing ‘like you give a damn’

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/24/2006)--The public will receive a rare opportunity to hear from world-renown humanitarian architect Cameron Sinclair when he delivers the Cass Gilbert lecture “Design Like You Give a Damn” at 5:45 p.m. Monday, March 27, in the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (CALA) auditorium, Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Sinclair is co-founder and executive director of Architecture For Humanity (AFH), a charitable organization that seeks architecture solutions to humanitarian crises and brings design services to communities in need. This semester Sinclair has been sharing with CALA students his approach to architecture, which involves designing projects for poor and suffering people around the world.

Sinclair’s talk will focus on socially responsible design, something already “pretty well embedded in this university,” Sinclair said. He will also highlight AFH’s response to the tsunami and Hurricane Katrina.

Unlike some architects, Sinclair does not simply do esoteric work. His work must have an impact.

“I don’t do fake projects. Every project is real and that is exactly what I have my students doing,” Sinclair said.

Earlier this semester, some of Sinclair’s students designed and built a laundry shelter/storage shed for a elderly woman who had lost her home in Hurricane Katrina.

“We have been fortunate to have Cameron Sinclair as a visiting professor because his work has had such far-reaching impact in the world today,” said CALA Dean Thomas Fisher.

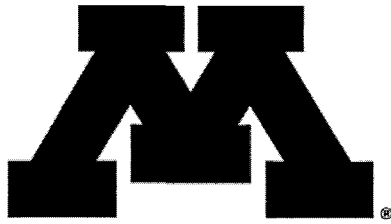
Sinclair continues to gain more and more international attention.

In 2004 Fortune Magazine named him as one of the Aspen Seven, seven people changing the world for the better. In February, Sinclair was named as one of the 2006 TED (Technology, Entertainment and

Design) Prize award recipients. As a recipient, he has been awarded one wish to change the world, \$100,000 in grant money and the ongoing support of the TED Community, a group of more than 900 catalysts for change ranging from Fortune 500 executives to dedicated non-profit professionals. Sinclair has wished to create a new type of “open-source design” database that will allow architects, funders, NGOs and others to share housing solutions globally. In 2005, U2’s Bono received a TED Award.

London-born Sinclair is also one of four finalists for London’s Design Museum’s designer of the year. The award is given to someone who lives and works in the United Kingdom or who was born there but is now based in another country. The public is asked to select their favorite and then a jury of four will determine the person who has made the biggest contribution to design in the past year.

Other recent awards Sinclair has received include: the 2005 Lewis Mumford Award for Peace - ADPSR, the 2004 Design for Humanity Award - American Society of Interior Designers, the 2004 Fast ‘50’ Award – Fast Company Magazine and the 2003 Nice Modernist Award – Dwell Magazine. □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

STORY TIPS

University News Service

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March 24, 2006

Contacts: *Patty Mattern, University News Service, 612-624-2801*

University of Minnesota researcher studies what the fight for same-sex marriage is really about

The debate over legal same-sex marriage is heating up at the Minnesota Capitol as proponents and opponents lobby lawmakers. **University of Minnesota researcher Kathleen Hull** examines what the fight for same-sex marriage is really about in a way that no one else has.

The debate is largely a struggle about the power of law to make people legal and social equals, according to a new study by Hull. Hull's new book, "Same-Sex Marriage: The Cultural Politics of Love and Law," explores what marriage means to gays and lesbians in the United States. Through in-depth interviews with more than 70 people and years of media research, Hull found gay and lesbian couples use a variety of marriage-related cultural practices to establish the reality and importance of their commitments.

In addition to the obvious financial and legal benefits of marriage—tax breaks, access to health insurance and next of kin designation—Hull found the main reasons gays and lesbians are pushing for marriage are to claim their equal rights as citizens and increase their social legitimacy. "Despite the huge gains gay and lesbians have made in the past decades, and despite all the ceremonial attempts to legitimize relationships, many people believe that ultimately the law has the most powerful effect on what is considered equal and legitimate," she says.

Hull is an assistant professor of sociology at the U of M.

To interview Hull, please contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.



DATE CORRECTION: The open house is on Sunday, March 26

When: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, March 26
Where: Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis
Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M hosts open house to display internationally-renowned archival and published collections documenting immigration and ethnicity on Sunday, March 26

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/24/2006)--The Friends of the Immigration History Research Center will be sponsoring "Voices from the Past - Looking Toward the Future," an open house from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at the Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. The Immigration History Research Center (IHRC) collects, preserves, and makes available archival and published resources documenting immigration and ethnicity on a national scope. These materials are particularly rich for ethnic groups that originated in eastern, central and southern Europe and the Near East but are wide ranging and unique. This event was previously reported as taking place on Saturday. □

What: University of Minnesota student a winner in 42nd Pillsbury Bake-Off®
Who: Mary Iovinelli Buescher (pronounced Bish'-er)
Contacts: Glen Beltt, College of Human Ecology, (612) 624-4232
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

University of Minnesota student a winner in 42nd Pillsbury Bake-Off®

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/24/2006)--U of M food science and nutrition graduate student Mary Iovinelli Buescher is one of 12 winners in the 42nd Pillsbury Bake-Off® contest, held this week in Orlando, Fla.

Buescher's recipe for pineapple-black bean enchiladas was among 100 chosen for final competition among tens of thousands of entries in this year's Bake-Off. Buescher was the sole winner of the America's Favorite Recipe Award and was among three winners of the 3-A-Day™ of Dairy Award. Each award carried a prize of \$10,000.

Tens of thousands of consumers voted for Buescher's recipe for the America's Favorite Recipe Award, which they felt best met the judging criteria for taste, appearance, creativity and consumer appeal. The 3-A-Day of Dairy Awards were awarded to three finalists for the most delicious recipes that also contained at least one serving of milk, cheese or yogurt products per serving.

Buescher, who is working toward a master's degree at the university, holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She lives in Bloomington.

The department of food science and nutrition is a program of the College of Human Ecology and the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences. The department will move to the new College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences on July 1. □

- What:** Chairman and CEO of the Chicago Climate Exchange to speak at the U of M
- When:** 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 11
- Where:** Mississippi Room at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E. Minneapolis
- Contacts:** Sara Zettervall, Law School, (612) 625-0055
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

Chairman and CEO of the Chicago Climate Exchange to speak at the U of M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/24/2006)-- Richard Sandor, chairman and CEO of the Chicago Climate Exchange, will speak from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, in the Mississippi Room at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, as part of the Lunch Series on the Societal Implications of the Life Sciences. Sandor will lecture on "The Convergence of Environmental and Capital Markets."

The lunch series is co-sponsored by the University of Minnesota's Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences and Joint Degree Program in Law, Health & the Life Sciences. The event is free and open to the public. Reservations are recommended, and lunches are provided to those who RSVP by April 4 to lawvalue@umn.edu or (612) 625-0055. This lecture is intended for students, faculty, researchers, scientists, policymakers and members of the community.

Sandor founded the Chicago Climate Exchange, which is a self-regulatory exchange that administers the world's first and North America's only multi-national and multi-sector marketplace for reducing and trading greenhouse gas emissions.

In his lecture, Sandor will discuss current developments of market-based mechanisms, with special emphasis on emissions trading as a tool to address global climate change. Topics will include: the principles and methodology guiding the research and the history of implementation of the CO2 market; the emerging market for greenhouse gases emissions trading in the U.S. and abroad; the use of hedging devices for pollution and energy as business strategies; and the relationship between environmental and financial performance and the implications for a corporation's risk management.

Sandor is a research professor at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. He has been honored by the City of Chicago and the Chicago Board of Trade for his contribution to the creation of financial futures and his universal recognition as the "father of financial futures." In 2002, Sandor was chosen by Time magazine as one of its "Heroes for the Planet" for his

work as the founder of the Chicago Climate Exchange.

This lecture is the fourth in the 2005-06 lunch series. This year's series focuses on "Energy and the Environment: Science, Ethics & Policy." For more information on upcoming events, visit <http://www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu/conferences>. □

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (651) 485-3214

Special Board of Regents meeting called to consider legislative plan

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/24/2006)--The University of Minnesota Board of Regents will hold a special meeting on Monday, March 27, 2006 to consider a recommendation to ask the Legislature to approve a plan that would create a large metropolitan nature preserve and also provide funding for an on-campus football stadium. The new proposal would replace the university's current stadium bill.

"This legislation is a real 'win-win' for the university and the entire state," said university President Robert Bruininks. "It will result in some of the most beautiful, undeveloped land in the region being protected for generations to come, and it will provide the financing we need to bring Gopher football back the campus."

Under the plan, announced earlier today by a bipartisan group of legislators, the state of Minnesota would acquire 2,840 acres of the university's UMore Park property near Rosemount in Dakota County at a cost of approximately \$9.4 million each year for 25 years. The environmentally sensitive land would become permanently protected by the state for public use.

The university would retain its rights to use the land for its research, education and outreach mission, which Bruininks said was consistent with the guiding principles the university set for UMore Park.

Bruininks said the legislation would also cut in half the proposed student fee to help pay for the stadium, from \$50 per semester to \$25 per semester.

"Under this plan, we'll be able to significantly reduce the amount students will be asked to pay for the new stadium," Bruininks said. "We're hopeful the Board of Regents will support this plan and the Legislature will act quickly to give our private sector fundraising more momentum."

The Board of Regents will meet at 4 p.m. on Monday, March 27 in McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis. □

When: Noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 28
Where: Room 110, Heller Hall, 271 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis West Bank campus
Who: U of M international and multicultural students
Contacts: Tammy Mazure, Office of International Student and Scholars Services,
(612) 626-7100
Remi Douah, Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence, (612)
626-4565
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

Around the World in 120 Minutes: U of M to host panel discussion to promote international understanding

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/27/2006)--Take a whirlwind tour of the globe by listening to stories and insights from a panel of international and multicultural students as the University of Minnesota hosts "Around the World in 120 Minutes, Training for Global Understanding." The panel will take place from noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, in Room 110, Heller Hall, 271 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Members of the panel are graduate students Gemma Puntí (Spain) and Jingqing Liu (China) and undergraduate students Leonard Roy (Native American) and Mabima Kiawu (West African). The students will discuss their experiences at the university from their personal and cultural perspectives. The panel will also address questions such as What are international and multicultural students' impressions of the United States? Why do students come to the United States and the University of Minnesota to study? What kinds of personal and academic challenges do they face here? What do international and multicultural students wish others knew about their cultures? What are the significant cultural differences among our students and how do those differences affect their lives at the university?

"This workshop is designed to create an opportunity for dialogue with students, thus helping faculty and staff better understand the university's international and multicultural communities," said Tammy Mazure of the university's Office of International Student & Scholar Services. "We hope participants will learn specific strategies for developing supportive environments in meetings, classrooms and support settings."

The panel is sponsored by the Office of International Student & Scholar Services and the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence. □

- What:** U of M concludes Women's History Month with performance by the Guerilla Girls
- When:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 29
- Where:** Room 175 Willey Hall, 336 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
- Who:** The Guerilla Girls
- Contacts:** Claire Walter-Marchetti, Office of University Women, (612) 625-6039
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M concludes Women's History Month with performance by the Guerilla Girls

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/27/2006)--The University of Minnesota will conclude Women's History Month celebration with a performance by renowned performing group the Guerilla Girls, from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, in room 175 Willey Hall, 226 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The Guerilla Girls was formed in 1985 in New York as a protest against the lack of females in the Museum of Modern Art's opening of "An International Survey of Painting and Sculpture." That protest movement grew from posters to stage performances by members of the Guerilla Girls. They assumed the names of dead women artists and wore gorilla masks in public, concealing their identities and focusing on the issues rather than their personalities. The group has grown in popularity and performs all over the world. Between 1985 and 2000 nearly 1,000 women, working collectively and anonymously, produced posters, billboards, public actions, books and other projects to make feminism funny and fashionable.

The Guerilla Girls' U of M performance will center on sexism in the art and sciences through portrayals of the late Mexican painter Frida Kahlo and Cambridge-educated molecular biologist Rosalind Franklin.

"We look for performances that are entertaining yet thought provoking and the Guerilla Girls definitely provide both," said Claire Walter-Marchetti, director of the Office for University Women.

The performance is sponsored by the university's Office for University Women, the departments of art, art history and women studies, the Weisman Art Museum, the Office of Student Affairs and the Women's Student Activist Collective. □

Photo opportunity

What: Medieval manuscript unveiling
When: 4 - 4:30 p.m. Tuesday March 28
Where: Elmer L. Andersen Library, room 120, 222 21st Ave S., Minneapolis
Contacts: Kelly O'Brien, (612) 624-4109, obrie136@umn.edu
 Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M Center for Medieval Studies will unveil newly-acquired 15th-century legal manuscript

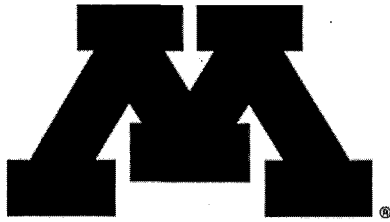
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/27/2006)--The University of Minnesota Center for Medieval Studies will unveil its newly-acquired 15th-century legal manuscript from 4-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28 at Elmer L. Andersen Library, room 120, 222 21st Ave S., Minneapolis. Visitors will be able to view the manuscript and turn its pages using special white cotton gloves. A program and reception will follow the unveiling at 4:30 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

To celebrate the acquisition of the manuscript, which sheds light on Jewish life in the Czech Republic, a panel of scholars will discuss it and the present state and future of manuscript studies.

Paul Saenger, the George A. Poole III Curator of Rare Books and Collection Development Librarian at the Newberry Library in Chicago, will present an illustrated introduction to medieval manuscripts the Newberry is acquiring jointly with affiliated research institutions. This innovative program makes available to students and scholars in the Midwest a significant body of such rare research materials. The manuscript being unveiled at this event is one such shared manuscript, and the U of M's Center for Medieval Studies and the Newberry will have "joint custody" of it.

In addition, F.R.P. Akehurst, an expert on medieval customary law and professor of French at the U; Diane Warne Anderson, coordinator of the new Minnesota Manuscript Research Laboratory; Mary Louise Fellows, professor in the U of M Law School and a recent Ph.D. in English medieval studies; and Susan Noakes, Director of the University's Center for Medieval Studies, will each briefly speak about the portals to research the presence of this manuscript will open.

Purchase of the university's share of the manuscript has been made possible by: the University of Minnesota Libraries; the Friends of the Library; the Center for Medieval Studies and the Center for Jewish Studies, both in the Institute for Advanced Study; and the department of German, Scandinavian and Dutch. □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXPERT ALERT

University News Service

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March 27, 2006

Contact: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, 612-624-0214

IMMIGRATION DEBATE

More than 11 million undocumented immigrants live in the United States, and proposed legislation by the House of Representatives prompted massive protests this weekend. University of Minnesota experts who can talk about the immigration debate are:

Joel Wurl, associate director, U of M Immigration History Research Center

Wurl is the head of research collections and associate director of the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota, where he has worked since 1985. He is an adviser to public programs, exhibits, and historical preservation projects and has presented and published research on several topics related to immigration. He has spoken to a diverse array of community audiences on the immigrant experience in America and, particularly, in the state of Minnesota.

Katherine Fennelly, professor at the U's Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs

Fennelly's areas of expertise include immigration and public policy as well as diversity and cross-cultural relations. Her research and outreach interests also include human rights of immigrants and refugees in the United States.

Erika Lee, associate professor of history at the U

Lee's research and teaching focus on immigration and 20th century U.S. history. She has published widely on the topic of defining the United States as a "nation of immigrants" and a "gate-keeping nation." She argues that this definition "has never been more true than in the twenty-first century. Immigrants continue to be at the center of changes in American society, politics, economy, and culture. And immigration laws and policies continue to figure prominently in changing ideologies of national identity, citizenship, and race, as well as technologies of national security and border control."

Louis Mendoza, associate professor and chair of the department of Chicano studies

Mendoza's research interests include Chicana/o literary and cultural studies and U.S. immigration literature.

To interview any of the experts above, contact Asim Dorovic at 612-624-0214 or at dorovic@umn.edu.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect university experts to today's breaking news and current events.



Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (651) 485-3214 (cell)

U of M Board of Regents gives nod to revised stadium plan

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/27/2006)--The University of Minnesota Board of Regents approved a plan today that will ultimately create a large metropolitan nature reserve and also provide funding for an on-campus football stadium. The new proposal, which passed on an 11 to 1 vote, replaces the university's current stadium bill.

"This might sound like a simple real estate transaction, but it is a very forward looking proposal that will have a huge impact on our quality of life," said board Chair Anthony Baraga.

Under the plan, announced late last week by a bipartisan group of legislators, the State of Minnesota will acquire 2,840 acres of the university's UMore Park property near Rosemount in Dakota County at a cost of approximately \$9.4 million each year for 25 years. The environmentally sensitive land would become permanently protected by the state for public use.

The university would retain its rights to use the land for its research, education and outreach mission, which University President Robert Bruininks said was consistent with the guiding principles the university set for UMore Park.

Bruininks said the legislation would also cut in half the projected student fee to help pay for the stadium, from \$50 per semester to \$25 per semester.

"Under this plan, we'll be able to significantly reduce the amount students will be asked to pay for the new stadium," Bruininks said. "We have a lot of private sector fundraising to do and this proposal provides the momentum we need."

Bruininks will testify about the proposal before the Senate Higher Education Budget Division on Tuesday at the State Capitol. □

What: Life Course Center's 20th anniversary mini conference
When: 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 7
Where: Room 1114, Social Sciences Building, 267 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
Contacts: Holly Schoonover, schoo007@umn.edu, (612) 624-6333
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

Celebrating 20 years of Life Course research

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/28/2006)--Identity, work experiences, mental health and human development are some of the topics that will be covered at a conference marking the Life Course Center's 20th anniversary from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 7, in Room 1114, Social Sciences Building, 267 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The Life Course Center is a part of the University of Minnesota's department of sociology. A variety of distinguished speakers and panelists will be featured at the conference, including plenary speaker, professor Glen H. Elder Jr.

Elder is the Howard W. Odum Distinguished Professor of Sociology at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He is renowned for his classic study of "Children of the Great Depression: Social Change in Life Experience" and many other path-breaking research projects and writings on the unfolding of lives in social context. His presentation, titled "The Life Course and Human Development: Contributions, Challenges, and New Directions," will begin at 3 p.m. Other speakers at the conference include:

- Walter Heinz, University of Bremen, Germany
- Guillermina Jasso, New York University
- Jane McLeod, Indiana University
- Timothy Owens, Purdue University
- Michael Shanahan, University of North Carolina
- Monica Johnson, Washington State University
- Sharon Preves, Hamline University
- Jeremy Staff, Pennsylvania State University

Visit the Life Course Center mini conference website at www.soc.umn.edu/LCC/miniconference.htm for schedules and all presentation topics.

The Life Course Center supports scholarly inquiry that encompasses all stages of life from birth to

death. Through the research projects of affiliated faculty and an NRSA training program, the center enriches the scholarship and educational activities of many faculty and graduate students in the department of sociology and other units of the University of Minnesota. □

- What:** University of Minnesota's Tretter Collection receives archives of Log Cabin Republicans
- Contacts:** James Dozier, Log Cabin Republicans,
(202) 347-5306 or (202) 297-5026
- Christopher James, University of Minnesota Libraries, (612) 625-9148
or (612) 803-9631
- Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

University of Minnesota's Tretter Collection receives archives of Log Cabin Republicans

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/28/2006)--The Log Cabin Republicans have donated their archives to the University of Minnesota Libraries' Tretter Collection in Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender (GLBT) Studies.

"We're excited to announce this agreement with the Tretter Collection," said Log Cabin President Patrick Guerriero, who visited the Tretter Collection last summer. "This is an important step in safeguarding material related to Log Cabin's history so future historians will have a clear picture about the role of gay conservatives in the fight for equality."

Log Cabin Republicans is the nation's largest Republican gay rights organization of Republicans who support fairness, freedom, and equality for gay and lesbian Americans. Log Cabin has state and local chapters nationwide, full-time offices in Washington, D.C., and Sacramento, Calif., and a federal political action committee.

"When future history books are written on the GLBT movement, there's no question that the Log Cabin Republicans will have a chapter and it's important that we create a historical legacy to pass along to future generations," said Jean-Nickolaus Tretter, Tretter Collection historian and archiver. "We're happy the work of Log Cabin will be a part of the legacy of the GLBT movement in our collection."

Log Cabin's Board of Directors decided on the Tretter Collection after a search process that included several other institutions around the country.

"This is the best facility to house Log Cabin's historical material," said Log Cabin Board Chairman Tim Schoeffler. "We're grateful for the opportunity to have our work preserved for generations to come."

The Jean-Nickolaus Tretter Collection in GLBT Studies houses more than 30,000 items in a wide variety of media related to GLBT communities and the fight for equality. The international collection has

items that go back as far as 4,000 years. The collection also maintains recent materials, including current editions of GLBT periodicals. While books are the core of the collection, the archives also include historical papers, letters, memoirs, photos and other items. The Log Cabin collection will likely include letters to U.S. presidents and letters from U.S. presidents as well as other public figures, Tretter said.

“With some of Log Cabin's founders and early leaders passing on, it was critical for us to find a place capable of preserving the documents that tell our story,” said Leonard Olds of Laguna Beach, Calif., a longtime member and leader of Log Cabin. “Our history was in danger of being lost. Now I’m happy to say it will be preserved so that when the history books are written about the GLBT movement, gay conservatives can be included in that story.”

Log Cabin leaders and chapter organizers around the country will send items to the Tretter Collection archives. These items and all others in the collection are available for study by the general public at the Tretter Collection facilities. The University of Minnesota Libraries is one of the university’s and the state’s greatest intellectual and capital assets. The Tretter Collection is in the University Libraries’ department of Special Collections and Rare Books. □

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (651) 485-3214 (cell)
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 964-7236

U of M stadium plan overwhelmingly endorsed by undergraduate student government

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/28/2006)--The organization that represents undergraduate students at the University of Minnesota passed a resolution today supporting the revised plan to build an on campus football stadium for the Golden Gophers. The Minnesota Student Association (MSA) passed the measure nearly unanimously, with only one dissenting vote.

"We are encouraged by the support of our undergraduate student government," said university President Robert Bruininks. "The overwhelming support of our student leaders signals a clear commitment to bringing football back to campus. Our students join a growing coalition of university stakeholders in support of our fiscally responsible and reasonable stadium proposal. As momentum has grown over the last week, it now lies in the hands of the Legislature to make an on-campus Gopher football stadium a reality."

The revised Gopher stadium bill, which passed out of the Senate Higher Education Budget Division today, would sell 2,840 acres of the university's UMore Park property in Dakota County to the State of Minnesota. The land would be used to create a large metropolitan area nature reserve. The state would then finance half of the cost of the new stadium, approximately \$9.4 million per year for 25 years. As a result of the increased state share of the stadium cost, the university has said it will be able to reduce the proposed student fee from \$50 per semester to \$25. In addition to funding the new stadium, the student fee will also provide students with discounted tickets to football games as well as other athletic and cultural events at the university as well as a range of other benefits.

The endorsement by MSA comes just one day after a similar endorsement by the Faculty Consultative Committee which represents university faculty. □

- What:** U of M students to host Taste of Asia
- When:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, March 31
- Where:** Great Hall, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
- Who:** U of M students and staff, community members
- Contacts:** Suku Ponkshe, U of M student, (612) 301-4646
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M students to host Taste of Asia

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/28/2006)--The University of Minnesota will kickoff its Asian Heritage Month celebration with Taste of Asia, a mixture of food, arts and games from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, March 31, in the Great Hall of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. All events are free.

Taste of Asia, organized by the university's Asian Pacific American Heritage Committee (APAHC), will showcase artwork by university and community artists that is influenced or inspired by Asian American themes and performances by local Asian American artists. The event includes free ethnic food from local restaurants Sawatdee (Thai), Hoban (Korean), Taste of India (Indian), Camdi (Vietnamese) and Great Dragon (Chinese). Participants can also take part in fun Asian themed activities such as Henna, Origami and calligraphy.

Taste of Asia is one of many cultural events APAHC has organized on the University of Minnesota campus during Asian Heritage Month.

"We invites people from the community to come enjoy some great food, view the work of many talented artists, and experience the diversity of Asian Pacific American heritage," said event coordinator Suku Ponkshe.

The APAHC is a registered student organization at the University of Minnesota and its mission is to highlight the many diverse cultures within Asian Pacific American heritage. □

Where: Study published in **Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences**

Who: **Traian Dumitrica**, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the **University of Minnesota**

Contacts: **Mark Cassutt**, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M researcher helps develop predictive tool for nanotube breaks

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/28/2006)--A new computer modeling approach developed by materials scientists at the University of Minnesota and Rice University is allowing researchers to create a "strength map" that plots the likelihood or probability that a carbon nanotube will break – and how it's likely to break – based on four key variables. The study appears in this week's issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Carbon nanotubes are single molecules of pure carbon. They are long, narrow, hollow cylinders with walls just one atom thick. Scientists estimate single-wall nanotubes (SWNT) are about 100 times stronger than steel at one-sixth the weight. By comparison, Kevlar® — the fiber used in most bulletproof body armor — is about five times stronger than an equal weight of steel.

In practice, however, scientists have struggled to make nanotubes that exhibit such strength, in part because there are still many unanswered questions about how nanotubes break and under what conditions.

Because nanotubes are single molecules – about 80,000 times smaller than a human hair – finding out what makes them break involves the study of molecular bonds, atomic dynamics and complex quantum phenomena. The fact that there are hundreds of different kinds of nanotubes, sometimes with radically different properties, adds to the complexity. In developing the computational model of nanotube breaking patterns, the researchers consider four critical values: load level, load duration, temperature and chirality.

"Our study shows that the breaking of a particular nanotube depends to a great extent on its little structural twist called chirality. This comes as a surprise since elastic mechanical properties do not depend on chirality", said co-author Traian Dumitrica, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Minnesota. "Yet, temperature still influences the outcome. We were able to summarize in a single map the intricate dependence of the breaking mechanism on parameters. It is overall very exciting to see how complex engineering mechanical properties can be derived from the quantum mechanics of electrons."

The precise diameter of a nanotube can vary from less than half of a nanometer – a billionth of a meter – to more than three nanometers. Nanotubes can also vary by the angle at which they are twisted.

This is known as the chiral angle, and a useful analogy is a roll of wrapping paper. If the roll is rewound carefully, there is no overhang on either end. However, if the roll is wound at an odd angle, excess paper hangs off at one end.

The chiral angle of nanotubes can vary from 0 degrees (no paper hanging off the roll) to 30 degrees, and tubes with different chiralities and diameters can have very different physical properties. For instance, some are metals and others are not. Dumitrica's result shows that the breaking mechanism depends also on chirality.

"Nanotubes break in one of two ways: The bonds either snap in a brittle fashion or stretch and deform," said Boris Yakobson, professor of mechanical engineering and materials science and of chemistry at Rice University and co-author of the study. "We found that the underlying mechanisms that cause both types of breaks are both present at the same time. Even in a particular test, either type of break can occur, but we were able to map out a pattern – based on statistical probabilities – of what was likely to occur in a range of conditions for the whole catalog of nanotube species."

The research was funded by NASA, the Office of Naval Research and the Welch Foundation. □

Who: Rebecca Mitchell, Joseph Walla
Contacts: Sally Lieberman, CLA Honors, 612-624-0399, slieb@class.cla.umn.edu
Tessa Eagan, CLA External Relations, 612-625-3781, teagan@umn.edu

Two U of M students receive prestigious Truman Scholarships

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/29/2006)--Two Honors students in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, Rebecca Lynn Mitchell and Joseph Hartman Walla, have been named 2006 Harry S. Truman Scholars.

The Truman Scholarship is awarded each year to approximately 75 college juniors who are committed to careers in public service. Truman Scholars must have outstanding academic records, demonstrated leadership skills and a history of engagement in community service, government or political activism. The scholarship provides up to \$30,000 for graduate or professional school, and carries a service commitment.

Mitchell, a biology, society and environment major, grew up in Chippewa Falls, Wis. She plans to earn a combined doctorate and masters degree in public health and pursue a career in international health care and health policy. Volunteer experiences last summer at a clinic and orphanage in Nakuru, Kenya, inspired Mitchell to focus on health issues in Africa, particularly those affecting women.

"You will meet few 21-year-olds who possess the compassion, intellectual abilities and leadership qualities that Rebecca does. You will meet even fewer still, who are already actively using these skills to better the lives of others every day and inspiring so many along the way to do the same," said Leonard Muyelee, principal of the Kenyan Pistis Academy and Orphanage, where Mitchell volunteered.

Walla is a summa candidate in political science from Edina, Minn. He intends to earn a master's degree in public policy with a focus on international affairs. He will defer his graduate education, however, in order to complete a professional internship in Asia for the 2006-07 year as a recipient of another prestigious award, the Henry Luce Foundation Scholarship.

Political science professor Martin Sampson had high praise for Walla and his proposal submitted for the Truman Scholarship. "For many years, I have thought the United States needs to find subtle ways to change the atmospherics of the Israeli-Palestinian dispute without relying on face-to-face negotiations or changes in leadership on either side," Sampson said. "Joseph Walla has found such an idea that had never occurred to me. I cannot recall being as fascinated by a student's original idea on a very complex policy issue as I am by the Walla proposal."

Three University of Minnesota-Twin Cities students were nominated in 2006. The third nominee, College of Liberal Arts Honors student Nathan Wanderman, was a 2006 Truman Finalist, also an extraordinary public honor. Seven University of Minnesota-Twin Cities students have been awarded Truman Scholarships since 2000; 19 have won since the scholarship was established by an act of Congress in 1975.

Other University of Minnesota-Twin Cities undergraduates who have won prestigious scholarships in 2006 include Barry M. Goldwater Scholars Elizabeth Barnes, Eman Haidari, Akash Kumar, and Kimberly VanderWaal and Rhodes Scholar Diana Fu. In the last six years, the College of Liberal Arts has had four Rhodes Scholars, including Diana Fu. □

What: University of Minnesota suspends FarmHouse Fraternity for hazing violation

Contacts: Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

University of Minnesota suspends FarmHouse Fraternity for hazing violation

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/29/2006)--The University of Minnesota has suspended the FarmHouse Fraternity chapter's status as a U of M Registered Student Organization (RSO) through spring semester 2007 for participating in and condoning hazing behaviors in violation of university policy. "The sanctions we are imposing on FarmHouse send a clear message that the University of Minnesota will not tolerate hazing or any behavior that puts the safety and well-being of our students at risk," said Vice Provost for Student Affairs Jerry Rinehart.

Rinehart said that the hazing involved degrading behavior that could have resulted in physical harm and such behavior is unacceptable.

FarmHouse's suspension takes effect immediately. In addition, more severe sanctions, which might include closing the chapter and removal of the chapter's status as a Registered Student Organization, may be considered. However, if the chapter completes a thorough membership review, the university will await results of the review before considering further sanctions. This review is to be conducted by appointees of the FarmHouse Fraternity International headquarters, with at least one member of the Student Activities Office (SAO) and at least one other University of Minnesota faculty or staff member, by the end of April.

On Feb. 23, the SAO received two complaints against the FarmHouse Fraternity chapter, including hazing allegations. The SAO, along with Student Judicial Affairs (SJA), investigated the complaints. In interviews, chapter officers confirmed that the hazing took place in violation of the U of M policy on hazing and in violation of the Greek Community Partnership Statement at the university.

Since the hazing behaviors are also a violation of the Student Conduct Code, the SJA investigation of individual member responsibility is ongoing at this time and individual members could face disciplinary action separate from the sanctions imposed on the group.

All of the students involved—both the students who did the hazing and those who were victims of it—have privacy rights under federal and state law, and the university cannot disclose information about the incidents that would violate those rights.

"We are disappointed that this behavior occurred, but we are encouraged that the fraternity chapter, as well as FarmHouse Fraternity International headquarters, have cooperated with the university in the

investigation and have assured us that they want to take actions to ensure that this does not happen again," Rinehart said.

FarmHouse Fraternity International headquarters has suspended all activities of the local chapter. That suspension, along with the university suspension of FarmHouse, begins immediately. If, after the membership review, the university determines that the chapter is not to be closed, an oversight committee will be appointed by the Student Activities Office. The oversight committee, in consultation with chapter alumni and international headquarters representatives, will monitor chapter operations and programs of FarmHouse.

The university's sanctions include suspension of the chapter's status as a Registered Student Organization be suspended through the end of the spring semester 2007. The chapter will be required to register with the Student Activities Office, but will not receive any of the benefits of Registered Student Organization status. The chapter will continue to fully participate in events and meetings and will continue to pay all required dues, fees and fines, as required by the Interfraternity Council. However, the chapter will not be permitted to participate in any Interfraternity Council recruitment events nor send mass mailings through the university. The chapter will not be permitted to sponsor, co-sponsor or participate in any social events through the end of spring semester 2007. The university has also asked that FarmHouse International Headquarters provide the Farmhouse Fraternity chapter with a consultant to assist in the implementation of new member education for the fall semester 2006. □

When: Reception, 4-6 p.m., Wednesday, April 5

Where: Campus Club, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis

Who: Ann Hebble, English as a Second Language teacher, Murray Junior High School, St. Paul

Contacts: Peggy Rader, College of Education and Human Development, (612) 626-8782, rader004@umn.edu

Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M recognizes founder of first Hmong PTO in St. Paul for teaching excellence

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/29/2006)--Ann Hebble, an English as a Second Language teacher at Murray Junior High School in St. Paul, will receive the 2006 Impact Award for Distinguished Teaching from the University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development. Hebble will be honored at a reception from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 6 at the Campus Club, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis

The college's Council on Teacher Education created the Impact Award in 2003 to annually recognize educators who, through their teaching, have exerted a profound influence on the lives of students. The award includes \$1,000 for each recipient.

Hebble, a 12-year teaching veteran, founded the first Hmong Parent Teacher Organization in St. Paul Public Schools and also initiated Murray's Hmong Girl Scouts pilot program. She has received four other teaching awards, including one from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as well as an award from the Minnesota School Counselors Association.

"Aside from being completely flabbergasted, I am so pleased that this award was given to a teacher of ESL students because typically ESL programs and students are under-represented in this kind of recognition," Hebble says. "I believe the award recognizes the achievements of ESL students and their families and that's what makes me most happy about receiving this award."

"Ms. Hebble has had a direct and profound impact on the lives of the students she serves as a teacher, mentor and advocate to some of the most needy students and families as the founder of our current English Language Learners instructional program and our Hmong PTO," says Murray's principal, Winston Tucker.

One of her former students, now in college, wrote that when she was in Hebble's seventh-grade ESL class, "I learned I was not alone in this journey. There were other students from different countries who were in the same position as I. In Ms. Hebble's class I felt comfortable and free to speak and ask

questions because nobody in the class would laugh at me, she wouldn't allow that.”

An eighth grade student who was in Hebble's class last year wrote, “Ms. Hebble is a teacher that will never give up on her students. She is the first teacher I ever met that will take the time to explain, show her students every step of how to write an essay, for example. Many students from last year and this year [were promoted] out of ELL because we learned a lot of things from Ms. Hebble. And many juniors and seniors or even some college students come to Murray Junior High to visit Ms. Hebble and bring her presents. This is a way of saying thank you to her.”

“The unique aspect of the award is that students must be involved in the nomination process,” College of Education and Human Development Steven Yussen said of the Impact Award. “The purpose was to create awards that essentially come from families—those whose lives and learning have been impacted by teaching excellence and a supportive learning environment.”

Hebble, who received her undergraduate degree and master of education degree at the University of Minnesota, is also the co-author of an academic case study that examines the unique curriculum she created for her Murray ESL classes. The case study forms a chapter in the book, *Content-Based Instruction in Primary and Secondary School Settings*, published in 2005.

One of her co-authors, Susan Ranney, an instructor in the college's second languages and cultures education program, wrote that Hebble “is a truly gifted teacher who exudes passion for the profession and for her students, and has a love of learning that sustains her and keeps her fresh. Her innovative approach to teaching is a model which leads the way in the second language teaching profession. Her students are blessed to have a teacher who cares so deeply for them and for their learning.”

□

When: 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Thursday, March 30

Where: Atrium, Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-8770 (office),
(612) 702-8984 (cell)

Mark Cassutt, University of Minnesota News Service, (612) 624-8038
(office), (612) 396-5332 (cell)

U of M Carlson School to preview design and announce name of proposed undergraduate building

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/29/2006)--The Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota along with RSP Architects will preview the design for a planned undergraduate building at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 30. University President Robert Bruininks will also announce the name for the new building at the public ceremony in the Carlson School of Management atrium, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. About 700 students, staff and alumni of the school are expected to attend.

RSP Architects will show an animation of the proposed building, along with renderings describing the building's organization and design. In a flood of balloons and confetti, pep band music, and student cheers, Bruininks will introduce the person for whom the building will be named. Carlson School Interim Deans Jim Campbell and Michael Houston, and incoming dean Alison Davis-Blake also will be part of the ceremony.

The Carlson School is seeking \$26.6 million for the new facility as part of the university's 2006 Capital Request. To meet increasing demand for a business education, the Carlson School plans to expand its undergraduate program to serve 50 percent more students by 2008. Currently, the Carlson School can only serve 12 percent of students who apply, turning away many of the state's brightest students who then leave the state.

A press release with additional information on the design for the building and naming recipient will be released on Thursday, March 30. □

Contacts: David Golden, Boynton Health Service, (612) 626-6738
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

U of M asks student to quit (smoking) and win

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/30/2006)--If ever there was an incentive for students to quit smoking, this is it. U of M student smokers who work to quit next month and sign up for the Quit and Win contest through Friday, March 31, have a chance to win prizes. To register, students should visit www.quitandwin.umn.edu and register by the end of the day Friday.

The University of Minnesota Boynton Health Service is running the Quit and Win incentive at the U of M, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud Technical College and Hennepin Technical College, thanks to funding from the Hennepin Medical Society, said David Golden, director of public health, marketing and program development at Boynton.

Participants stand a chance to win a \$3,000 shopping spree from one of the following stores: Target, Best Buy, Midwest Mountaineering, Sports Authority, Cabela's, Home Depot, Macy's or IKEA.

Those aiming to quit will receive free counseling, nicotine patches, gum and lozenges to help them in their endeavor to quit in April.

By offering an incentive and other help during the contest, quit rates among participants after a one year follow up were 30 percent, Golden said.

"Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States, and 18-to-24-year-olds have one of the highest rates of tobacco use," Golden said. "That's why we are committed to providing this contest and the help that goes with it." □

What: U of M researcher to announce first results in international neutrino experiment

When: 4 p.m. Thursday, March 30

Where: Fermilab - Batavia, Ill.

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038
Deane Morrison, University Relations, (612) 624-2346

MINOS experiment sheds light on mystery of neutrino disappearance

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/30/2006)--An international collaboration of scientists at the Department of Energy's Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory will announce today (Thursday, March 30) the first results of a new neutrino experiment. Sending a high-intensity beam of muon neutrinos from the lab's site in Batavia, Ill., to a particle detector in Soudan, Minn., scientists observed the disappearance of a significant fraction of these neutrinos. The observation is consistent with an effect known as neutrino oscillation, in which neutrinos change from one kind to another. Details of the current MINOS experiment results will be presented at 4 p.m. by David Petyt, University of Minnesota research associate, physics and astronomy, at a special seminar at Fermilab.

Neutrinos are hard to detect, and most of the neutrinos traveling the 450 miles from Fermilab to Soudan—straight through the Earth, no tunnel needed—leave no signal in the MINOS detector. If neutrinos had no mass, the particles would not change as they traverse the Earth. Instead, the MINOS collaboration found a clear observation of muon neutrino disappearance and hence neutrino mass. The pattern of the deficit as a function of energy is consistent with hypothesis that muon neutrinos can transform into electron neutrinos or tau neutrinos, but alternative models—such as neutrino decay and extra dimensions—are not yet excluded. It will take the recording of much more data by the MINOS collaboration to test more precisely the exact nature of the disappearance process.

“Currently, the most significant particle physics experiment in the world is in Minnesota,” said Peter Litchfield, U of M professor of physics. “After Fermilab, the U of M has the biggest contingent of people working on this project.”

“Using a man-made beam of neutrinos, MINOS is a great tool to study the properties of neutrinos in a laboratory-controlled environment,” said Stanford University professor Stan Wojcicki, spokesperson of the experiment. “Our first result corroborates earlier observations of muon neutrino disappearance, made by the Japanese Super-Kamiokande and K2K experiments.”

“This is the most precise accelerated neutrino oscillation experiment. It gives us another piece of knowledge about the origins of mass,” said Ken Heller, U of M professor of physics. “As it continues, it will give us the best neutrino oscillation data.”

Nature provides for three types of neutrinos, yet scientists know very little about these “ghost particles,” which can traverse the entire Earth without interacting with matter. But the abundance of neutrinos in the universe, produced by stars and nuclear processes, may explain how galaxies formed and why antimatter has disappeared. Ultimately, these elusive particles may explain the origin of the neutrons, protons and electrons that make up all the matter in the world.

The MINOS experiment includes about 150 scientists, engineers, technical specialists and students from 32 institutions in 6 countries: Brazil, France, Greece, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States. The institutions include universities as well as national laboratories. The U.S. Department of Energy provides the major share of the funding, with additional funding from the U.S. National Science Foundation and from the United Kingdom's Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council.

The Soudan side of the experiment features a huge 6,000-ton particle detector that measures the properties of the neutrinos after their 450-mile trip to northern Minnesota. The cavern housing the detector is located half a mile underground in a former iron mine. The detector resides in a laboratory directed by U of M physics professor Earl Peterson. The university built about half the 4,000 individual particle detector modules that pick up signals when a neutrino collides with an atomic nucleus within the massive steel plates used as “traps.” The Fermilab side of the MINOS experiment consists of a beam line in a 4,000-foot-long tunnel pointing from Fermilab to Soudan. The tunnel holds the carbon target and beam focusing elements that generate the neutrinos from protons accelerated by Fermilab's Main Injector accelerator. A neutrino detector, the MINOS “near detector” located 350 feet below the surface of the Fermilab site, measures the composition and intensity of the neutrino beam as it leaves the lab.

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, founded in 1967, is a Department of Energy National Laboratory in Batavia, Ill., about 40 miles west of Chicago. Fermilab operates the world's highest-energy particle accelerator, the Tevatron, on its 6,800-acre campus.

More information on the MINOS experiment is at www-numi.fnal.gov/. A list of institutions collaborating on MINOS: www-numi.fnal.gov/collab/institut.html.

Photos are available at:

www.fnal.gov/pub/presspass/press_releases/NuMI_photos

A 12-minute streaming video on the MINOS experiment is at:

vmsstreamer1.fnal.gov/VMS_Site_02/VMS/MINOS/MINOS.htm

Two graphics summarizing the result are at:

www.fnal.gov/pub/presspass/press_releases/MinosPictures.html □

What: New Carlson School building to be named after alumnus Herb Hanson

Who: Robert Bruininks, Jim Campbell, Michael Houston, Alison Davis-Blake, Herb Hanson

Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-8770, (612) 702-8984 cell, dskelly@csom.umn.edu

Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038, (612) 396-5332 cell

U of M Carlson School of Management names Herbert M. Hanson Jr. Hall and unveils design

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/30/2006)--University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks earlier today announced the Carlson School of Management's planned undergraduate building will be named Herbert M. Hanson Jr. Hall, or Hanson Hall, in honor of alumnus Herb Hanson and his wife, Barbara.

The California couple gave \$10 million in March 2004 to support expanding the Carlson School's undergraduate program with a new building. Currently, the school admits only 12 percent of those who apply because of space limitations. Many of those who are not admitted are some of the state's best students, and 70 percent are Minnesota residents. Of those not admitted, 42 percent leave the state.

"Ensuring that the university is a destination of choice for talented students is a high priority," said Bruininks. "Thanks to alumnus Herb Hanson and his wife Barbara, Hanson Hall will help the Carlson School continue to attract and serve some of the Minnesota's most gifted students and keeping them engaged in the state's economy."

Bruininks announced the name and honored Hanson in a public ceremony attended by hundreds of students, staff and alumni in the Carlson School building atrium. Carlson School Interim Deans Jim Campbell and Michael Houston, and incoming dean Alison Davis-Blake also spoke.

The building will be constructed between Riverside Avenue and 19th and 20th Avenues South, and allow the Carlson School to grow the undergraduate program by 50 percent by 2008--the expected opening date. The school is asking legislators for \$26.6 million or two-thirds of the \$39.9 million cost as part of the university's 2006 Capital Request. Following the Board of Regents approval in May, construction would start in the fall.

About Hanson Hall

RSP Architects previewed the design for the 124,000-square foot Hanson Hall with several artist renderings, a model and three-dimensional animation. The building will include classrooms, an expanded career center, as well as room for undergraduate program staff and the College of Liberal Arts' department of economics.

The four-story building will connect to the current 243,000-square foot Carlson School building by a skyway and have a similar atrium. The stepped building will sit against 20th Avenue with a lower form curving to the west. Green space will serve as a West Bank gateway. The building also gracefully steps down to Riverside Avenue. McGough Construction is serving as contractor-at-risk.

"We took many design cues from the existing Carlson School building," said RSP President Dave Norback. "The university wanted to preserve a single Carlson School of Management, and our design supports their vision. At the same time, the expansion forms a significant edge to the West Bank campus, so we attempted to optimize the site for that expression."

About Herb Hanson

Herb Hanson, age 82, a Browns Valley, Minn. native and 1949 University of Minnesota graduate in economics, founded the San Francisco-based Hanson Investment Management Co., a money management firm with more than \$3 billion in assets when he retired in 1993. Hanson said his gift is in gratitude for the education he received at the University of Minnesota.

"My education was the key to my success, and now I want to do what I can to help more of today's students get a good start in their careers," said Hanson, who returns to campus twice a year to speak to students. A member of the Carlson School's Board of Overseers, Hanson helped launch the Carlson Funds Enterprise, an MBA student-led fund management business managing more than \$20 million.

Hanson also credits his success to the late professor Arthur Upgren, who became a close friend and mentor. In 1999 Hanson honored his favorite faculty member by making a \$1.25 million gift to establish the Arthur R. Upgren Chair in Investment Management at the Carlson School. □

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Nora Jenneman, Department of Theatre Arts & Dance, (612) 624-4008, jenne011@umn.edu

Four U of M dance program faculty to perform original choreography at the Kennedy Center

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/30/2006)--Four University of Minnesota dance program faculty were recently selected to present their original choreography at the prestigious American College Dance Festival Association's (ACDFA) National College Dance Festival Gala at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., May 16-18. They are dance program director Carl Flink, affiliate Mathew Janczewski and associate professor Joanie Smith with her partner affiliate Danial Shapiro.

This is an especially unique honor for Flink, because it is the first time that a U of M faculty member's choreography will also be performed by U of M students. While the university has been selected to participate in seven of the last eight biennial national galas, U of M students have only performed works that were created by guest artists or student choreographers.

Flink's "This Bleeding Heart ...," an octet, was adjudicated at the North Central Regional ACDFA Conference held at the University of Iowa by a panel made up of dance notables Joe Goode, Gabriel Masson and Denise Jefferson. From a field of 48 dances from 29 universities in ten states, "This Bleeding Heart . . ." was one of only three works invited out of the regional to perform at the Kennedy Center. Janczewski's "Quartet," created for students at Carleton College in Minnesota, was selected at the New England ACDFA regional. Smith and Shapiro set "Never Enough" on students at University of Florida Gainesville, which was selected at the Southeast ACDFA regional.

Jan Erkert, a well-respected professor from Columbia College in Chicago said of Flink's choreography, "The piece is so wonderfully layered and full of emotional impact. I am amazed at the quality of your students. They are so technically capable, but what makes them special is their gusto and fearlessness as movers."

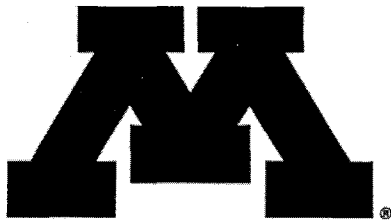
"The Nationals are a unique opportunity to promote the extraordinary training available at the U of M, the excellence of our faculty – both tenured and adjunct – and the exceptional talent and maturity of our performers," said Flink. Multiple invitations to present work at the ACDFA National Gala is one of several recent honors for U of M dance faculty, including a Minneapolis Star Tribune 2005 Artist of the Year award for affiliate Toni Pierce-Sands and her husband Uri Sands, and a ChangeMaker award for

associate professor Ananya Chatterjea from the Minnesota Women's Press.

"Through the Cowles Artist program we are bringing in guests of national stature to create work on and mentor our dancers. By nurturing local artists in our adjunct faculty we are enriching the Twin Cities dance community making Minneapolis a coveted destination for dancers and choreographers," said Flink.

For additional information contact Nora Jenneman, dance program coordinator, at (612) 624-4008 or jenne011@umn.edu. Photos of Flink's "This Bleeding Heart. . ." are also available by contacting Justin Christy at (612) 625-5380 or justin@umn.edu.

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXPERT ALERT

University News Service

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March 31, 2006

Contact: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, 612-624-0214

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA IMMIGRATION HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER

More than 11 million undocumented immigrants live in the United States, and proposed legislation by the House of Representatives prompted massive protests this last week. Immigration has the potential to be a hot-button issue as the 2006 election draws closer. The University of Minnesota can offer valuable resources to journalists and media outlets in covering the issue.

The Immigration History Research Center (IHRC) at the University of Minnesota is a nationally renowned organization that advances the understanding of the history of the American immigrant experience. As an integral part of the University of Minnesota, the Center preserves and promotes the history of immigration and ethnicity in shaping the culture and society of the United States. The Center serves scholars and the public in the state of Minnesota, in the nation, as well as internationally.

The IHRC collects, preserves, and makes available archival and published resources documenting immigration and ethnicity on a national scope. The Center also documents the work of institutions and individuals concerned with service to and programs for immigrants. Through collaborative projects, the IHRC facilitates preservation of materials and promotes new acquisition initiatives. The Center has a rich archive of materials documenting immigrant and refugee life from the late 19th century to the present.

The Center's Advisory Council offers a breadth of expertise with representatives from the U's department of history, the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs the U's institute for Global Studies and several others schools at the University of Minnesota.

For more information on the IHRC or to interview any of its experts, contact Asim Dorovic at 612-624-0214 or at dorovic@umn.edu, or visit www.ihrc.umn.edu/about.

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University of Minnesota receives major USDA grant for barley research

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/31/2006)--The University of Minnesota today received a major U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) grant as the lead institution in a 30 scientist consortium that will explore methods to produce higher yielding, higher quality and disease-resistant barley by relating genetic information to physical traits in existing barley breeding lines.

The university will receive just under \$2 million of the total \$5 million being awarded to 19 institutions by the USDA, according to an announcement by Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns.

"This research will help our producers increase their competitiveness by producing high yielding, high quality barley," said Johanns. "The knowledge acquired by this research will be provided to scientists, growers and industry breeders, continuing USDA's long history in promoting agriculture research."

This consortium will work together to develop a detailed genetic "road map" of barley to identify the genes that control yield, food and malt quality and disease resistance.

"The project will implement new genomics technology," said Gary Muehlbauer, associate professor of agronomy and plant genetics at the University of Minnesota. "We want to make barley breeding more efficient and effective."

This research will use marker-assisted selection technology, which allows breeders to more precisely select the best trait combinations for specific varieties. For example, a plant scientist might mark a combination of genes known to increase disease resistance. Breeders wanting the disease resistance trait use marker information to identify lines containing that specific combination of genes.

Muehlbauer points out the benefits of the barley research will extend to the general public. "The research will help create an alternative and healthy source of food and energy by developing a more sustainable supply of barley."

A portion of the USDA money will help educate graduate students and postdoctoral research associates in plant breeding and genetics. Muehlbauer hopes this funding will encourage more individuals to get involved with plant breeding and genetics research.

Results of the research will be available to scientists, growers and the food industry through the

project's public website www.barleycap.org.

"The university has been involved in barley research for over 100 years," Muehlbauer said. "Many of the barley varieties used for malting have been developed at the University of Minnesota."

USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) administered the award through the National Research Initiative (NRI). The NRI supports research, education and extension grants that address key problems of national, regional and multi-state importance in sustaining all components of agriculture.

CSREES advances knowledge for agriculture, the environment, human health and well-being, and communities by supporting research, education, and extension programs in the Land-Grant University System and other partner organizations. For more information, visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov>. □

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U of M staff receives international immigrant achievement award

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (3/31/2006)--Hong Yang, director of the University of Minnesota China Center, will receive the International Immigrant Achievement Award at the 2006 Twin Cities International Citizen Award Ceremony Wednesday, April 26. The award, sponsored by the International Leadership Institute, honor Twin Citians whose work has contributed significantly to international understanding, cooperation, friendship and development.

In May of 2000, Yang was appointed the director of the China Center. He is very enthusiastic about taking the leadership of the China Center and strives to make the China Center a statewide catalyst and resource for the promotion of educational, economic, governmental and civic pursuits between Minnesota and mainland China and Taiwan. An important part of the mission of the China Center is to increase Minnesota's awareness, understanding and interest in China. He had been on several state and university trade and academic missions to China.

Yang has served on the board of directors of the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association-Minnesota, the Chinese American & Professional Association in Minnesota and the Minnesota International Center.

Yang grew up in Leshan, Sichuan Province in China and went to Chengdu University of Science and Technology (CUST) for his undergraduate study. He received his bachelor of science degree in Chemistry in 1982. Before coming to the United States in the fall of 1985, Hong taught various chemistry courses at CUST for three years. CUST is now part of Sichuan University in Chengdu. Yang received a teaching assistant fellowship at the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1985 and started his graduate study in the department of chemistry at Stony Brook. He received his doctorate degree in theoretical chemistry in 1990.

Yang spent the next 10 years at North Carolina State University-Raleigh, conducting research and teaching activities in the department of chemistry in various positions. Yang also served as a coordinator of China Programs at N.C. State and played an active and pivotal role in developing faculty and student exchange and collaborative programs with Chinese universities, research institutions and government agencies. He coordinated numerous ambassador visits to NC State and the state of North Carolina. Yang has served on numerous boards and as a panel member in the research triangle areas of North Carolina.

□

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

U of M School of Journalism and Mass Communication to host international journalists as part of U.S. Department of State's new Edward R. Murrow program

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/3/2006)--The University of Minnesota's School of Journalism and Mass Communication (SJMC) will host twelve journalists from western Africa, April 5 - 13, as part of the U.S. State Department's new Edward R. Murrow Program. The Murrow program is an innovative public-private partnership between the Department of State and seven leading U.S. schools of journalism.

The program will bring 130 journalists from independent media outlets around the world to the United States to examine the practice of American journalism and interact with professional journalists and experts in the field.

"The Murrow Program is a marvelous opportunity for us to contribute to an international discussion about press freedoms and responsibilities in a changing world," said SJMC director Albert Tims. "We are looking forward to launching this exciting new program and exchanging ideas with our visitors about how we can help promote vigorous and responsible journalism around the world."

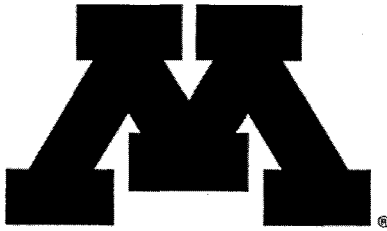
After a brief orientation in Washington, D.C., the international journalists will divide into groups and travel to one of the seven partner institutions, including the University of Minnesota. The other six institutions include the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Southern California's Annenberg School, the University of Oklahoma, and the University of Kentucky.

The 12 journalists who will visit the SJMC come from Burkina Faso, Chad, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali, Mauritius, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal, and hold positions in radio, print, and broadcast in their home countries. The SJMC has designed a specialized curriculum for the group's week-long visit, including seminars led by SJMC faculty on investigative and in-depth reporting methods, subject reporting, new media and Internet broadcasting, economics of the press, and the role of the press in a democracy. The group will spend time observing professional journalists at the Star Tribune, KFAI Radio, KSTP-AM Radio, Twin Cities Public Television and Minnesota Public Radio, and will also meet U.S. Rep. Betty McCollum (DFL-MN, Fourth District). SJMC will have a reception for the visiting journalists at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 6, in Room 100, Murphy Hall, 206 Church St, Minneapolis.

Following their visit to the SJMC, the 12 journalists will visit a number of state capitals to examine

media coverage of statewide politics. They will then return to Washington, D.C. for a symposium hosted by the Aspen Institute, which will focus on the challenges facing media in the U.S. and around the world.





UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXPERT ALERT

University News Service

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April 3, 2006

Contact: *Asim Dorovic, University News Service, 612-624-0214*

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA IMMIGRATION HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER

More than 11 million undocumented immigrants live in the United States, and proposed legislation by the House of Representatives prompted massive protests in the last two weeks. Immigration has the potential to be a hot-button issue as the 2006 election draws closer, and the University of Minnesota can offer valuable resources to journalists and media outlets in covering the issue.

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The IHRC collects, preserves, and makes available archival and published resources documenting immigration and ethnicity on a national scope. The Center also documents the work of institutions and individuals concerned with service to and programs for immigrants. Through collaborative projects, the IHRC facilitates preservation of materials and promotes new acquisition initiatives. The Center has a rich archive of materials documenting immigrant and refugee life from the late 19th century to the present.

The Center's Advisory Council offers a breadth of expertise with representatives from the U's department of history, the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs the U's institute for Global Studies and several others schools at the University of Minnesota. Select faculty who can talk about immigration in the United States are:

Donna Gabaccia, professor of history and director of the IHRC

- Expertise: Immigration history; international migration; immigrant life in the United States; how immigrants change mainstream society; U.S. immigration history in global and comparative perspective;

Katherine Fennelly, professor at the U's Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs

- Expertise: Immigration and public policy; human rights of immigrants and refugees in the United States;

- more -

Erika Lee, associate professor of history at the U

- Expertise: Immigration and 20th century U.S. history; United States as a “nation of immigrants” and a “gate-keeping nation”; and

Louis Mendoza, associate professor and chair of the department of Chicano studies

- Expertise: U.S. immigration literature; Chicano literary and cultural studies.

For more information on the IHRC or to interview any of its experts, contact Asim Dorovic at 612-624-0214 or at dorovic@umn.edu, or visit www.ihrc.umn.edu/about.

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Who: Elizabeth Burr, Mark Foster, Theodore Meinhover
Contacts: Sally Lieberman, College of Liberal Arts Honors Division, (612) 624-0399
 Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

Three U of M students receive Sullivan scholarships to study abroad

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/3/2006)--Three University of Minnesota, Twin Cities students have been selected as winners of the 2006-07 Katherine E. Sullivan Scholarships. The Sullivan Scholarships allow outstanding

students from any University of Minnesota campus to enhance their education with a fifth year of undergraduate study overseas.

The 2006-07 winners are:

Elizabeth (Betsy) Burr is an honors-College of Liberal Arts student from Oakdale, majoring in anthropology and minoring in art. Burr began her undergraduate career at Century College in White Bear Lake and transferred to the university. The Sullivan Scholarship will help to support a year of directed field research in South Africa. Burr will be engaged in the excavation and identification of rodent fossils at Kromdraai, in the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage site in South Africa, in order to learn about the habitats of ancient humans. Faculty who recommended her for the scholarship are professor Greg Laden, who is supervising her research, and John Soderberg, both of the department of anthropology. She has been involved in several research projects at the university and in the community, including an archeological excavation in the Elliott Park neighborhood of Minneapolis. Burr is also an accomplished violinist, pianist and photographer. After completing her undergraduate education with the year in South Africa, she intends to pursue a doctorate in biological anthropology.

Mark Foster is an honors-CLA student from Colorado Springs, Colo., completing a bachelor of fine arts degree in acting with a second major in anthropology and a minor in political science. With the support of the Sullivan Scholarship, he will study Swahili and other subjects at the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, during the fall semester, and will conduct independent research at the Jane Goodall Institute in Tanzania's Gombe National Park during the spring.

Foster, whose summa thesis explores connections between actor training, primatology and evolutionary theory, will study male chimpanzee social strategies, especially rates of dominance displays,

at the Jane Goodall Institute. Faculty who recommended him are professors Anne Pusey of the department of ecology, evolution, and behavior, and Branislav Jakovljevic of the department of theatre arts and dance. Foster has studied and interned in London and conducted research on "Perceptions of Death and Dying Among the Hmong" with funding from the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program. He has been involved in many theatrical productions on campus and in the community, including directing Sarah Kane's play, *Crave*, in conjunction with the Aurora Center, and serving as the assistant director of *Lettuce and Lovage* at Theatre de la Jeune Lune.

Theodore (Ted) Meinhover is an honors-CLA student from Ottertail, pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in global studies with a minor in mass communication. He has studied Chinese for the past two years at the university, and he also completed an intensive program in the Bahasa language during a semester abroad in Malaysia with the support of an International Reciprocal Student Exchange Program (IRSEP) Scholarship. As a Sullivan Scholar, Meinhover intends to continue his study of these languages and cultures by spending a semester at the University of Indonesia in Depok followed by a semester at Yunnan University in Kunming, China. Meinhover is committed to cross-cultural communication and is interested in learning more, not only about the nations and cultures of Asia, but also about the relationships among these nations and cultures. He has volunteered and interned with several human rights organizations in southeast Asia, and has worked on diversity and community outreach programming at KFAI Community Radio. Faculty who recommended Meinhover for the scholarship are professor Barbara Frey, director of the University's Human Rights Program, and professor Daniel Kelliher of the department of political science. □

- What:** Gala events to celebrate the legacy of the College of Human Ecology
- When:** 3 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 7
- Where:** St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul (3 to 5 p.m.); McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul (5:30 to 8 p.m.)
- Who:** College of Human Ecology alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends
- Contacts:** Glen Beltt, College of Human Ecology, (612) 624-4232
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

Gala events to celebrate the legacy of the College of Human Ecology

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/3/2006)--More than 20,000 alumni and friends of the College of Human Ecology have been invited to celebrate its 106-year legacy with two special events on Friday, April 7, as the college prepares to move its four academic departments into new collegiate homes.

The day's events will include a storyteller's gathering and all-college reunion at the St. Paul Student Center from 3 to 5 p.m. In the evening, a gala reception will be held in McNeal Hall from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Live music and dancing, college displays and classroom tours, new college alumni society 'meet and greets,' and an opportunity to view the "Celebrate! The College of Human Ecology" exhibition, currently running in the Goldstein Museum of Design, are all part of the evening's activities. In addition, a short transitions ceremony will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the McNeal Hall atrium.

"Our closing ceremony will be important to the transition of our departments and alumni into new academic homes," stated interim dean Jan Hogan, "It's a chance for alumni, friends, faculty and staff to collectively reflect on our wonderful past, acknowledge a loss, and welcome a new era for our programs."

The College of Human Ecology traces its roots to the late 19th century when classes on domestic economy and cookery were first offered on the St. Paul campus. The first course on home economics was given in 1900, and home economics gradually emerged as a separate program of study as course offerings expanded over the years to focus on such topics as nutrition, textiles, and home management. Collegiate status was granted to home economics in 1970, and over time, the current departmental structure of the college was established. The college changed its name to the College of Human Ecology in 1990 to reflect the interdisciplinary research scope of its programs, which examines how humans interact with their environment.

As part of University of Minnesota strategic positioning aimed at transforming the university into one of the top three research universities in the world, the department of Design, Housing, and Apparel

will move into a new College of Design with the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. the School of Social Work and the department of Family Social Science will move into the new College of Education and Human Development. The department of Food Science and Nutrition will move into the new College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS). The changes happen in June. □

What: University of Minnesota Law School places sixth among public law schools in the nation

Contacts: Dana R. Bartocci, Law School, (612) 625-6691
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

University of Minnesota Law School places sixth among public law schools in the nation

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/3/2006)--The University of Minnesota Law School has maintained its rank as one of the top 20 law schools in the 2007 U.S. News & World Report America's Best Graduate Schools rankings publication. This places the U of M Law School sixth among public law schools in the nation.

The Law School was also recognized in several specialty rankings. The health law program jumped to 10th, up from 13th last year. This is the highest specialty program ranking in the school's history. Other specialty rankings including 21st for intellectual property and 23rd for international law.

It is becoming increasingly difficult to compete with private law schools due to funding cuts," said Law School Dean Alex M. Johnson, Jr.

However, Johnson credited the Law School maintaining its overall rank to targeted efforts aimed at increasing numbers of applicants, and in doing so increasing the LSAT scores.

In recent years, the Law School has also made several significant faculty hires, devoted more resources to career and professional development services and expanded study abroad opportunities --all of which have contributed to its good ranking.

In addition, the Law School has the best bar passage rate in the country. □

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

U of M Extension Service launches a one-stop Web site for flood information

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/3/2006)--In light of flooding emergencies along areas of the Red River, the University of Minnesota Extension Service launched a one-stop Web site Monday aimed at helping people handle flood response, cleanup and safety issues.

The research-based material can be found by visiting www.extension.umn.edu and clicking on the "Spring Floods" link. Information has been organized into six major categories of resources -- climatology, crops, family, food/water, horticulture and housing.

When visiting the site, Minnesota homeowners can find information on how to clean flooded floors and how to dry homes using outside air, among other items. Some of the information is provided in the Spanish, Hmong and Cambodian languages. There's also a section that highlights how people can obtain safe drinking water from wells in flooded areas.

The Web site features information about how to determine the impact of flood stress on trees, and how to talk with children after a natural disaster strikes.

Special flood-related farm safety hazards are also addressed, including the handling of electrical equipment. An important area pertaining to cleanup efforts outlines how to safely operate gasoline or diesel powered pumps, generators and pressure washers.

Extension's web site features links to the Minnesota DNR's floodwarning gage map, as well as the U of M Climatology Working Group's site for current weather conditions.

The National Weather Service expects the Red River to crest in the Fargo area Wednesday, at about 37.5 feet. Flood stage is 18 feet.

The worst flood in the last 100 years was in 1997, when the Red River crested at 39.5 feet in Fargo.

Additional resources from Extension include The Extension Disaster Handbook's chapter on floods. It can be found by visiting www.cft.uwex.edu/ces/news/info/flood.pdf. □

- What:** Minnesota-China Conference on Biotechnology and Renewable Energy
- When:** 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 12
- Where:** St. Paul Student Center Theater, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul
- Who:** U.S. Sen. Norm Coleman, Wang Hongguang, director general of the China National Center for Biotechnology Development, Richard Hemmingsen, director of the U of M Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE)
- Contacts:** Ann Mayhew, IREE public relations representative, (612) 624-6566, amayhew@umn.edu
- Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

U.S. Sen. Norm Coleman, Chinese government officials and U researchers to discuss renewable energy technology developments in the United States and China

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/4/2006)--China's highest ranking biotechnology official, Dr. Wang Hongguang, director general of the China National Center for Biotechnology Development, will be the keynote speaker at the upcoming conference on biotechnology and renewable energy set for Wednesday, April 12 at the University of Minnesota. U.S. Sen. Norman Coleman will also speak at the conference about the United States' perspective on renewable energy and biotechnology. The conference is an outgrowth of the continuing partnership between Minnesota and China as both work to promote the development and use of renewable fuels.

"The 21st century will be the century of the bio-economy. Production of fuels from renewable bio-based resources will be a major new industry providing clean, abundant, reliable and affordable energy, and will reduce our dependence on fossil-fuels. Minnesota is a national leader in the development and commercialization of technologies to support this emerging industry," said Richard Hemmingsen, director of the University of Minnesota Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE). IREE co-sponsored and participated in the World Biofuels Symposium in Beijing, China this past November, as part of Gov. Tim Pawlenty's trade mission to China. This mission, the largest state-sponsored trade mission from the United States, provided extensive networking opportunities for IREE and the university, building on an earlier forum sponsored by the University of Minnesota China Center and the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

The conference is set for 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, at the University of Minnesota's St. Paul Student Center Theater, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul. The event is free and no

advance registration is required. Sponsors include IREE, the University of Minnesota China Center, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, and the University of Minnesota Center for Biorefining.

Conference agenda highlights

8:30 Dick Hemmingsen, IREE Director, will open the conference.

8:45 Wang Hongguang, Director General, China National Center for Biotechnology Development, will deliver the keynote address on the direction that China is taking on biotechnology and the bioindustry.

9:35 Liu Dehua, professor, department of chemical engineering, Tsinghua University, will talk about China's vast biomaterials.

9:55 Yang Lirong, professor and director of the Institute of Bioengineering at Zhejiang University will outline China's fermentation and enzyme industry.

10:15 Qiu Hongwei, director of the department of Industrial Biotechnology at the China National Center for Biotechnology Development will give a presentation on China's bioenergy.

10:45 U.S. Sen. Norman Coleman will discuss the United States' perspective on renewable energy and biotechnology.

11:20 Gene Hugoson, Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner, will outline Minnesota's perspective on agricultural energy and rural development.

11:40 Bob Elde, dean of the College of Biological Sciences, will give a presentation on biotechnology research at the University of Minnesota.

For more information, visit the IREE's web site at <http://www1.umn.edu/iree/events.html>. □

When: 7:15 p.m. Thursday, April 20

Where: First Universalist Church of Minneapolis, 3400 DuPont Ave. S., Minneapolis

Who: Singers Robert Eddie Robinson, Sally Rogers, CitySongs Kids

Contacts: Hayley Hontos, CitySongs Operations Manager, (612) 626-1241
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M to stage benefit concert for CitySongs

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/4/2006)--Twin Cities Gospel treasure Robert "Eddie" Robinson and sparkling singer-songwriter Sally Rogers will perform a benefit concert for CitySongs at 7:15 p.m. Thursday, April 20, at the First Universalist Church of Minneapolis, 3400 DuPont Ave. S., Minneapolis. The CitySongs Kids and ace banjo player Howie Bursen will also give a cameo performance.


CitySongs is a creative arts based youth and community development program involving kids in the fourth through eighth grades. Jointly established by the University of Minnesota School of Social Work and College of Human Ecology and the St. Paul's Hallie Q. Brown - Martin Luther King Center in 1992, CitySongs helps inner-city youth identify and reach their potential and strengthen the community through diverse music participation and strength based social work/education. Although based in St. Paul, the program enrolls young people from the Twin Cities metro area - without participation fees and without audition.

The concert presents two nationally acclaimed singers:

"Robert and Sally represent the best that gospel and folk singing have to offer," said CitySongs executive director Helen Kivnick. "They both live and sing in ways that represent the essence of CitySongs: using voice to help people become strong, both as individuals and as an ever-being-woven community. This concert represents a unique opportunity for them to appear, with supporting musicians, on the same stage - introducing their music to each other and their audiences, enriching one another's music, and creating an evening of vocal power and excitement for everyone lucky enough to be present."

Ticket prices are: \$90 (front and center), \$65 (main floor forward and balcony front), \$45 (main floor mid-back and balcony middle), and \$30 (main floor/balcony back). All tickets are \$5 more at the door. A silent auction will begin at 6 p.m. and wrap up at intermission. It will feature artist CD's for sale.

The concert is sponsored by the First Universalist Church Social Justice Council, Cargill Grain and

Oilseed Business Group, Robert "Eddie" Robinson, Sally Rogers and the University of Minnesota School of Social Work. For more information call CitySongs at (612) 626-1241
<http://citysongs.umn.edu/>. Tickets are available through www.ticketweb.com/ 

What: Oberstar Forum to explore the value of integrating non-motorized transportation into communities

Contacts: Michael McCarthy, Center for Transportation Studies, (612) 624-3645
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

Oberstar Forum to explore the value of integrating non-motorized transportation into communities

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/4/2006)--The University of Minnesota's Center for Transportation Studies' 2006 Oberstar Forum "Transportation Choices: The Important Role of Walking and Biking" will explore the value of integrating non-motorized transportation into communities.

This fifth Oberstar Forum will be held from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday, April 10, in the Great Hall, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The new federal transportation legislation, Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) has provided substantial federal funding to advance and evaluate walking and biking systems. The forum will explore key aspects of investing in walking and biking systems within communities, including:

- The integration of the design of non-motorized facilities into the community and transportation network.
- The value of increased accessibility on economic activity, livability, and community identity.
- Recreation and health benefits and safety concerns.
- The role of local, state, and federal government, and the impacts of geography and culture.

Berthold Tillmann, the mayor of Münster, Germany, is the forum's featured speaker. Münster looks like the medieval village it once was but features a highly effective transportation network to allow quick and easy access to work, shopping, entertainment, and schools. Münster boasts of a daily mode share of bicycling approaching 40 percent, and recently received a global "Most Livable Community" award.

The forum schedule

12:30 p.m. Registration

1 p.m. Welcome and setting the stage by Robert Johns, director, Center for Transportation Studies, University of Minnesota. U.S. Representative James Oberstar will speak about SAFETEA-LU: A Vision for Non-Motorized Transportation

1:45 p.m. Tillmann will deliver the keynote presentation on livable communities

2:30 p.m. Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Programs in four U.S. Communities—a panel

discussion. SAFETEA-LU authorized this program in new Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program in Minneapolis-St. Paul; Sheboygan, Wisc.; Marin County, Calif.; and Columbia, Mo. The law specified that Transit for Livable Communities will lead the program in Minnesota. Oberstar, the lead Democrat on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, championed the inclusion of this pilot program in the federal legislation. As a part of this program, each community will receive up to \$25 million over four years to develop a network of sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and trails. The program will focus on Minneapolis and connecting transportation corridors in surrounding communities.

Panel members discussing the program include:

- Lea Schuster, Transit for Livable Communities, St. Paul.
- Shannon Haydin, Sheboygan County, Wis.
- Mayor Darwin Hindman, Columbia, Mo.
- Steve Kinsey, Marin County, Calif.

3:30 p.m. Implications for Research and Evaluation—a panel discussion. Panel members include:

- Billy Fields, director of research, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy.
- Kevin Krizek, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota.
- Ann Forsyth, Metropolitan Design Center, University of Minnesota.

4:10 p.m. Oberstar delivers closing remarks.

To register online go to http://register.cce.umn.edu/Course.pl?sect_key=178177

To register by mail, download the registration material and mail to Information Center, University of Minnesota, 20 Coffey Hall, 1420 Eckles Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105-6069. Participants can also send their registration by fax at (612) 624-5359. □

When: 6-10 p.m. Saturday, April 15
Where: St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul
Who: U of M students and staff, general public
Contacts: Seyon Nyanwleh, African Student Association President, (612) 730-1373
 Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M students to host African Night

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/4/2006)--To heighten awareness and understanding about Africa and its people, the University of Minnesota African Student Association (ASA) will host African Night from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, April 15, in the North Star Ballroom of the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

The annual event, which drew 600 participants last year, will showcase African culture, life and history through an evening of educational and entertainment programs featuring performances from Nigeria, Somalia, Liberia, Uganda, Ethiopia, Ghana, Sierra Leone.

"We hope African Night will enable students, faculty and the broader community to gain a better understanding about Africa and its people," said ASA president Seyon Nyanwleh.

In addition to entertainment and food representing various nations in the African continent, this year's African Night will feature a speech by Hon Kofi Woods, a human rights advocate and the minister of labor in the newly-elected Liberian government.

Woods goes to the Labor Ministry with vast experience in general administrative, managerial skills with a specialty in human rights, economics and management, development, labor relations and general social work. He has worked in both Liberia and abroad mainly in the field of human rights advocacy serving as executive director for the Monrovia YMCA, founding national director, Catholic Justice & Peace Commission, consultant for Dutch Inter-Church Aid, Utrecht, Netherlands and National Endowment for Democracy (NED) based in Washington, D.C., program director for International Human Rights Law Group (IHLRG) in Sierra Leone, among others. He is the founder of Foundation for International Dignity (FIND), a human rights institution based in Sierra Leone and Liberia.

"Woods is a promoter of peace and teamwork," Nyanwleh said. "He is highly articulate, persuasive and a confident team-builder, able to motivate and communicate well."

Nyanwleh invites U of M students and the community to come listen to Woods' speech and also enjoy the music, dance and food from the continent. □

What: U of M College of Biological Sciences professor one of 20 in nation to receive \$1 million from Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Who: College of Biological Sciences (CBS) professor Claudia Neuhauser

Contacts: Peggy Rinard, College of Biological Sciences, (612) 624-0774
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

U of M College of Biological Sciences professor one of 20 in nation to receive \$1 million from Howard Hughes Medical Institute

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/5/2006)--University of Minnesota College of Biological Sciences (CBS) professor Claudia Neuhauser has been awarded \$1 million from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) to increase the math proficiency of CBS undergraduates, particularly their ability to use statistics to solve biological and environmental problems.

"This will fill an important need created by tremendous changes in biology, particularly at the molecular level where massive amounts of data are now available to ask questions we could only dream about 20 years ago," says Neuhauser, who is professor and head of the department of ecology, evolution, and behavior.

The HHMI selected 20 scientists who provide innovative leadership in teaching as well as research.

"These scientists are true pioneers in research and in creative approaches and dedication to teaching," said Thomas R. Cech, HHMI president. "We hope their educational experiments will energize undergraduate science education throughout the nation."

HHMI invited 100 research universities with outstanding track records for sending graduates to medical or graduate school to nominate faculty members for the HHMI professorships. A panel of distinguished research scientists reviewed 150 applications. The new HHMI professors are accomplished researchers from diverse fields, including computational biology, genetics, biochemistry, plant pathology, bioengineering, neuroscience, and biophysics. Two are members of the National Academy of Sciences. Two have won Presidential Early Career Awards.

Neuhauser is a mathematician who studies connections between spatial structure and community dynamics within ecosystems. Last summer, Neuhauser was awarded a \$2.8 million grant from the National Science Foundation for a training program that brings ecology, civil engineering and computer science graduate students together to address environmental issues.

A nonprofit medical research organization, HHMI was established in 1953 by the aviator-industrialist. With an endowment of \$14.3 billion, the institute, headquartered in Chevy Chase,

Md., is one of the largest philanthropies in the world.□

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

Nancy Barceló appointed University of Minnesota's first vice president for access, equity, and multicultural affairs and vice provost

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/5/2006)--The University of Minnesota announced today that Nancy "Rusty" Barceló has been appointed the first vice president for access, equity and multicultural affairs and vice provost at the U of M. Barceló will be responsible for developing and implementing a systemwide strategic plan for access, equity, and multicultural affairs consistent with the university's strategic positioning efforts. Pending approval by the Board of Regents, Barceló's appointment will become effective May 15, 2006.

"Dr. Barceló is a national leader who has demonstrated her leadership ability and commitment to multiculturalism in higher education," said University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks. "This institution is founded in the belief that we bear responsibility for a diverse educational experience so that students are prepared to succeed in a global world."

As the university moves forward in its efforts to become one of the top three public research universities in the world, access and diversity will continue to be a crucial part of its mission. The vice president for access, equity, and multicultural affairs and vice provost will be responsible for ensuring that the university continues to be a vibrant and inclusive academic community.

"The University of Minnesota has made access and diversity a top priority in its pursuit to be one of the top three public research universities in the world," said Barceló. "I'm excited about the opportunity to help the university achieve that goal."

Barceló has more than 20 years of experience promoting diversity and multiculturalism in higher education. She currently serves as vice president and vice provost for minority affairs and diversity at the University of Washington, a position she has held since 2001. From 1996 to 2001, Barceló was the associate vice president for multicultural and academic affairs at the University of Minnesota, and she also headed the university's Chicano studies department from 1999 to 2001. Barceló holds a doctorate in higher education administration from the University of Iowa.

"We are happy to welcome Rusty back to the University of Minnesota," said Robert Jones, senior vice president for system administration. "We want to ensure that the university remains an inclusive and multicultural environment, and we are confident that Rusty will provide quality leadership in those areas for the entire university system." □

Who: Jeff Gillman, U of M associate professor of horticulture
Contacts: Nina Shepherd, College of Natural Resources, (612) 624-7389
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

U of M researchers' elm study leads reforestation project at Minnesota State Fairgrounds

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/5/2006)--A ceremony marking a major reforestation effort on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds will take place on Arbor Day, at noon Friday, April 28 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in St. Paul. The event marks the kick-off of a fund-raising campaign to reforest the state fairgrounds with several varieties of disease and stress-resistant elm trees provided by University of Minnesota forestry and horticulture researchers.

Only about 80 of the fairground's more than 200 elm trees remain since 2002 alone, having been lost to disease, storm damage and stress. The new varieties--Asiatic elms field tested locally by a team of university horticultural and forestry researchers--have the potential to replace the Twin Cities metro area's more than 200,000 trees lost to Dutch Elm Disease. The new elms are also suitable for planting in many areas of the country, including throughout the Midwest, along the East Coast and in most parts of California.

The new disease-resistant elms for the State Fairgrounds were selected for their desirable forms and ease of care and donated by the university's departments of forest resources and horticulture and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, division of forestry. Fair officials and members of the research team will be on hand at the event to answer questions and demonstrate tree care and planting principals.

The ceremony is part of the "Reforest the Fairgrounds" campaign coordinated by the Minnesota State Fair Foundation, whose mission is to preserve and improve state fair buildings, grounds and educational programs. For more information on the campaign, go to www.msffoundation.org or call James Hamilton at (612) 651-632-2620. □

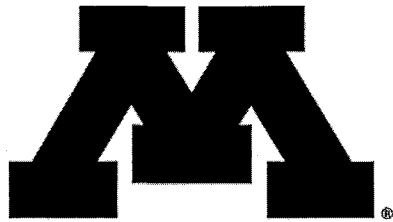
- What:** Book reading: Mark Seeley discusses Minnesota Weather Almanac
- When:** 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 18
- Where:** University of Minnesota Bookstore, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
- Who:** University of Minnesota meteorologist Mark Seeley
- Contacts:** Kari Erpenbach, University of Minnesota Bookstore, (612) 625-6564, kari@umn.edu
- Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

Popular climatologist and MPR commentator Mark Seeley will discuss his new book Minnesota Weather Almanac

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/5/2006)--Popular climatologist, MPR commentator and University of Minnesota meteorologist Mark Seeley will discuss his new book Minnesota Weather Almanac at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, at the University of Minnesota Bookstore located in Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The Minnesota Weather Almanac offers a complete guide to Minnesota weather including historical details, fun facts and scientific lessons. Using charts, maps and a reader-friendly test, Seeley presents Minnesota's history in terms of high temperatures, significant rainfall, and devastating blizzards. Minnesota Weather Almanac defines the character of our seasons and includes biographies of well-known figures in the history of Minnesota's weather.

Seeley will sign copies of his book following the discussion. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, or to order a signed copy visit www.bookstore.umn.edu/genref/authors.html. □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

STORY TIPS

University News Service

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April 5, 2006

Contacts: *Patty Mattern, University News Service, 612-624-2801*

NEW U OF M PROGRAM REACHES OUT TO ISOLATED FAMILIES OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The University of Minnesota has launched a new effort to reach out to the spouses and partners of international students who have often felt isolated and lonely after moving here. "Soup and Stitches" has about 15 family members of international students who come together each week to work on stitching an international peace quilt. After working on the quilt, they then share in conversation and sample soup from a different country. Through this, the group has developed a community, so their sense of isolation is melting away, says Jamie Tiedemann, director of the U of M Aurora Center for Advocacy & Education. The Aurora Center along with Housing and Residential Life, the Office of Student Affairs, International Student & Scholar Services, the School of Social Work, university police and Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative, where they live, worked together to find ways to reach out to this community and make them aware of resources available to them at the university. A \$2,300 grant from TCF has made the outreach possible. A quilt instructor from the Textile Center has taught the quilting and participants will be finishing their quilt squares Friday. Media is invited to come to this final quilting and soup session from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Friday, April 7. Media interested in doing a story about this program, should contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.

To set up an interview with the students, contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.



- When:** 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 19
- Where:** Borlaug Hall, Room 335, 1991 Upper Buford Circle, St. Paul
- Who:** Bruce Dale, a Michigan State University chemical engineering professor, Richard Cruse, an Iowa State University soil science professor, Minnesota State Rep. Al Juhnke
- Contacts:** Satish Gupta, U of M Soil, Water and Climate Department, (612) 625-1241
- John Byrnes, College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, (612) 625-4743
- Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

A look at the impact of an economy based on bio-fuels is the subject of U of M lecture

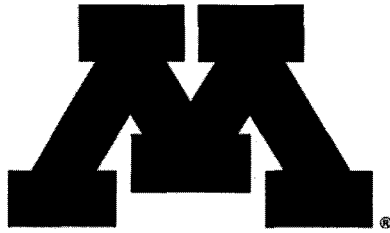
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/5/2006)--The impact of an economy based on bio-fuels will be outlined at an event being held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, Borlaug Hall, St. Paul. Speakers will describe the impact of increased bio-energy use on the economy and on soil and water quality.

The lecture is part of the fourth annual William E. Larson and Raymond R. Allmaras Emerging Issues in Soil and Water lecture sponsored by the U of M Soil, Water and Climate Department. "Minnesota has the potential to be in the driver's seat of the renewable fuels economy. The University of Minnesota is a key resource in providing the bio-fuels technology and analyzing the impact of a bio-fuels economy," said Charles Muscoplat, vice president and dean, College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences.

The potential scale of the bio-based economy, how it may develop, factors affecting its growth and related topics will be outlined by Bruce Dale, a Michigan State University chemical engineering professor. Richard Cruse, an Iowa State University soil science professor and a University of Minnesota graduate, will discuss how the removal of above ground biomass affects soil and water resources and the status of the science that may be used to regulate biomass removal. In addition, Minnesota State Rep. Al Juhnke will comment on the importance of bioenergy to rural Minnesota.

The lecture is free and will take place from 2 to 4:30 p.m in Room 335 of Borlaug Hall, 1991 Upper Buford Circle, St. Paul. The event is part of annual lecture series called Emerging Issues in Soil and Water that is sponsored by the University of Minnesota Department of Soil, Water and Climate.

More information on the lecture is available on the department's Website, <http://www.soils.umn.edu> or by contacting Satish Gupta at sgupta@umn.edu or (612) 625-1241. □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 6, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

U FARM FAMILY RECOGNITION SLATED FOR AUG. 3 AT FARMFEST

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Fifty-six families from around the state, one from each participating county, have been named a "2006 Farm Family of the Year," University of Minnesota Extension Service Dean and Director Bev Durgan announced Monday.

The winning families will be officially recognized in a ceremony Thursday, Aug. 3 at the 25th Annual Farmfest in Redwood County, Minn.

The families were chosen based on their contributions to the agricultural industry, their communities and the state. Families receiving honors have demonstrated a commitment to enhancing and supporting agriculture and agriculture production.

"Family farms are the foundation of Minnesota agriculture," said Durgan. "Looking at the 2006 winners, you quickly see that there is no standard definition for a Minnesota family farm. The one factor they all have in common is that the families work together to make their farm successful. That farm family work ethic is the major contributor to the success of Minnesota communities and Minnesota agriculture."

Approximately 90 percent of Minnesota farms are operated by either a farm family or an individual, according to the Census of Agriculture. And most of the remaining 10 percent are farm families who for legal or tax reasons organize as partnerships or corporations.

The diversity of Minnesota family farms can be seen by looking at a sample of the 2006 winners:

- Along with their children, Glenn and Lisa Berdan run a corn and soybean farm in Ortonville. They are past recipients of the Big Stone County Conservation Farmer Award and are especially interested in sources of renewable energy.
- Sisters Annette and Kathleen Fernholz of Madison (Lac Qui Parle County) grow organic produce for Earthrise Farm, a 240-acre family farm which sustains four acres of community supported agriculture (CSA). The Fernholtzes are Sisters of Notre Dame, a Catholic order, and started farming 11 years ago as part of their Center for Earth Spirituality and Rural Ministry.

- Brothers Roger and Allan Foltz of Callaway (Becker County) first formed a partnership in 1985. Today they farm together with their families, and Foltz Farms has grown to an 80-cow dairy and 150-head feed lot with 1,600 acres of alfalfa, wheat, bean and corn crop rotation.
- Kevin and Jean Goenner's 132,000 laying hens comprise Goenner Poultry, LLC. The Goenners and their children, from Clear Lake (Sherburne County), also grow corn, soybeans and rye and are enrolled in the national Environmental Quality Incentives Program.
- Xa Lor and Kao Yang of St. Paul (Ramsey County) farm 25 acres in St. Paul Park and 40 acres in Hammond, Wis. The couple and their five children grow a wide variety of international produce, including Asian greens, and raise chickens, pigs, pot belly pigs and guinea hens. Lor, who came to the U.S. from Thailand at age 15, is a member of the Minneapolis Farmers Market Board.
- Ted and Shirley Luetgers of Fairmont (Martin County) run Timberlake Apple Orchard, currently celebrating its 25th anniversary. The family also produces honey, grows a variety of produce and has approximately 100 head of sheep, horses and chickens.
- Dennis and Bridget O'Neill run 650 acres of land near Rochester (Olmsted County). The O'Neills manage a 100-head cow and calf operation and also produce chicken, turkey, pork and beef.

For more information on the 2006 University of Minnesota Farm Family of the Year winners or the recognition event, visit the U's farm family website: <http://mnfarmfamilies.cfans.umn.edu>.

Along with Farmfest, university units sponsoring the recognition event include the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS), the University of Minnesota Extension Service, the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Farmfest runs Aug. 1-3 at the Gilfillan Estate. Event hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Aug. 1-2, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 3. Admission is \$6 per person, and those 18 and under are admitted free. More information on Farmfest is available at www.farmshows.com/ffst.

Here is a complete listing of the 2006 University of Minnesota Farm Family of the Year winners, by county:

County	Farm Family	City
Aitkin	Bill and Linda Dotzler	Aitkin
Becker	Foltz Farms	Callaway
Benton	Greg Novak, LeRoy and Lorraine Novak	
Big Stone	Glenn and Lisa Berdan	Ortonville
Brown	Mike and Cheri Tomschin	Springfield
Carver	Larry and Debbie Drier	Norwood
Chippewa	Steve and Vicki Norman	Montevideo
Chisago	Brad and Lani Bismark	
Clearwater	Petterson Family Farm	Gonvick
Cottonwood	Danny and Kathy Smith	Bingham Lake
Dakota	Jacob and Betty Gergen	Vermillion
Dodge	Grant and Barb Erler	West Concord
Douglas	Fred and Lana Krafthefer	Farwell
Faribault	Tom and Cheryl Warmka	Easton
Fillmore	Randi and Kari Drinkall	Rushford

Freeborn
Goodhue
Grant
Hennepin
Houston
Jackson
Kandiyohi
Kittson
Lac Qui Parle
Lake of the Woods
Lyon
Martin
McLeod
Meeker
Mower
Murray
Nicollet
Nobles
Olmsted
Pipestone
Polk
Ramsey
Red Lake
Redwood
Renville
Rice
Rock
Roseau
Scott
Sherburne
Sibley
Stearns
Steele
Stevens
Swift
Wabasha
Waseca
Washington
Watanwon
Winona
Wright

Loren and Jane Lair
Roger and Michelle Benrud
Gary and Jan Nelson
Ron and Sharon Kohnen
Franklin and Carol Hahn
John and Alyce Resch
Gunderson Farms
Richard and Kathy Levenhagen
Annette and Kathleen Fernholz
Marvin and Charlotte Anderson
Tim and Betty Gossen
The Luetgers Family
Benson Dairy
Barka Farms
Ray and Jeanette Schaefer
Anderson Family Farm
Neal, Joni, Peter and Karri Anderson
Kerry and Janna Williams
Dennis and Bridget O'Neill
Moeller Family Farm
Ralph and Geraldine Hove
Xa Lor and Kao Yang
Tom and Sheila Gerardy
Roger and Faye Gilland
Paul and Liz Lanning
Don and Cindy Langer
James and Jill Willers
Roger and Ellyn Falk
Ken and Linda Gliczinski
Kevin and Jean Goenner
Howard and Helen Schneider
The Gondringer Family
Dennis and Deb Morgan
Jon and Lori Moser
Wayne and Laurie Golden
Loos Farm
Robert and Dorine Smith
Al-Ocra Dairy
Eischen Family Farms
Jim and Pam Larson
Roger and Cindy Heuer

Hayward
Goodhue
Ashby
Loretto
Houston
Jackson
Raymond
Lake Bronson
Madison
Baudette
Minneota
Fairmont
Stewart
Litchfield
Taopi
Garvin
St. Peter
Brewster
Rochester
Pipestone
Fosston
St. Paul
Plummer
Morgan
Sacred Heart
Faribault
Beaver Creek
Salol
New Prague
Clear Lake
Arlington
Albany
Morristown
Morris
Danvers
Millville
New Richland
Stillwater
Comfrey
Winona
Howard Lake

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Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

U of M praises house vote on Gopher Stadium

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/6/2006)--The following is a statement from University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks upon the House of Representative's passing the university's plan to build a new on-campus football stadium:

"We're grateful to the House of Representatives for taking the next step to bring Gopher football back to campus. We're grateful to Reps. Abrams, Solberg, Kelliher and also to Speaker Sviggum for their efforts. The strong vote today gets us to the 50-yard line. Now we're looking to the Senate to get us into the end zone."

For more information on the Gopher Stadium, visit www.umn.edu/stadium. □

Contacts: Julie Reuvers, U of M Extension Service, (612) 626-4077,
reuve007@umn.edu

Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

U of M Extension Service announces flood-related phone answer services

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/7/2006)--The University of Minnesota Extension Service announced today its coordinated system of toll free phone answer services available to callers with flood-related questions, both during a flood emergency and while cleanup efforts are underway.

The phone services and Extension's flood impacts Website (www.extension.umn.edu, click on "spring floods") connect Minnesotans to the most up-to-date information on flood response, safety and cleanup issues. Two of the phone services, the Farm Information Line and the AnswerLine, can also refer callers to appropriate state and federal agencies if additional information is needed.

"Extension's role during situations like the flood is to help provide practical and useful research-based information that people can trust," said Bev Durgan, dean and director of Extension. "There are many state and local agencies responding to the floods and our staff work with them to provide information via our Website, news media stories and our phone answer lines."

The Farm Information Line (800-232-9077), staffed by Extension personnel Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., can help answer questions about water, crops, horticulture and climatology issues. Questions at other times of the day and on weekends can be left on voice mail and will be returned during staffed hours. In addition, questions can be e-mailed to the Farm Information Line at fil@umn.edu, and a written response will be returned.

Extension's AnswerLine (800-854-1678), which can provide answers to household and family oriented questions, is staffed Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Another resource from the U of M Extension Service, Info-U (800-525-UofM) provides callers with recorded messages on various flood-related topics 24 hours a day, seven days a week, using a touch-tone phone. Callers follow voice instructions to make their selections.

If callers are unsure about which answer service to contact, they should first call the Farm Information Line (800-232-9077), and Extension personnel will help direct them.

A one-stop online resource, the Extension flood impacts Website, was launched on April 3. □

When: 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 19
Where: Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis
Who: Salman Rushdie
Contacts: Sue Banovetz, College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-1359,
banovetz@umn.edu

Salman Rushdie to speak at University of Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/7/2006)--Salman Rushdie, one of the world's most successful, controversial and celebrated novelists, will be speaking at the University of Minnesota from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, in Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. This lecture is free and open to the public.

Rushdie is the author of "The Satanic Verses," a book deemed sacrilegious by Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini, who as a result issued a fatwa against Rushdie in 1989. Despite this death sentence, Rushdie went on to produce compelling work, including "The Moor's Last Sigh" and "The Ground Beneath Her Feet," while the fatwa was still in place. His book, "Step Across This Line: Collected Non-Fiction, 1992-2002" explores his reaction to the fatwa, as well as reactions of the media and various governments.

Rushdie's lecture at the university will be a journey into the world of contemporary literature, politics, culture and philosophy. Like his best-selling novels and widely acclaimed essays, Rushdie will offer a challenging and enlightening look at modern life. He will explore many of the themes that he has covered so provocatively in his books: freedom of expression, religion and its relationship to popular culture and modern society, current events at home and abroad and the role of the artist in society.

Rushdie is the winner of numerous international literary prizes and awards. In 2004, he was named the president of The PEN American Centre, the largest branch of PEN International, the world's oldest human rights organization. As president, he has worked to dispel national, ethnic and racial hatred; advance literature, defend free expression; and foster international literary fellowship.

The event is being sponsored by the university's Institute for Advanced Study; Humanities Institute; College of Liberal Arts; Center for Writing's Graduate Minor in Literacy and Rhetorical Studies; creative writing program in the department of English; Minnesota Journalism Center; and the department of Asian languages and literatures. □

Who: Ora Hokes, Grant Anderson
Contacts: Karen Anderson, Office of Multicultural and Academic Affairs, (612) 624-5124
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U of M names Josie Johnson Human Rights and Social Justice Award winners

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/9/2006)--Ora Hokes, a community activist and non-traditional student who overcame brain cancer, and Grant Anderson, a coordinator of residential life, are recipients of the 2006 University of Minnesota Josie Johnson Human Rights and Social Justice awards.

The award recognizes individuals who have devoted their time and talents to making substantial and enduring contributions to the University of Minnesota community. It is named after Johnson, a community leader and the first African American to serve on the University of Minnesota Board of Regents. She also served as a vice president of the university's Office of Multicultural and Academic Affairs.

This year's recipients and their backgrounds:

Ora Hokes

In her nomination letter, Hokes explained the genesis of her passion for social justice. "Having been raised in the segregated south during the period of "Jim Crow" laws, I know first hand what it feels like for an entire group of people to have their human and social rights denied," she said. "This experience has caused me to continue this struggle until the battle is won and humanity is victorious."

Soon after the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated Hokes moved north, eventually settling in Minneapolis. It wasn't long before she began to work on social justice issues facing the underrepresented populations in Minnesota. Her efforts have led to employment opportunities for recent immigrants and other marginalized populations, the recognition of MLK Day in Minnesota, health and wellness programs to ensure school readiness and the creation of the Friendship Academy of Fine Arts Charter School.

Hokes received her bachelor's degree from Augsburg College and a masters in education from the University of St. Thomas. She is currently pursuing a parent education licensure at the University of Minnesota, which should add to her effectiveness as she continues the work on behalf of social justice. At the university, Hokes is an active member of the Black Graduate and Professional Student Association.

One of her supporters wrote, "The ultimate testimony to the character of Ora Hokes is that she was diagnosed with a brain tumor in 2002 and has returned to pursue additional educational training and

has remained committed to the struggle of injustice and civil rights.”

Grant Anderson

It is not often that a new employee takes his or her work above and beyond the job description, but Anderson has done just that. Anderson's nominator wrote, “Although Grant has been an employee at the university for only three years, his social justice work has had significant and lasting impact on students, staff and faculty.”

Prior to joining the university as the coordinator of residential life, Anderson held similar positions at the University of Vermont and Ohio State University. He graduated from Hamline University in 1997 and received a masters of science degree in student affairs from Colorado State in 2000.

The magnitude of Anderson's immediate impact on students as they interact with each other across intercultural boundaries is impressive, but even more so is the very real potential for long-term impact.

Another nominator wrote: “More than 150 students have participated in the three social justice leadership retreats that Grant developed and implemented, and more than 25 university staff and faculty have served as retreat facilitators.”

Another supporter wrote: “Grant is the single greatest advocate on the University of Minnesota campus for an inclusive campus climate. Grant's social justice retreats are not only evidence of a deep commitment and passion, but the type of grassroots effort that leads to important changes in policy.” □

- What:** 1969 action by students led to creation of African American & African Studies department and other programs
- When:** Friday and Saturday, April 21-22
- Where:** Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
- Who:** Rose Mary Freeman, Horace Huntley, David Taylor, John Wright, and others
- Contacts:** Kelly O'Brien, College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-4109 or obrie136@umn.edu
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U of M reunion and conference to celebrate 1969 Morrill Hall takeover

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/11/2006)--A conference to celebrate the 1969 takeover of the university's central administration offices in Morrill Hall will be held at the University of Minnesota on Friday and Saturday, April 21 – 22 at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The takeover led to the creation of the department of African American & African Studies and other programs. The conference will feature keynote addresses, roundtable perspectives by participants and observers, the gathering of historical materials, policy discussions and more. Registration is required for this event. To register, go to www.gen.umn.edu/1969mhr/ or call (612) 624-0601 for registration information.

On Jan. 14, 1969, about 70 members of the Afro-American Action Committee (AAAC), a campus student group, began a 24-hour occupation of the admissions and bursar's offices in Morrill Hall, one floor below the president's office. They were protesting the university's slow movement on a list of demands that included the establishment of an Afro-American Studies department, partial funding of a proposed national conference of black students, and a scholarship program named for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The occupation ended when university administrators agreed to accelerate the pace of the creation of an Afro-American Studies department, place an AAAC member on the MLK scholarship committee, and fund the student conference.

By June 1969, the university's Board of Regents had approved a new department of Afro-American & African Studies, the establishment of the Martin Luther King program for undergraduates and the development of what would eventually become the Office for Multicultural and Academic Affairs.

The reunion has been organized by the Morrill Hall Reunion Committee and the Coalition for the History of African American Contributions to the University of Minnesota, as well as the current Black

Student Union. Major funding has been provided by the McKnight Scholarly Events Fund and the University Foundation. Scheduled speakers will include Rose Mary Freeman and Horace Huntley, who organized the takeover and were indicted and tried on related charges, together with past and present students, faculty, and administration members. Off-campus participants will include keynote speaker Cleveland Sellers, scholar and former field worker for SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee); former professor Mahmoud El-Kati; Twin Cities community leader Spike Moss; and publisher Al McFarlane, among others.

Wright, an AAAC member and current associate professor of African American & African Studies and English, is available to talk about the 1969 events and the state of African Americans on the university campus past, present and future. Josie Johnson, former university regent and professor emeritus in African American & African Studies is also available for interviews. □

When: Noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, April 21
Where: Room 2-215 Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S.,
Minneapolis
Contacts: Kaydee Kirk, CURA, (612) 625-2085
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

Center for Urban and Regional Affairs housing forum to discuss affordable housing

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/11/2006)--The University of Minnesota Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) will host its monthly forum on Twin Cities housing issues and research from noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, April 21 in Room 2-215 at the Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

"Affordable Housing-A Better Way to Show and Tell?" is the topic for a panel that includes Dan Marckel, coordinator of CURA's EDGE Project, a CURA program that examines how communities on the rural-urban edge deal with growth and development issues; and Jim Solem, CURA's senior fellow. Using experiences from the EDGE Project, the forum presentation will demonstrate two new tools - Google Earth and a fiscal analysis model - for creating community understanding and acceptance of affordable housing proposals.

The event is a monthly brown-bag discussion of housing issues and research in the Twin Cities. Forums are held once a month during the academic year, and are free and open to the public.

An RSVP is required no later than April 19 to (612) 625-1551. For more info contact Kaydee Kirk, (612) 625-2086. To update your information and email, visit http://cura.umn.edu/cura_mailing/. Use the username "cura" and the password "housing." □

Embargoed until 1:00 p.m. EDT (noon CDT) Wednesday, April 12

What: Limits on plants' ability to absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide
When: Embargoed until 1 p.m. EDT (noon CDT) Wednesday, April 12
Who: Peter Reich, U of M professor of forest resources
Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu
 Deane Morrison, University Relations, (612) 624-2346

Hold your breath; plants may absorb less carbon dioxide than we thought

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/12/2006)--The world's land plants will probably not be able to absorb as great a share of the rising atmospheric carbon dioxide as some models have predicted, according to a new study led by Peter B. Reich, professor in the department of forest resources at the University of Minnesota. The work showed that limitations on the availability of nitrogen, a necessary nutrient, will likely translate to limitations on the ability of plants to absorb extra carbon dioxide (CO₂). Given that a large proportion of the world's soils are nitrogen-limited, the study implies that the rate of increase in atmospheric CO₂ levels could turn sharply upward as nitrogen-limited plants lose their ability to take advantage of the extra CO₂ "food." Since rising atmospheric CO₂ levels are the largest cause of global "greenhouse" warming, this raises the possibility of accelerated global climate change. The work will be published in the April 13, 2006, issue of Nature.

The six-year study is the first long-term examination of how soil nitrogen affects the abilities of long-lived plants in realistic "natural" open-air ecosystems to increase their size by absorbing extra CO₂. Only two other long-term experiments in the world are asking similar questions.

As fossil fuel burning continues and increases, more CO₂ is pumped into the atmosphere. Some reports, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's "Climate Change 2001: The Scientific Basis," predict that terrestrial plants will be a considerable "sink" for excess CO₂. But the researchers, including University of Minnesota scientists Sarah Hobbie, David Tilman and Jared Trost, conclude that the sink may not be as big as projected because the effects of low nitrogen on plants' ability to increase their growth wasn't taken into account.

"After a few years, there was only a very modest increase in growth due to CO₂ unless extra nitrogen was added," Reich said. "This lack of CO₂ growth stimulation without accompany nitrogen fertilization was also seen in a two-year study in a pine plantation. And in a third study, conducted over 10 years on a heavily managed pasture, there was no response to elevated carbon dioxide even with additions of three to

four times as much nitrogen fertilizer as in our study. Given that plant productivity around the globe is commonly limited by insufficient nitrogen supply, these studies collectively suggest that terrestrial ecosystems will not soak up future anthropogenic CO₂ emissions as vigorously as had been thought. Hence, atmospheric CO₂ levels may rise faster than anticipated.”

In their study, the researchers grew 296 field plots containing different numbers and combinations of perennial grassland species. They subjected each plot to one of the following: augmented soil nitrogen, elevated atmospheric CO₂, augmentation of both nitrogen and CO₂, or augmentation of neither. They tallied responses twice each year by measuring the amount of plant material—which is 45 percent carbon-produced under each regimen, both above ground and down to 20 centimeters below ground. After four to six years, plots receiving augmented nitrogen acquired at least three times as much extra carbon in response to elevated CO₂ as did plots without additional nitrogen supply.

The researchers also found that the presence of leguminous plants, which are capable of turning atmospheric nitrogen gas into a biologically usable form of nitrogen, did not confer any advantage. Plants in plots with and without legumes were statistically indistinguishable in their ability to increase their growth in response to elevated CO₂ levels. Nor did it matter whether the plots contained one, four, nine or 16 species of plants.

“Different kinds of species respond differently to elevated carbon dioxide and nitrogen because of their physiological needs and capabilities,” Reich noted. “Regardless, the diminished response to elevated CO₂ at natural nitrogen supply levels was common to plots with different kinds of species as well as different numbers of species. This seems like strong evidence that the nitrogen limitation of CO₂ fertilization is a general response.”

The work was supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation and the University of Minnesota. □

When: 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 19
Where: Willey Hall, Room 125, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis
Who: Persi Diaconis, Mary V. Sunseri Professor of Statistics and Mathematics, Stanford University
Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038
Doug Arnold, U of M Institute for Math and Its Applications, (612) 624-6066

Math and magic: renowned researcher to demonstrate the connection at U of M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/12/2006)--Sometimes how a magic trick works is even more amazing than the actual trick. In his presentation at the University of Minnesota, professor Persi Diaconis of Stanford University, will perform some magic tricks that even fool magicians and illustrate how the application of mathematics is important to robot vision, cryptography, random number generation and DNA sequence analysis. This event take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, Willey Hall, Room 125, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. It is free and open to the public.

"There are lots of connections between math and magic tricks. Some of the best card tricks are based on fairly arcane mathematics like group theory, combinatorics and probability," said Doug Arnold, director, Institute for Mathematics and Its Applications. "Feats of parapsychology can be explained with statistics. You can exploit a deep understanding of probability to do the seemingly impossible. No one in the world understands these connections better than Persi Diaconis, and no is better able to explain them. It is impossible to hear him speak and not come away both entertained and wiser."

Diaconis was born into a family of musicians and as a child studied violin at Julliard. At the age of 14 he left home and began a 10 year career as an itinerant magician. Magic brought him to probability, and he decided to go to night school to learn some math. A couple of years later he was admitted to graduate school at Harvard, largely on the strength of having invented two of the best card tricks of all time. In 1974 he earned his doctorate in statistics from Harvard and joined the faculty of Stanford, where he has spent most of his career.

Diaconis's extraordinary research touches on all aspects of chance and uncertainty, from highly abstract probability theory to very applied statistics. He is well known for his work on card shuffling and a formula that says you need to shuffle a deck seven times to randomize. He also gained public attention from his work on Extra Sensory Perception (ESP) and exposing psychics, and more recently on the physics of coin tossing.

He has many honors including one of the first MacArthur “genius” awards, awarded in 1982, honorary degrees from four countries, presidency of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences.

Diaconis is among the most sought after speakers in the world of mathematics, and has delivered what are probably the three most prestigious lectures in mathematics: a plenary speaker at the International Congress of Mathematicians, the Gibbs Lecture of the American Mathematical Society and the von Neumann Lecture of the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics.

Diaconis will be at the university and available for interviews beginning April 15.

This lecture is this season’s final event in the the Math Matters public lecture series sponsored by the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications. For more information on this lecture please visit www.ima.umn.edu/2005-2006/PUB4.19.06/□

What: Making Music to feature Stef Alexander (P.O.S.) hosted by JG Everest
When: 8 p.m. Thursday, April 13
Where: Whole Music Club, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E.,
Minneapolis
Contacts: Kate McMillan, Twin Cities Student Unions, (612) 625-8269

'Making Music' to feature Stef Alexander (P.O.S.) hosted by JG Everest

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/12/2006)--Stef Alexander aka P.O.S. will be featured in "Making Music" at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 13, in the University of Minnesota Whole Music Club, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

"Making Music" is the Whole Music Club series that features in-depth interviews and live performances by talented local musicians. Alexander is the focus of the third of four Making Music events this spring. Only in his twenties, Alexander has amassed a lengthy and diverse resume, including his burgeoning rap career as P.O.S.; his involvement in the prolific hip-hop collective "Doomtree" and hard-core band "Building Better Bombs."

During his appearance, Alexander will speak about his musical process, travels and experience in varied genres and bands. Easily described as "Inside the Actors Studio" for local musicians, "Making Music" features compelling interviews with the Twin Cities most notable music makers. Local musician JG Everest hosts the show, which includes interviews, live demonstrations, videos, exclusive and unreleased tracks, prizes and questions and answers from the audience. Sean McPherson of Heiruspecs will complete spring semester's "Making Music" series Thursday, April 27. "Making Music" is made possible through the collaboration of Minnesota Public Radio's 89.3 The Current, and City Pages.

The Whole Music Club is a historic entertainment venue in the basement of Coffman Union, renown for offering up-and-coming performers at affordable prices. Since the 1960s, performers have included Big Black, Tom Waits, Lucinda Williams, Green Day, Bonnie Raitt, Nada Surf, The Bravery, Brother Ali, and Rahsaan Roland Kirk. □

- What:** U of M symposium to address North and Northeast Minneapolis' connection to the Mississippi River
- When:** 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 20
- Where:** College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (CALA), 100 Ralph Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.
- Contacts:** Krista Bergert, College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, (612) 624-7808
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

U of M symposium to address North and Northeast Minneapolis' connection to the Mississippi River

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/12/2006)--The University of Minnesota will host a symposium bringing together community and civic leaders to discuss the work that is being done in connecting North Minneapolis communities to the Mississippi River from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 20, at the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (CALA), 100 Ralph Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public.

Participants will explore areas of collaboration among the university, the City of Minneapolis and community organizations. The City of Minneapolis has for decades recognized the importance of the Mississippi River as a community, economic, social and environmental asset. As work draws to a close on the redevelopment of the Central Riverfront, the upper river, which runs through industrial sections of the city and through vibrant and redeveloping neighborhoods in North and Northeast Minneapolis, poses many challenges for all participants in redevelopment projects.

Symposium panelists will represent community organizations including Juxtaposition Arts, West Broadway Area Coalition and government agencies including: the City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development, the Minneapolis Park Board and the CALA's department of Landscape Architecture. The symposium is hosted by the university's Mississippi River Initiative, which exists to strengthen connections between the university, the Mississippi river and the communities along the river.

The symposium is part of the university's Beautiful U Day programming. Parking is available across the street from Rapson Hall in Church Street Garage. A reception follows. For more information, call (612) 624-1832. □

Contacts: Julie Reuvers, Extension Service, (612) 626-4077, reuve007@umn.edu
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

U of M Extension Service offers revised 'Lake Home and Cabin Kit'

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/13/2006)--An expanded, second edition of the "Lake Home and Cabin Kit" will soon be available. Produced by experts at the University of Minnesota Extension Service, it will go on sale April 21-23 at the second annual Lake Home & Cabin Show, held at the Minneapolis Convention Center, 1301 Second Ave. S., Minneapolis.

An easy-to-use, three-ring binder replaces the original boxed kit that debuted last year. With revised and new topics, Lake Home and Cabin (LHC) Kit - Version 2 provides lake home and cabin owners with research-based information on septic systems, wildlife, trees, woodlands, shoreland, water and housing.

The new kit answers more than 50 of the most common questions encountered by lake home and cabin owners, such as, "What should I know about heating a lake home or cabin? What should I do to start my septic system in the spring? What is swimmer's itch and how can I avoid it?" And, "What is the safest way to handle the fish I catch?" The kit also provides owners with tips on improving property value and protecting the environment.

The LHC Kit - Version 2 retails at a special introductory price of \$24.99 from April 21 through May 31. Beginning June 1, the kit will sell for \$29.99. Following the Lake Home & Cabin Show, the kit may be purchased online at www.extension.umn.edu.

The Lake Home & Cabin Show is a public event that showcases the lifestyle of living on a Minnesota or Wisconsin lake or in a Northwoods cabin. As the demand for lake homes, cabins and recreational properties has surged, the need for education on natural resources and the proper stewardship of land issues has also increased.

The Lake Home & Cabin Show runs April 21-23 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Show hours are: April 21 - 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.; April 22 - 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; April 23 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$4 for youth 5 to 15 years old, and free for those younger than 5.

For more information about the Lake Home and Cabin Show, call (888) 471-1192 or visit www.lakehomeandcabinshow.com. □

- What:** Dozens of activities taking place on the U of M Twin Cities campus to celebrate Beautiful U Day: clean-up efforts, garden designs, academic forums, free snacks and more
- When:** Thursday, April 20, 2006
- Where:** All University of Minnesota campuses
- Contacts:** Lori-Anne Williams, University Services, (612) 624-2863, willi225@umn.edu
- Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

Beautiful U Day grows into statewide event

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/13/2006)--On April 20, the University of Minnesota celebrates Beautiful U Day, a nod to the university's physical and natural resources. More than 1,000 volunteers are expected to participate in clean-up efforts, educational programs, public art installations and other projects to improve University of Minnesota campuses and enhance sustainability efforts.

"This year marks the first time Beautiful U Day takes place across the state of Minnesota," says Kathleen O'Brien, vice president for University Services. "And I think the expanded participation inspired our Twin Cities campus activities, because we have a more varied and exciting series of events than in any other year."

The largest activity on Beautiful U Day will be a "Curb Appeal" (10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.), a clean-up effort that will bring together more than 400 volunteers on East and West Banks. There is still room for more Curb Appeal volunteers, from campus or from the community. To sign up, go to www.buday.umn.edu.

The campus wakes up early on Beautiful U Day, with third shift custodial and maintenance volunteers helping to set up the campus. A 9:00 a.m., University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks will kick-off the day with "Coffee with the Bulls," near the bulls statues on the St. Paul campus mall. The President will say a few words on the university's sustainability efforts. Twelve grant projects happen in various sites from West Bank to St. Paul throughout the day, and a campus-wide free lunch will be held from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in St. Paul and on the East Bank. For locations and details, go to www.buday.umn.edu.

The Beautiful U Day grants awarded to Twin Cities student groups and University departments went to:

- Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence will create a Supergraphic Courtyard Garden to

beautify the Klaeber Court courtyard (Event at 4:00 p.m.).

- Carlson School of Management plans to beautify large concrete planters on the West Bank Carlson Plaza with annual flowering plants (Working throughout the day).
- The Civil Service Committee and University Relations plan to revitalize the garden and replace the dirt walkway with permeable pavers at the end of fifth Street South (Working throughout the day).
- Metropolitan Design Center will hold a symposium, "Connecting Neighborhoods to the Mississippi: North Minneapolis" featuring panelists from community organizations, local government agencies, and the university (3:30 p.m. at Rapson Hall).
- Academic Health Center Communications plans to take down the old, outdated displays and put up large format photos that showcase academic health center schools, colleges, and interdisciplinary campus life in Phillips-Wangensteen, Moos, and Weaver-Densford Halls (On display throughout the day).
- Chemical Engineering and Materials Science will beautify the Amundson Hall entry and foyer to make it more inviting (Working throughout the day).
- University Child Care will honor their neighborhood by refreshing the Mary McEvoy memorial garden at 15th Avenue and Rollins (Working throughout the day).
- What's Up in Sustainable Agriculture, a student group, will plant perennial guilds that are both economically and environmentally beneficial at Cornercopia Student Farm (Information tables throughout the day at the St. Paul Student Center).
- The Sarita Wetland Management Initiative, formed by the Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology Club, will integrate students and classes into management and stewardship of the Sarita Wetland (Tree Planting, co-sponsored by the University of Minnesota Tourism Center's Sustainability Tourism Conference: 1-3 p.m. and 5-7 p.m.).
- Minnesota Public Interest Research Group (MPIRG) will increase sustainability at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities by educating the campus community about fair trade and waste reduction (Information tables throughout the day at Coffman and St. Paul Student Unions).
- National Student Speech, Language and Hearing Association (NSSLHA) will beautify Shevlin Hall with the Shevlin Centennial Garden project (Working throughout the day).
- The Pre-Pharmacy Club will revitalize the area outside of Weaver-Densford Hall by planting flowers, and bringing in benches (Working throughout the day).
- University Relations is encouraging the clean-up of university Websites through "Cyberscrub," a contest being held April 17-21.

A complete list of activities, locations, and volunteer opportunities is available at www.buday.umn.edu.

□

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- When:** Thursday, April 20, 2006
- Where:** All University of Minnesota campuses
- Contacts:** Lori-Anne Williams, University Services, (612) 624-2863, willi225@umn.edu
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Beautiful U Day grows into statewide event

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"This year marks the first time Beautiful U Day takes place across the state of Minnesota," says Kathleen O'Brien, vice president for University Services. "There are activities taking place in Crookston, Duluth, Morris, Rochester and across the Twin Cities campuses, as well as at Itasca and other University of Minnesota locations."

O'Brien invited other campuses to participate in Beautiful U Day because there had been such a positive response on the Twin Cities campus. "Each year, we see more students, more volunteers, and more enthusiasm for Beautiful U Day. Knowing that each University of Minnesota campus has a special beauty, we knew that students, staff and faculty across the state would want to pitch in. And we were right!"

This year, 36 Beautiful U Day grants were awarded to student groups and university departments - doubling the number of grants awarded in 2005. Grants are awarded for projects that enhance the beauty or sustainability of a University of Minnesota location. Examples of Beautiful U Day grants include:

- "Connecting Neighborhoods to the Mississippi: North Minneapolis" a symposium hosted by the Metropolitan Design Center (3:30 p.m., Rapson Hall, 89 Church Street S.E., Minneapolis).
- "Prairie Walk," a project of the Morris Campus Student Association to beautify a walkway behind the Science Building on the Morris campus.
- "Sensory Garden and Playground for Young Children," a partnership of the Early Childhood and Clovia student clubs in Crookston.

- “Litter Reduction Initiative,” an educational program along Duluth’s Tischer Creek, developed by the Minnesota Sea Grant department.

Projects are also taking place at the West Central Research and Outreach Center in Morris, the North Central Research and Outreach Center in Grand Rapids and the Itasca Biological Station.

A complete list of activities and volunteer opportunities is available at www.buday.umn.edu. □

When: 8:15 a.m. - 4:45 p.m., Friday, April 21

Where: Coffman Union Theater, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis

Who: Ann Veneman, executive Director of UNICEF; Ambassador John Miller, director of Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking of Persons, U.S. Department of State; Marilyn Carlson Nelson, Carlson Companies; and other world experts

Contacts: Kelly O'Brien, College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-4109 or obrie136@umn.edu

Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

International sex trafficking conference at the University of Minnesota to examine role of the tourism industry in preventing child exploitation

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/13/2006)--An international conference at the University of Minnesota from 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Friday, April 21, will address the ways some parts of the travel and tourism industry are attempting to curb child sex trafficking throughout the world. "United Front for Children: Global Efforts to Combat Sexual Trafficking of Children in Travel and Tourism" will feature keynote addresses by Ann Veneman, executive director of UNICEF; John Miller, director of Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking of Persons, U.S. Department of State; and Marilyn Carlson Nelson, chair and CEO of Carlson Companies. The event will be held at the Coffman Union Theater, 300 Washington S.E., Minneapolis, and is free and open to the public.

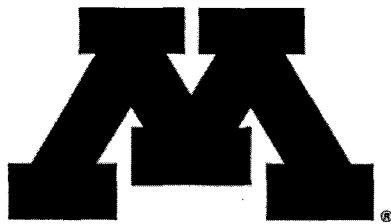
Tourism is one of the fastest growing industries in the world. A consequence of easy and cheap global travel is an increase in the reported sexual exploitation of children in tourist destinations. Conference sessions will attempt to answer questions such as: What are the forces that shape the current patterns of commercial sexual exploitation of children relating to tourism? What are the factors that lead to children being trafficked and what international and local institutions need to be engaged in prevention? And, how does child sex trafficking take place in different regions of the world and how are solutions being tailored to address regional specifications of the problem?

"This conference will help us identify ways we can work together to stop sexual exploitation of children in tourist destinations," states Barbara Frey, director of the Human Rights Program at the University of Minnesota. "We need to build serious roadblocks to the demand for children in the sex trade while addressing the root causes that push children into these horrific forms of exploitation."

In addition to examining ways the travel and tourism industries can combat child sex trafficking, a

major goal of the conference is to create collaborative initiatives with other sectors, including government, academia and non-profit organizations to end these violations.

Frey and others are available for interviews prior to the conference. For more information about the conference call (612) 624-838 or visit the Web site hrp.cla.umn.edu. □



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXPERT ALERT

University News Service
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April 13, 2006

Contact: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, 612-624-0214

FILING THAT TAX RETURN

The deadline to file those taxes is inching closer and closer, but we still have a few extra days until April 17 to file our returns. Are there things we need to know? Were there some recent changes in the tax code that might affect us? Is there a certain deduction we should know about? And what if we get into trouble with the IRS? University of Minnesota experts who can discuss taxes and filing returns this year are:

Rosemary Heins, family resource management educator with the University of Minnesota Extension Service

Heins can help low- and moderate-income Minnesotans get all the deductions and tax credits they are eligible for. According to Heins, many Minnesotans are missing out on deductions and credits, and she has a number of tips for filing returns this year.

Kathryn Sedo, director of the Income Tax Clinic and professor at the University of Minnesota Law School

As the director of the U of M Law School Income Tax Clinic, Sedo helps represent taxpayers who have issues related to the IRS. For example, after clients' returns are filed Sedo would assist with any problems that arise or potential collection issues when someone owes money to the IRS but cannot pay. Clients are mostly low-income Minnesotans, many of whom are minorities.

Paul Gutterman, senior lecturer in the Accounting and Master of Business Taxation program at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management

Gutterman has extensive experience teaching in the area of taxation and tax code. He can offer insights into current tax law as well as tips for filing your return.

To interview any of the experts above, contact Asim Dorovic at 612-624-0214 or email dorovic@umn.edu.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect university experts to today's breaking news and current events.



When: 7:30 p.m., Monday, April 17
Where: Room 3-210 Electrical Engineering/Computer Science Building, 200 Union St. S.E., Minneapolis
Who: George Takei, Mr. Sulu in original 'Star Trek' TV series
Contacts: Jen Mohnkern, Queer Student Cultural Center, (612) 626-2344
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

George Takei, Mr. Sulu in original 'Star Trek' series, to speak at U of M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/13/2006)--George Takei, who played Mr. Sulu in the original Star Trek television series, will highlight the Spring Pride Week celebration by the University of Minnesota Queer Student Cultural Center with a speech at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 17, in Room 3-210 Electrical Engineering/Computer Science Building, 200 Union St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Takei's appearance at the U is part of his nationwide speaking tour through six cities on behalf of the Human Rights Campaign, the largest civil rights organization working to achieve lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equity in the country.

Takei will talk about his life as a gay, Japanese American and will encourage others to share their stories. Takei made international headlines last fall when he announced to the press that he and his partner Brad Altman have been together for nearly 20 years.

As a child, Takei and his family were held in American internment camps during World War II because of their Japanese ancestry - even though Takei and his mother were born on American soil and his father came to the United States as a child. Takei will speak about the ways his life has been touched by both discrimination and by the healing that takes place when prejudice is replaced with understanding and open communication.

"In my own life, I have felt the discrimination that used to separate Japanese Americans from the rest of the country melt away," said Takei. "I believe that by sharing our stories, GLBT Americans can break down the walls that separate us and help build a more understanding and truly diverse nation for us all."

Takei has been increasingly in the public eye speaking on GLBT issues since coming out in the press, and recently appeared on NBC's Will & Grace. □

Embargoed until April 17

- What:** HealthNewsReview.org gives journalists and consumers an unbiased review of news articles that cover new treatments, procedures
- Who:** Gary Schwitzer, University of Minnesota professor, School of Journalism & Mass Communication
- Contacts:** Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038, cassu003@umn.edu
Sandy Dawkins, MS&L, (617) 937-2571, sandy.dawkins@mslpr.com

University of Minnesota researcher launches Web site that evaluates health news reporting in mainstream U.S. media

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/14/2006)--Professor Gary Schwitzer of the University of Minnesota School of Journalism & Mass Communication, in collaboration with the Foundation for Informed Medical Decision Making (FIMDM), today launched HealthNewsReview.org. It is the first U.S. online service expressly designed for journalists and consumers who want reliable, unbiased analysis and evaluation of health care news articles that make claims about treatments and procedures. The Web site (<http://www.HealthNewsReview.org>) reviews health news stories in the mainstream news media. Its goal is to improve health journalism, which in turn will produce higher-quality health news and information disseminated to consumers.

"HealthNewsReview.org could help make all of us smarter consumers of news and health care by making us think more critically," said Schwitzer. "Health care consumers benefit from the service by having direct access to a comprehensive analysis of health care news articles to help them make better informed decisions about treatment options for various illnesses."

To be eligible for review, an article must be relevant to the management and prevention of disease and must make claims about treatments, procedures or tests. Analyzed by a staff of more than 20 professionals with expertise in journalism, medicine, public health and health services research, each article is scored on a "star" system, with zero being the lowest score and five the highest. News stories are culled from the top 50 circulation newspapers, major broadcast media, weekly news magazines, and wire services.

"The Foundation for Informed Medical Decision Making believes that health care consumers should have access to the most timely, accurate, and unbiased information when making medical decisions," said Floyd Fowler, president of the foundation. "Since the media play such a significant role in how people

obtain much of this information, HealthNewsReview.org is a natural extension of the foundation's mission."

The site uses up to 10 criteria to rate stories, including:

- The novelty and availability of the idea
- The existence of alternative options
- Costs of treatment or procedure
- Sources of information in developing story
- Quantification of harms and benefits of treatment or procedure
- Quality of the evidence that treatment or procedure is effective

"It could be very helpful for every editor to have a list of these criteria on his or her desk," said Scott Bosley, executive director of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

HealthNewsReview.org will also be a useful reference tool for clinicians who need to help patients understand developments reported in the news.

"On a practical level, the main role of HealthNewsReview.org is to show journalists weaknesses, strengths and patterns of mainstream medical reporting," said Avery Comarow, a medical writer for U.S. News & World Report, who reviewed a test version of the service. "It's a wonderful venture and a very important effort."

Schwitzer has specialized in health care journalism in his more than quarter-century career in radio, television, interactive multimedia and the Internet. He joined the faculty of the School of Journalism & Mass Communication at the University of Minnesota in fall 2001. He is director of graduate studies for the school's master of arts degree in Health Journalism program.

The Foundation for Informed Medical Decision Making's mission is to ensure that people understand their choices and have the information they need to make sound decisions affecting their health and well-being. The foundation organizes and frames medical evidence in an unbiased manner to help people evaluate their options, particularly in instances where differences in individual preferences and perspectives are likely to affect personal choice. For more information, visit <http://www.fimdm.org>. □

- What:** U of M symposium addresses ways to integrate the natural environment and the human world into mutually beneficial and sustainable environments
- When:** 2:30 to 6 p.m. Friday, April 21, and 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. April 22
- Where:** College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (CALA), 100 Ralph Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis
- Contacts:** Krista Bergert, College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, (612) 624-7808
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

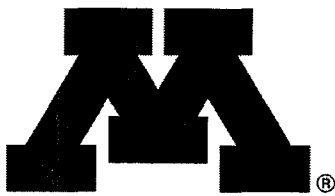
U of M symposium seeks to integrate natural environment, human world

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (4/14/2006)--The University of Minnesota will host a two-day symposium bringing together leading international experts from the Wildlife Conservation Society, Alterra Green World Research (the Netherlands), and from universities throughout the country to address ways to create better places for people, while protecting open space in the face of urbanization.

The symposium will be held from 2:30 to 6 p.m. Friday, April 21, and from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (CALA), 100 Ralph Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

The symposium will address the challenges of designing, planning and managing the urban landscape. Panelists will address sustainable landscape structures and functions for biodiversity, ecosystem health, and quality of life. They will discuss ways in which science can provide designers and planners with specific information about the ecological properties and exact dimensions of a sustainable landscape. That information can lead to proposals for corridor widths for greenways and minimum patch sizes for parks, water quality improvement, biodiversity, and energy conservation.

The symposium is sponsored by the university's department of landscape architecture. The symposium is \$110 for the general public. Parking is available across the street from Rapson Hall in Church Street Garage. A reception follows. For more information, call (612) 624-1832. □



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April 17, 2006

Contacts: *Jessica Kohen, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, (952) 443-1459, jkohen@arboretum.umn.edu*
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM CONFERENCE TAKES ON KIDS' ALIENATION FROM NATURE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- From childhood obesity to depression and attention deficit disorder, can the issues plaguing the youth of today be traced back to their limited connection to nature? Nationally renowned author Richard Louv will lead a discussion about how today's children are more out of touch with nature than ever before as part of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum's ninth annual Growing to Learn Conference on Earth Day, April 22. The conference will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska. The conference is one of the first in a series of symposiums designed to help experts and community stakeholders connect on key environmentally focused issues facing our society.

The statistics behind today's disconnection with nature are staggering. When they were children, 70 percent of today's American mothers played outside. Today, only 31 percent of their children play outside. According to Louv, there's no doubt our connection with the world around us is strained, but the reason children have migrated away from discovering the outdoors is due to more than simply the exploding popularity of indoor pursuits like television, video games and the Internet. Hands down, he says, the biggest factor keeping kids inside is fear - fear of traffic, crime and strangers, and of nature itself.

Louv, author of the groundbreaking book "Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder" (Algonquin Books), will present his findings on the human costs of alienation from nature and its disrupting impact. "Nature deficit disorder is not a medical condition," Louv writes. "It is a description of the human costs of alienation from nature. This alienation damages children and shapes adults, families and communities. There are solutions, though, and they're right in our own backyards."

The conference, titled "RX: Treating Nature Deficit Disorder," will focus on this issue of growing concern. Participants will learn about the changing relationship between children and nature and how these changes affect the health and development of our cities, region and communities.

The full-day conference is presented by the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum's new Public Policy Program, part of the Arboretum's education department. Additional speakers provide further evidence as to how connecting with nature is a potent therapy and a potential strategy for addressing children's issues.

Registration is \$80. For more information, visit the Arboretum's Web site at www.arboretum.umn.edu or contact the Arboretum's Education Office at (952) 443-1422.

The conference agenda is as follows:

- more -

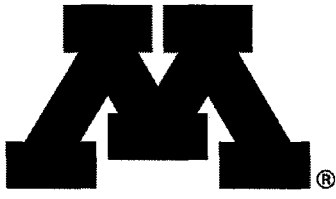
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- 8:30 a.m. Registration
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome & Keynote Speaker, Richard Louv
- 11:00 a.m. Children Nature and Attachment Theory, Martha Farrell Erickson, co-chair, senior fellow and director, Harris Programs, University of Minnesota
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break & Explore the Arboretum
- 1:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions I
- Successful Education Models, Practices and Teacher Resources
 - Designing with Nature in Mind - Interplay Between Community and Nature
 - Grant Writing Tools: Framing Your Message, Documenting Your Success
- 2:30 p.m. Breakout Sessions II (repeated)
- 3:30 p.m. End of Conference

Afternoon breakout sessions will address solutions and strategies for reconnecting our children, families and neighbors with their natural surroundings; present successful educational models, tools and resources; and provide an overview of the economic and social benefits of community planning with nature in mind. Participants will connect with experts in the field of education, child development and community health and environmental science; learn about nature's role in the lives of children and the latest research linking the lack of nature in the lives of the "wired generation" to the rise in disturbing childhood trends such as childhood obesity and attention deficit disorder; and explore new pathways for connecting children to their natural surroundings and solutions that support the health of our communities in general.

- WHO: Richard Louv, author of Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder
- WHAT: Minnesota Landscape Arboretum's Earth Day conference addresses prescription for 'Nature Deficit Disorder'
- WHEN: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 22
- WHERE: Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska





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For Immediate Release

April 17, 2006

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Registration Contact: (612) 626-9634, fristtuesday@csom.umn.edu

JIM CAMPBELL, U OF M CARLSON SCHOOL INTERIM DEAN, TO DISCUSS REGIONAL CIVIC LEADERSHIP

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Jim Campbell, Itasca Project chairman and University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management interim dean, will speak at the Carlson School's "First Tuesday" luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 2, at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

In his presentation, "Advancing a Regional Civic Agenda through Business Leadership," Campbell will talk about the progress and future of the Itasca Project. The Itasca Project is a group of 40-plus community leaders including CEOs, the governor of Minnesota, the mayors of Minneapolis and St. Paul and the president of the University of Minnesota, who provide leadership for long-term regional development and competitiveness to the metropolitan area.

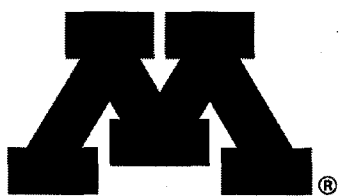
The goals of the Itasca Project include: building a stronger University-business partnership, advancing a comprehensive transportation plan, retaining and growing leading employers, improving early childhood development, addressing socio-economic disparities and supporting the growth of small businesses and clusters.

Each month the First Tuesday luncheon draws around 300 local business leaders, Carlson School alumni, students and educators, who hear from the leading business voices on today's economy.

Advance registration by April 27 is \$23 and \$28 after that. The fee includes lunch and parking in the Washington Avenue Ramp. Register by calling (612) 626-9634, visiting the Web site www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/events, or by e-mail at fristtuesday@csom.umn.edu.

WHO: Jim Campbell, Itasca Project chairman and University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management interim dean
WHEN: 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 2
WHERE: McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 18, 2006

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Jim Ertl, State FFA Executive Secretary, (651) 582-8347
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

MORE THAN 3,000 FFA STUDENTS GATHER AT U OF M TWIN CITIES CAMPUS FOR STATE CONVENTION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The 77th annual Minnesota State FFA Convention will be held April 23-25 on the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus. Over 3,000 students from 170 FFA chapters throughout the state are expected to attend the event.

“Live Out Loud” is the theme of this year's conference and students will have many opportunities to develop leadership and communication skills, gain valuable career and agricultural knowledge and gather new ideas from fellow FFA members.

“We are proud to again host this year's convention. FFA prepares students for success in higher education and interesting careers that make important contributions to Minnesota and the world,” said Charles Muscoplat, vice president and dean of the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences.

During the convention, FFA members and their chapters will be recognized for their accomplishments throughout this past year. Special ceremonies will recognize Minnesota FFA degree recipients, state proficiency award winners, and recognize the State Stars in in Agri Business, Agri Science, Production Placement and Star Farmer. The organization will also name recipients of their prestigious Honorary Minnesota FFA degree and make seven new inductions into the Minnesota FFA Hall of Fame.

“Live Out Loud challenges Minnesota FFA to take all of their amazing experiences gained in FFA to share them with everyone and educate others about agriculture,” said Christian Lilienthal, Minnesota State FFA President and a University of Minnesota freshman majoring in agricultural education from Arlington, Minnesota.

“Convention is a great way to honor students who have been living out loud throughout the year with all of their FFA activities.”

Special guests at the convention include Central Region Vice President, National Officer Anita Estes and Larry Case, National FFA Advisor. Complete details about the conference are available on the web site <http://www.ffa.umn.edu/>

FFA is a national youth organization of 490,017 student members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. In Minnesota nearly 9,000 members participate in chapters

- more -

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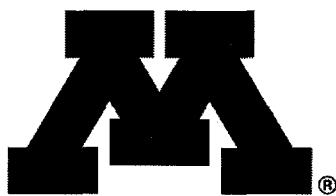
throughout the state.

WHO: More than 3,000 students from 170 Minnesota FFA chapters

WHAT: 77th Annual Minnesota State FFA Convention

WHEN: April 23-25





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DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARDS CEREMONY MONDAY, APRIL 24
~ 15 U of M faculty members will be inducted into Academy of Distinguished Teachers ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Fifteen faculty members have been named recipients of the Distinguished Teaching Award, the University of Minnesota's most prestigious award for excellence in teaching. They will be honored at the Distinguished Teaching Awards Ceremony to be held from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Monday, April 24 in McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

As members of the academy, these faculty members will provide important leadership to the university community by serving as mentors, advisers and spokespersons for the university's mission. All fifteen faculty members will be inducted into the Academy of Distinguished Teachers.

"This occasion celebrates the significance and value the university places on excellent teaching," said Thomas Sullivan, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. "These teachers have gone above and beyond the call of duty in their commitment to work with students and see them grow and succeed. It is only fitting that we shine a spotlight on these fifteen faculty members' remarkable efforts."

Eight faculty members will receive the Morse-Alumni Undergraduate Teaching Award for their outstanding contributions to undergraduate education: Frederick Asher, professor, department of art history, College of Liberal Arts; Mark Distefano, associate professor and director of graduate studies, department of chemistry, Institute of Technology; Pareena Lawrence, associate professor, economics and management, division of the social sciences, U of M Morris; James Leger, professor, department of electrical and computer engineering, Institute of Technology; Donald Liu, associate professor, department of applied economics, College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences; Randy Moore, professor, general college; Marshall Stern, professor, department of animal science, College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences; and Barbara Welke, associate professor, department of history, College of Liberal Arts.

Seven will receive the Graduate-Professional Teaching Award for outstanding contributions to postbaccalaureate,

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graduate, and professional education: Dennis Falk, professor, department of social work, U of M Duluth; Joan Garfield, professor, department of educational psychology, College of Education and Human Development; Wendy Hellerstedt, associate professor, division of epidemiology and community health, School of Public Health; Richard Leppert, professor, department of cultural studies and comparative literature, College of Liberal Arts; Deborah Levison, associate professor, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs; Jean O'Brien, associate professor, department of history, College of Liberal Arts; and Michel Sanders, professor, department of biochemistry, molecular biology and biophysics, College of Biological Sciences and Medical School.

To read individual profiles of the Morse-Alumni Undergraduate Teaching Award recipients, see http://www.alumni.umn.edu/06_Morse. For Graduate-Professional Teaching Award recipient profiles, see http://www.alumni.umn.edu/06_GradProf.

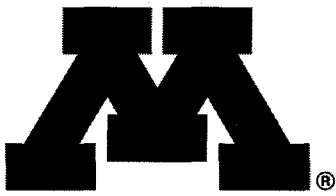
“The University of Minnesota Alumni Association, on behalf of more than 400,000 university graduates, gives a rousing round of applause to these outstanding faculty,” said Margaret Sughrue Carlson, CEO of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association. “This year's honorees have made a lasting impression on their many students, providing them with the skills and knowledge to compete in an increasingly complex world. The alumni association has advocated for educational excellence for more than 100 years, so we are pleased and privileged to honor these teachers for their remarkable contributions to the lives and careers of our alumni.”

There is no charge to attend the awards ceremony. Registration is required and available at www.alumni.umn.edu/distinguishedteaching. For more information, contact Jocelyn Brekken at (612) 625-9174 or by email at brek0045@umn.edu.

The Distinguished Teaching Awards are sponsored by the Senate Committee on Educational Policy, the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, and the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA). The UMAA's 2006 signature partner is Marshall Field's.

WHAT: 15 U of M faculty members will be inducted into Academy of Distinguished Teachers
WHEN: 3:30-5 p.m. Monday, April 24
WHERE: McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis





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April 18, 2006

Contacts: *Uriah McKinney, Disabled Student Cultural Center, (612) 624-2602*
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

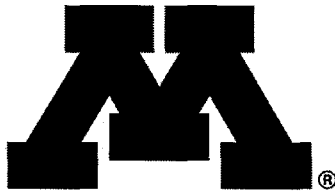
U DISABLED STUDENT CULTURAL CENTER HOSTS ACCESSIBLE SPORTS DAY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Disabled Student Cultural Center (DSCC) is hosting an Accessible Sports Day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at the Recreation Center, 1906 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. All students and staff are invited to participate and play wheelchair soccer and basketball games.

“The DSCC's goal is to raise awareness for students with disabilities by putting people in the positions of people with disabilities,” said DSCC board member Uriah McKinney, adding that the Accessible Sports Day is part of a yearlong awareness campaign. “Aside from a chance to get together for a relaxing game of wheelchair soccer, the event will give us the opportunity to gauge the level of interest in accessible sports on campus.”

WHO: U of M students, faculty, staff
WHEN: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday, April 19
WHERE: Recreation Center, 1906 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis





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April 18, 2006

Contacts: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214

UNITEDHEALTH CEO WANTS EXECs TO GIVE UP STOCK OPTIONS

UnitedHealth CEO William McGuire has recommended that his company's senior executives give up their stock options. If UnitedHealth's board approves this recommendation, it would set a major precedent in the area of executive compensation. The University of Minnesota has several experts who can discuss McGuire's proposal and executive compensation in general:

John Fossum, professor of industrial relations at the U's Carlson School of Management

Fossum is a professor and acting associate dean at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management. He can comment on the recommendation put forth by McGuire and what might have prompted his decision. Fossum can also answer general questions about executive compensation.

Rajesh Aggarwal, associate professor of finance at the U's Carlson School of Management

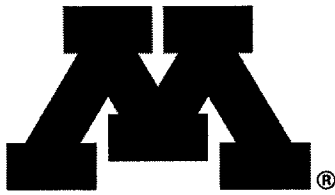
Aggarwal is a finance professor and also an expert on executive compensation. He can answer general as well as specific questions relating to McGuire.

Jared Harris, researcher at the U's Carlson School of Management

Harris has done extensive research in the area of strategic management and business ethics, and financial misrepresentation is in large part the subject of his research. Harris' research indicates that executive stock option compensation massively increases the likelihood of misrepresentation, i.e., cheating.

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LIVABLE COMMUNITIES EXPERTS TO DISCUSS THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES LEFT BEHIND BY HURRICANE KATRINA

~ Great Conversations 2006 continues with "Rethinking our Urban Environments" ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- More than seven months after the worst natural disaster in our country's history, the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina are still visible in the neighborhoods, businesses, and livelihoods of millions of people touched by the storm. May 1 at 7:30 p.m. - as the Gulf Coast readies itself for another hurricane season - Minnesotans will have the opportunity to meet with two visionary urbanists as they assess the daunting challenges and unprecedented opportunities of rebuilding New Orleans and the Gulf Coast in a manner that assures its safety and livability, while preserving its unique character and heritage.

Judith Martin, professor of geography and director of the University of Minnesota's urban studies program, joins U.S. Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Oregon), for "Rethinking our Urban Environments." This is the third event of the 2006 season of Great Conversations - a program of the University's College of Continuing Education.

Since 2002, Great Conversations has engaged more than 15,000 Minnesotans in 23 ground-breaking discussions between the U's faculty experts and their peers from around the world - an inspiring group of visionary activists, political strategists, ground-breaking researchers and Nobel and Pulitzer Prize-winners.

The May 1 event will continue the tradition as these two experts lead a thought-provoking discussion.

In addition to Martin's 30 years of work conducting research, writing and teaching about urban development, she has been actively involved as a policymaker. She currently serves as president of the Minneapolis Planning Commission. In recognition of her public engagement, she was among the first recipients of the U of M President's Outstanding Community Leadership Awards and won the 2005 College of Continuing Education Distinguished Teaching Award. She is currently the editor of Metropolitan Portraits, a series of books on the great cities of the world.

- more -

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Blumenauer has devoted his entire career to public service. The reforms and innovations he helped institute in his hometown of Portland, Ore., have contributed to its reputation as one of the country's most livable communities. Described by the Washington Post as "one of Congress' rare visionaries," he enacted bipartisan flood insurance reform and urged Congress to devote resources to New Orleans' levees two years before Hurricane Katrina. He has been honored with numerous awards from environmental, community and civic organizations, including the Legislator of the Year Award from the American Planning Association.

The final Great Conversations event of the 2006 series will examine social forces reshaping retirement on May 16. All conversations take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis. Single event tickets are \$28.50 (\$23.50 for U of M faculty, staff, students, and University of Minnesota Alumni Association members). Tickets can be ordered from the U of M Ticket Office at 612-624-2345. More information is available at www.cce.umn.edu/conversations.

Media interested in interviewing Congressman Blumenauer prior to the event, please contact Jeff Falk, jfalk@umn.edu.





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April 18, 2006

Contacts: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214

UNITEDHEALTH CEO WANTS EXECES TO GIVE UP STOCK OPTIONS

UnitedHealth CEO William McGuire has recommended that his company's senior executives give up their stock options. If UnitedHealth's board approves this recommendation, it would set a major precedent in the area of executive compensation. The University of Minnesota has several experts who can discuss McGuire's proposal and executive compensation in general:

John Fossum, professor of industrial relations at the U's Carlson School of Management

Fossum is a professor and acting associate dean at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management. He can comment on the recommendation put forth by McGuire and what might have prompted his decision. Fossum can also answer general questions about executive compensation.

Rajesh Aggarwal, associate professor of finance at the U's Carlson School of Management

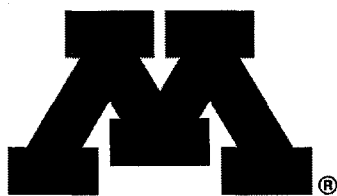
Aggarwal is a finance professor and also an expert on executive compensation. He can answer general as well as specific questions relating to McGuire.

Jared Harris, researcher at the U's Carlson School of Management

Harris has done extensive research in the area of strategic management and business ethics, and financial misrepresentation is in large part the subject of his research. Harris' research indicates that executive stock option compensation massively increases the likelihood of misrepresentation, i.e., cheating.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect university experts to today's breaking news and current events.





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April 18, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

NEW U OF M PODCASTS AIM TO HELP STUDENTS HANDLE STRESS, ELIMINATE PROCRASTINATION AND PREPARE FOR FINAL TESTS

~ University reaching out to students through their iPods ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The way to reach students these days is through their iPods or other portable digital media players, so the University of Minnesota is taking advantage of this technology to reach students with new podcasts that focus on study skills, managing stress and eliminating procrastination.

The university's Office for Student Affairs today released a series of podcasts featuring end-of-the-semester tips for success. Psychologists and counselors from the University Counseling & Consulting Services and the Student Conflict Resolution Center developed the podcasts to in response to the concerns they frequently see at the end of the semester.

Podcast topics are "Preparing for Final Exams," "Avoiding Procrastination," and "Finishing the Semester Strong." There's even one with suggestions on how to help students negotiate conflicts related to exams or grades.

The podcast team kept the the messages short and concise. Each podcast ranges from about three to seven minutes.

"We know students are busy with classes, final projects and jobs right now," said Scott Slattery, UCCS psychologist. "They are aware of the need for help in figuring out how to balance all of the last-minute demands of the term, but they don't know how to fit yet another task into their schedule. With an iPod, they can get some practical, straightforward suggestions and information in the time it takes to walk across the Washington Avenue Bridge between classes. The podcasts also include tips on campus resources to save students the time of figuring out where to go for more help."

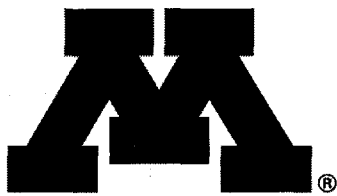
The Office of the Senior Vice President for System Administration assisted in development of the podcasts.

- more -

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An iPod or mp3 player is not a requirement for listening to the information. The podcasts are also available as audio files on the Web, and students can link to them through a computer. There is no charge to download the files, which are available at <http://www.osa.umn.edu/podcasts/>





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EXPERT ALERT

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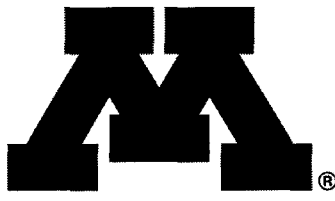
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April 19, 2006

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038, cell (612) 396-5332

U OF M RESEARCHER LOOKS AT CONSERVATIVE MOVEMENT'S 'HARMFUL' IMPACT ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE DISADVANTAGED

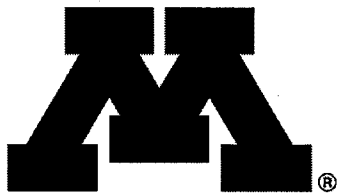
~ Chronicling the effects of conservatism on higher education and democracy ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota researcher Ellen Messer-Davidow says the conservative movement and conservative policy making in the United States over the last 20 years have damaged higher education and the country's have-less populations. According to her article, "Why Democracy Will Be Hard To Do," published in the spring issue of "Social Text" (Duke University Press), Messer-Davidow argues that the conservative movement's anti-affirmative action lawsuits and the governments' languishing student aid have restricted the access of racial-minority and low-income students to college. Furthermore, cumbersome visa processes have caused declines in the number of foreign students who have access to U.S. colleges, and that restrictions on international scholars invited into this country for research and study isolate intellectual communities.

"The conservative movement's advocacy of an 'academic bill of rights,' which is code speak for interjecting political criteria into faculty hiring and course content, violates the most basic principle that scholarly and scientific expertise are the grounds for decision making in academic research, teaching and governance," said Messer-Davidow. "I hope this article is a wake-up call to all those concerned with the fate of higher education."

Messer-Davidow also documents how government attacks on teaching and research short-circuit scholarly expertise and erode academic freedom. She contends that conservative policies have manipulated peer review panels, redirected funding away from research projects deemed offensive, and promulgated nonscientific ideologies, such as creation science, as if they were scientific findings.

Messer-Davidow has been studying the conservative movement in the United States since the mid-1980s. She has published numerous articles on how the conservative movement uses think tanks, advocacy groups, legal defense funds and media outlets to attack higher education. She was the author of "Manufacturing the Attack on Higher Education," in 1993.



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April 19, 2006

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LAW SCHOOL DEAN TO STEP DOWN

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota Law School Dean Alex M. Johnson Jr. has announced that he will step down as dean effective May 31.

“In his four years here, Dean Alex Johnson has accomplished the goals he wanted to achieve and we thank him for his service to the University of Minnesota Law School,” said Thomas Sullivan, the university’s senior vice president for academic affairs and provost.

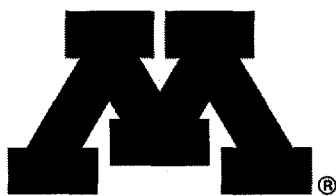
An interim dean will be named and a national search for a new dean will begin after consultations with Law School faculty, staff and students, Sullivan said.

Johnson became the ninth dean of the Law School in July 2002 and will spend the 2006-07 year on sabbatical and plans to transition to dean emeritus status.

Under Johnson’s leadership the Law School’s national stature has grown, primarily due to faculty hiring. Johnson made the most significant number of strong lateral hires that the Law School has seen in decades, bringing several nationally known and rising stars.

Under Johnson’s guidance, the Law School also attracted higher performing students. The median GPA of last year’s entering class was 3.54, and the median LSAT score was 164, making this the statistically strongest entering class ever. Bucking the national trend, the Law School last year received 3,067 applications, the largest number of applications in the school’s history, and this year’s application pool of 3,143 applicants has broken the record. The Law School has the best bar passage rate in the country. Johnson also had a strong commitment to diversity, with new initiatives and staff resources devoted to the recruiting and retaining of a more diverse student body.





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UNIVERSITY, CLEAN AIR MINNESOTA ROLL OUT CLEANER BUSES

~ Campus shuttle buses retrofitted to reduce pollution ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Several campus shuttle buses have been upgraded or retrofitted with emission-reduction technology geared toward reducing pollution, University of Minnesota Parking and Transportation Services (PTS) announced today.

In partnership with Clean Air Minnesota, PTS equipped several of the fleet's older buses with new devices that will significantly reduce harmful emissions. Retrofitted buses began hitting campus streets this month.

The targeted campus shuttle buses will be equipped with diesel oxidation catalysts (DOC). A DOC is a device that uses a chemical reaction to mitigate harmful pollutants in diesel exhaust. A DOC improves the quality of air inside a bus and reduces emissions of particulate matter by at least 20 percent. The devices cut carbon monoxide emissions by 40 percent and hydrocarbons by 50 percent.

The upgrading of the university shuttle buses is the first wave of Clean Air Minnesota's Project Green Fleet, a partnership between government agencies, businesses and other organizations. Project Green Fleet relies on donations from businesses and other organizations to retrofit buses. They plan to raise \$2 million and retrofit 500 buses by 2007.

Participation in Project Green Fleet is voluntary. "The university is really ahead of the curve by doing this," said Bill Droessler, director of Clean Air Minnesota. "The university has been a pioneer for these causes."

Droessler said that the U of M has not only benefited from Project Green Fleet, but also helped Green Fleet's cause. "The fact that we can sign on large organizations like the university has been instrumental to our pollution-reduction efforts."

Droessler also commended the effort made by First Student Inc., the company that owns and operates the university buses. First Student was very helpful and accommodating throughout the planning and retrofitting

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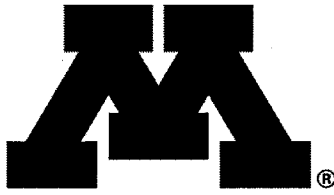
process, he said.

Older buses were selected for the project since newer buses have been redesigned to pollute less.

Clean Air Minnesota is a division of the Minnesota Environmental Initiative. The organization works with businesses, non-profits and government partners to find unified solutions to environmental concerns in Minnesota.

The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities is the third-largest traffic generator in Minnesota. PTS is committed to establishing, maintaining and improving a comprehensive transportation system that reduces congestion, eases accessibility and enhances a friendly university community.





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SUSAN ENGEL OF THE LENOX GROUP INC. TO SPEAK AT U OF M CARLSON SCHOOL'S "INSIDE THE BOARDROOM"

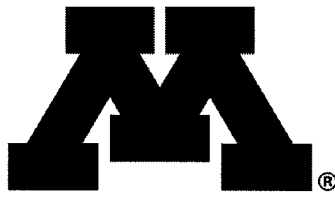
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Susan Engel, chair and chief executive officer of Lenox Group Inc., will be the featured speaker at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management's "Inside the Boardroom" event Tuesday May 9, at 5:30 p.m., at the Carlson School's 3M Auditorium, 321 19th Ave. S. Minneapolis.

Engel joined Lenox Group Inc. as president and chief operating officer in September 1994, one year after the company's initial public offering. She was elected to the board of directors in February 1996 and was named CEO in November 1996. Engel earned her undergraduate degree in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University in 1968, and her MBA from Harvard Business School in 1976. She is a member of the board of directors of Wells Fargo & Company and SuperValu Inc. Engel also serves on the board of overseers at the Carlson School of Management and the Minnesota Women's Campaign Fund.

Lenox Group Inc (formerly Department 56, Inc.) is a market leader in quality collectible, tabletop and giftware products sold under the Department 56, Lenox, Gorham and Dansk brand names. The company sells its products through wholesale customers who operate gift, specialty and department store locations in the United States and Canada, company-operated retail stores, and direct-to-the-consumer through catalogs, direct mail and the Internet.

The bi-annual "Inside the Boardroom" series developed and hosted by Marilyn Carlson Nelson showcases American CEOs considered to be leaders in their field. The event is sponsored by the Carlson School chapter of the National Association of Women MBAs.

Registration starts at 5:30 p.m. and a reception follows. The event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited. To register in advance visit www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/insidetheboardroom, or call (612) 626-9633.



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DONALD ANDERSON RECEIVES UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota presented Donald M. Anderson, chairman emeritus at the Santa Barbara Bank and Trust, and Carlson School graduate, with an Outstanding Achievement Award in late March at an event in Santa Barbara, Calif. The Outstanding Achievement award is conferred on graduates or former students of the University of Minnesota who have attained unusual distinction in their profession or in public service and who have demonstrated outstanding achievement and leadership.

Donald Anderson started his career at Northwestern National Bank in Madison, Minn. in 1959. He worked at the bank for more than a decade and, for Anderson, banking was more than a career; it was a legacy of relationships. He prided himself on being the "son of a son of a banker." His blending of business and dedicated relationships is what made him a leader in community banking.

Anderson's dedication to community banking made his work at Santa Barbara Bank and Trust in California the highlight of his career and a model for other businesses. Anderson became president of SBBT in 1971 (a position he held for 18 years), later serving as director and chairman. Under his leadership, SBBT gained 30 percent of the market and became a business legend in Santa Barbara. From 1985-1986, Anderson served as president of Western Independent Bankers, an association of approximately 250 community-oriented banks and savings-and-loans in the western United States.

Anderson taught as an adjunct faculty member for 10 years at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He also served as president of the Santa Barbara United Way, YMCA, Industry Education Council, and Boy Scouts of America Council, and he was a member of the 2003 board of directors of the Rehabilitation Institute of Santa Barbara, which helps people with neurological injuries.

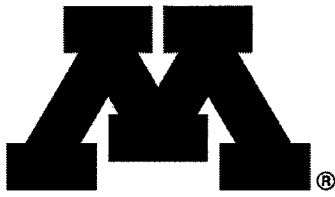
Anderson graduated from Madison High School, Madison, Minn., in 1946. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management and an MBA from Harvard University.

- more -

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“Anderson recognizes that education doesn’t end when graduates receive their diplomas; his philanthropy and community involvement have often been his support of life-long learning,” said Jim Campbell, Carlson school interim dean.





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April 20, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

**STUDENTS TO HOLD "CLIPS FOR A CURE"
TO RAISE MONEY FOR CANCER RESEARCH**

~ Stylists to shave heads and do regular haircuts ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Students, staff, faculty and members of the public will be shaving their heads and cutting their hair in support of cancer research during a fund-raising event sponsored by University of Minnesota student organization "Clips for a Cure" from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 21, in front of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Six stylists from Hair by Stewart's, which is part of Regis Corp., will be on hand to shave heads, give regular haircuts and take hair donations. Hair donations will be given to Locks of Love, an organization that provides hairpieces to children who have lost their hair due to illness. Cash donations from "Clips for a Cure" will go to fund research at the University Cancer Center.

Stylists will charge \$10 for regular haircuts and \$5 to shave heads. All money will be donated to the University Cancer Center.

U of M community advisors Brett Leeson, Karl Enroth, and Liz Schmitt along with Jamie Lyn Bartlett and Anish Das, have planned this special event which will feature keynote speakers Minnesota Sen. Dallas Sams (DFL-Staples) and Staci Matthews from KS95's "Moon and Staci Show." A local band will play from 12 to 1 p.m.

Numerous food vendors will be on site donating a portion of their proceeds to the Cancer Center. A 5K run/walk will be held at 3:30 p.m. which takes participants throughout campus.

More than 1,000 people attended last year's event and more than 200 donated their hair to Locks of Love. About \$10,000 was raised for the University Cancer Center last year.

Clips for a Cure works with several prominent organizations within the community to support their program.

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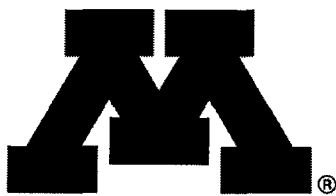
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

They have gained the most support from Housing and Residential Life, the Residence Hall Association (RHA), and TCF Bank.

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 21

WHERE: In front of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis





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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu*

U OF M EXTENSION SERVICE ASSISTS MEXICAN CONSULATE VISIT TO ROCHESTER

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Extension Service is working with leaders of the Rochester Latino community to distribute financial education resources when the Mexican Consulate visits the U's Rochester campus on Saturday, April 29.

The mobile consulate will spend its time in Rochester issuing Mexican I.D.'s and visas. The request came from the local chapters of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and the Alliance of Chicanos, Hispanics and Latin Americans (ACHLA). As co-sponsor of the event, Extension's regional center in Rochester will provide attendees with research-based information from its financial literacy program.

The Mexican I.D. is recognized by some local governments as a valid form of identification for the purposes of public employment, school registration or opening a bank account.

Gabriela Burk, Extension financial literacy program assistant in Dodge County, will make handouts in Spanish from Extension's "Dollar Works" curriculum available at the event. The handouts help teach newly employed people how to take control of personal or family finances. Information covers items such as the value of opening a checking account and the benefits of building a good credit rating.

According to Miguel Valdez, coordinator of Olmsted County's Eliminating Health Disparities Initiative and a main organizer of the event, the mobile consulate visit is a vehicle for providing a myriad of other resources to the audience.

"For my work, to eliminate health disparities, this is a big help from the perspective of getting the information to those who need it most," said Valdez. "They can get an I.D. and get more information in case they need to see a doctor or get to a clinic. We can provide them with all the health resources available in this area."

LULAC is the oldest and largest Latino civil rights organization in the United States, with 700 councils across the country. ACHLA's mission is to serve the local Hispanic community through educational programs,

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the country. ACHLA's mission is to serve the local Hispanic community through educational programs, resources and community events.

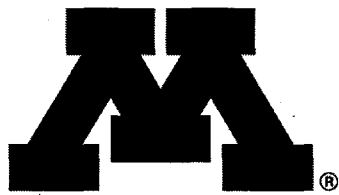
The mobile Mexican consulate event will take place in the University Center Rochester cafeteria, located at 851 30th Ave. S.E., Rochester.

For more information on Extension's Dollar Works curriculum, available in English or Spanish, visit www.extension.umn.edu and click on "family."

WHEN: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 29

WHERE: University Center Rochester cafeteria, 851 30th Ave. S.E., Rochester





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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U OF M STUDENT GROUP TO STAGE CONCERT TO BENEFIT 'INVISIBLE CHILDREN' OF UGANDA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Raising Awareness For Africa (RAFA), a student group at the University Of Minnesota, is hosting a benefit concert for the "invisible children" of Uganda at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 23, at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

RAFA is hoping to raise funds and awareness for children in the surrounding areas of Acholi in Northern Uganda. The "Invisible Children" (young boys between the ages of 4 and above) in this region are being forced to flee from their homes every night for fear of being violently abducted by rebel troops known as the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), and turned into violent mercenaries.

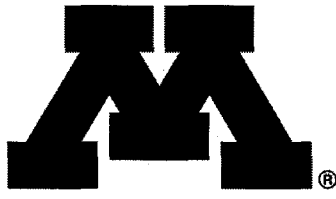
The concert will feature a film, "The Invisible Children," which focuses on the plights facing many young boys in this region. There will also be dance and music performances by Twin Cities African artists.

"We have been inspired to do something and we are planning the benefit concert on the university campus to raise money for the disillusioned young children in Northern Uganda, so that they can have a hope," said RAFA spokesperson Peju Solarin. "As a group that provides support to African nations, RAFA wants to play a part in this, and get the awareness out."

WHO: 4 p.m., Sunday, April 23

WHERE: Coffman Memorial Theatre, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis





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cpeloquin@csom.umn.edu*

ALFRED AND INGRID HARRISON RECEIVE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA REGENTS' AWARD

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota presented Alfred and Ingrid Lenz Harrison with the Regents' Award at an event at the McNamara Alumni Center in early April. The Regents' Award is conferred upon individuals who have contributed to the building and development of the University of Minnesota through significant benefactions, or who have given exceptionally valuable and noteworthy service to the university.

Inspiring advocates and generous benefactors, Al and Ingrid Lenz Harrison's invaluable support of the arts, medicine, business, lifelong education and human rights at the University of Minnesota displays their commitment to improving the human condition and has enabled countless people to achieve their own success.

As an active supporter of the Carlson School of Management, Al is a member of the Carlson Funds Enterprise Advisory Committee and was a founding partner of the school's Center for Financial Services Industry. Al and Ingrid also established the Alfred and Ingrid Lenz Harrison MBA Fellowship Fund for International Students. Inspired by Ingrid's own educational experiences, they provided an endowment that became the Ingrid Lenz Harrison Scholarship Fund, helping women transform their lives through education. Their vision and active leadership led to the creation of the University Children's Foundation and the Martin Lenz Harrison Land-Grant Chair in Pediatrics. They are also active in fundraising, creating scholarships and awards and other support for vital research and programs. Al and Ingrid are longtime supporters of human rights. They are actively involved in the Center for Victims of Torture and gave generously to the Building Human Rights Community Fund, which has helped build the human rights community at the University of Minnesota, including the Human Rights Center.

In addition, Al and Ingrid have supported the Weisman Art Museum, the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, various scholarships and many other programs at the university. Their generosity and the diversity of their interests will benefit the university and greater community for generations to come.

- more -

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“The Harrisons’ support of the University of Minnesota and their many wide-ranging interests has enabled countless people to achieve success and continue a legacy in progress,” said Jim Campbell, Carlson School interim dean.





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April 20, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

U OF M STUDENT FILM FEST 2006 TO SHOWCASE THE BEST FILMMAKERS

~ Film Fest begins tonight ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's Minnesota Programs and Activities Council (MPAC) is presenting a three night film festival showcasing films written and produced by U of M students. This event is free and open to the public. Films will be shown at Coffman Union Theater today, April 20, through Saturday, April 22.

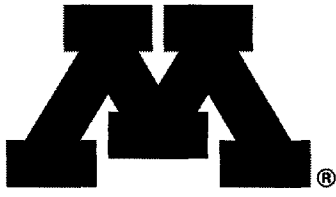
The film fest kicks off at 7 p.m. tonight with the Short Films Program. Then at 9 p.m., the Long Films Program #1 begin. Long films are between 10 and 40 minutes. On Friday, Long Films Program #2 begins at 7 p.m. and Long Films Program #3 begins at 9:30 p.m. Each of the long film programs will screen films independent of the other sessions. A complimentary re-screening of the "Short Films Program" will take place at midnight.

Prizes will be awarded to the winners of the Judge's and Audiences' favorite for both the long and short films. Prizes include 60GB iPod Videos and portable DVD players. Winners will be announced at 7 p.m. Saturday during the final awards ceremony. At this time, the winning films will also be re-screened.

Students began preparing for the Film Fest back in December 2005. Since then, 27 films have been submitted for the Film Fest. To get more information on the Film Fest and see the list of filmmakers and their submitted movies, check out the Film Fest Website at www.sao.umn.edu/filmfest.

The Minnesota Programs & Activities Council is the main campus-wide programming board for the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Its programming committees are responsible for initiating, developing, and implementing a comprehensive and diverse activities program that anticipates and responds to the needs of U of M students and the campus community. For more information, please visit www.sao.umn.edu/filmfest.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2006

*Contacts: Owen Marciano, GLBT Programs Office, (612) 626-8086
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

U OF M TO HOLD CEREMONY TO HONOR GRADUATING GLBT STUDENTS AND BREAKING THE SILENCE RECIPIENTS

~ Lavender graduation celebrates GLBT students ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) students will don purple mortarboards and rainbow tassels for a graduation ceremony like no other at the University of Minnesota. Fall 2005, spring 2006 and summer 2006 will be honored during the annual Lavender Graduation and Awards Ceremony from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 27, in the Mississippi Room in Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public.

Lavender Graduation is a cultural celebration that recognizes GLBT students and students who are allies of GLBT people for their academic achievements and their contributions to the U of M. It is sponsored by the university's GLBT Programs Office.

During the ceremony, the GLBT Programs Office will also present the 2005-2006 Breaking the Silence Awards. The awards recognize individuals or organizations that have worked to confront discrimination based on gender identification or sexual orientation, thereby improving campus climate for GLBT people at the university.

June Nobbe, director of Student Development & Leadership Programs, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and Bethany Snyder, graduate student, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, are this year's recipients.

About Nobbe

Nobbe has had a huge impact on the University of Minnesota with her efforts on behalf of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students, staff and faculty, said. She served as co-chair of the Select Committee on LGB Concerns in 1993, which produced the well known "pink" report, the report that eventually led to the creation of the GLBT Programs Office. She also served on the GLBT Programs Office advisory committee once the office was established. As director of student activities, Nobbe has played a key role in supporting the growth of GLBT student organizations. She has also served on GLBT task forces and commissions.

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

“Many of us in the LGBT university community see June as an amazing example of what an ally can be to our community,” said one person who nominated Nobbe for the award.

About Snyder

In fall 2006 Snyder organized a group of students at the Humphrey Institute, Humphrey Students for Equality, to apply pressure to the student government (PASA) to publicly oppose discrimination against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students. Her effort was initiated in response to a proposed Minnesota constitutional amendment to restrict same-sex couples from entering in to marriage, civil unions, or other legal arrangements. After spearheading a successful grassroots campaign, PASA voted to endorse Together Minnesota!, the campaign organized by OutFront Minnesota, opposing any anti-marriage amendment in Minnesota on the grounds that a constitutional amendment banning marriage, civil unions, and legal protections for same-sex couples would negatively impact the Humphrey Institute's ability to recruit a talented and diverse student body, staff and faculty.

Snyder also worked with and supported students, staff and faculty throughout the university who were working on similiar initiatives in their own departments.

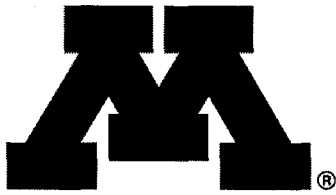
Snyder also played an integral role in the University of Minnesota's Queer Graduate and Professional Association this past fall. In this capacity, she helped organize their spring event, "Building Bridges: Connecting Queer Communities," an innovative approach to networking and relationship-building between graduate students and Twin Cities' GLBT queer organizations.

Other awards

Recipients of the 2005-2006 Steven J. Schochet GLBT Studies Awards for Excellence in Creativity and Scholarship, and of the 2006-2007 GLBTA Student Scholarships, will also be recognized. For more information on the awards and graduation, contact the GLBT Programs Office at (612) 625-0537.

WHAT: Lavender Graduation and Awards Ceremony
WHEN: 4 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 27
WHERE: Mississippi Room in Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis





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EXPERT ALERT

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For Immediate Release

April 20, 2006

Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-8770

BOSTON SCIENTIFIC GETS APPROVAL TO BUY GUIDANT

Boston Scientific Corp. has received final regulatory clearance for its acquisition of Guidant Corp. University of Minnesota experts available to talk about the acquisition of Guidant are:

Art Hill, professor of operations and management science at the U's Carlson School of Management

Hill is available to discuss the acquisition of Guidant.

Rajesh Aggarwal, professor of finance at the U's Carlson School of Management

Aggarwal can talk about the merger and possible legal issues related to the acquisition.

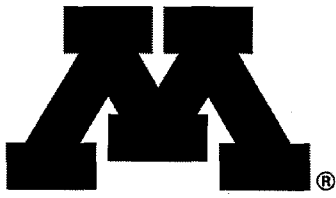
Rajesh Chandy, professor of marketing at the U's Carlson School of Management

Chandy can talk about what makes a good merger/acquisition from an innovation standpoint. He can answer questions like: Are these companies a good fit? Will they continue to innovate?

To interview any of the experts above, contact Dawn Skelly at (612) 624-8770.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect university experts to today's breaking news and current events.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2006

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COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT RECEIVES U OF M'S FIRST BEINECKE SCHOLARSHIP

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Sarah Hampton, an honors student in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities has been awarded a 2006 Beinecke Scholarship. Hampton, a junior majoring in anthropology, is the first student in university history to win this prestigious national award. She is one of only five 2006 Beinecke Scholars who are completing their undergraduate degrees at public institutions.

The Beinecke Scholarship Program seeks to encourage and enable highly motivated students to pursue opportunities available to them and to be courageous in the selection of a graduate program in the arts, humanities and social sciences. Each scholar receives \$2,000 immediately prior to entering graduate school and an additional \$30,000 while attending graduate school.

"I am deeply honored to have received the Beinecke Scholarship, and I am very excited to apply the funds to further my studies into the ways our human ancestors responded to their environments. I am especially interested in developing a method that will enable the species identification of fragmented, seemingly unidentifiable fossils so that ancient habitats may be more accurately recreated," said Hampton.

Hampton, whose areas of interest include biological anthropology, paleoanthropology and taphonomy, has been engaged in numerous research projects under the direction of university faculty. Last summer, she served as a research assistant to anthropology professor Martha Tappen at the ancient homonid site of Dmanisi in the Republic of Georgia. She assisted in the analysis of skeletal remains in order to learn about the activities of early humans and their relationship to their environment. This summer, with the support of a College of Liberal Arts undergraduate research grant, she will study faunal remains at the medieval site of Tulsk, Ireland.

In addition, Hampton volunteers at the Raptor Center and works at the university's Law Library. She has been the recipient of a Selmer Birkelo Scholarship and the Elden Johnson Memorial award for best undergraduate archeological research paper. She is a graduate of Sumner Community High School, Sumner, Iowa.

The Beinecke Scholarship Program was established in 1971 by the board of directors of The Sperry and

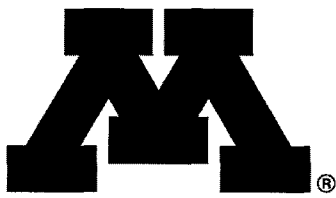
- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The Beinecke Scholarship Program was established in 1971 by the board of directors of The Sperry and Hutchinson Company to honor Edwin, Frederick and Walter Beinecke. Several years ago, the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities was invited to join the select group of colleges and universities that participate in the program. Each institution may nominate one student per year; 20 winners are selected from among approximately 90 nominees.

Photo available.





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April 20, 2006

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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082*

U OF M STUDENT GROUP TO STAGE CONCERT TO BENEFIT 'INVISIBLE CHILDREN' OF UGANDA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Raising Awareness For Africa (RAFA), a student group at the University Of Minnesota, is hosting a benefit concert for the "invisible children" of Uganda at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 23, at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

RAFA is hoping to raise funds and awareness for children in the surrounding areas of Acholi in Northern Uganda. The "Invisible Children" (young boys between the ages of 4 and above) in this region are being forced to flee from their homes every night for fear of being violently abducted by rebel troops known as the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), and turned into violent mercenaries.

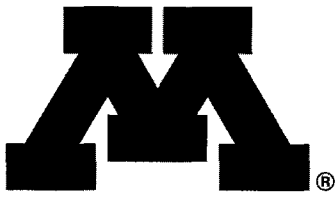
The concert will feature a film, "The Invisible Children," which focuses on the plights facing many young boys in this region. There will also be dance and music performances by Twin Cities African artists.

"We have been inspired to do something and we are planning the benefit concert on the university campus to raise money for the disillusioned young children in Northern Uganda, so that they can have a hope," said RAFA spokesperson Peju Solarin. "As a group that provides support to African nations, RAFA wants to play a part in this, and get the awareness out."

WHO: 4 p.m., Sunday, April 23

WHERE: Coffman Memorial Theatre, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis





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April 21, 2006

Contacts: Professor Ascan Koerner, koern011@umn.edu, (612) 624-4030 (office), (612) 501-8200 (cell); student Sean Kelly at kell0812@umn.edu; or student Brit Jenkins at (612) 819-3693

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CLASS CREATES CAMPAIGN TO STOP SPREAD OF BLACK FEVER IN BIHAR, INDIA, HOLDS FUNDRAISER

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A group of University of Minnesota students is hosting a fundraiser dinner for a health campaign to educate rural Indians about black fever in Bihar, India. The dinner will be Tuesday, April 25 at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The door opens at 6 p.m. and the dinner starts at 7 p.m.

Kala azar (black fever) is a largely preventable disease that affects half a million people throughout India, with particularly devastating effects in the rural areas of Bihar, resulting in at least 200,000 deaths annually. This disease is spread primarily by biting sand flies and when left untreated turns fatal.

Students in professor Ascan Koerner's advanced undergraduate communication studies class has created a public health campaign that will target youth and teach them ways to avoid being bit by sand flies. The students will also seek innovative means to reach the largely illiterate population in rural India including a traveling play and picture books for children. The class has obtained a grant to go to Bihar to research the effectiveness of the campaign this summer.

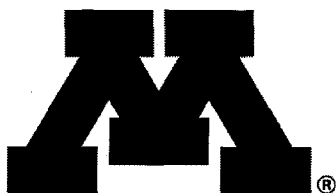
To finance the campaign itself, the students have planned the April 25 benefit dinner. The first half of the event will feature Indian cuisine, keynote speakers and Indian dancers. The second half will have an international DJ, Indian dancers, and henna tattoos to target students. The group is also taking personal donations to fund the campaign. More info at:

<http://www.comm.umn.edu/~akoerner/Bihar/>

WHEN: Tuesday, April 25, doors open at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p. m.

WHERE: Coffman Memorial Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis





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For Immediate Release

April 24, 2006

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FIRST CAMPUS-WIDE UNDERGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM HIGHLIGHTS UNDERGRAD RESEARCH

~ Research involvement positively impacts graduation rates ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Unlike students at most colleges, students at the University of Minnesota get the unique opportunity of actually doing research as undergraduates. Students will display information about their current research projects and proposed research during the 2006 Undergraduate Symposium from 1 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, in the Great Hall, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public.

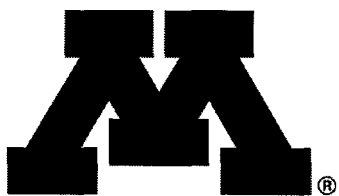
Undergraduate research includes a wide range of projects. In one, a student examines whether a Giant Pacific Octopus is able to solve a puzzle to obtain a food item. In another, a student studies the moderating effects humor has on stress and performance in the context of an emotionally laborious task.

Research plays a key role in student success, according to a study of freshman who started at the U of M in 1999. "We found a clear relationship between involvement in research projects and graduation rates. Those who participated in a research project had higher graduation rates than those who did not," said Peter Hudleston, associate dean in the Institute of Technology.

The symposium is sponsored by the office of vice provost for Undergraduate Education, the Office for Student Affairs, the office of the vice provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, the College of Biological Sciences, the College of Human Ecology, the College of Liberal Arts, the Carlson School of Management, the College of Natural Resources, the Institute of Technology and University Libraries.

WHEN: 1 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 26

WHERE: Great Hall, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 24, 2006

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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082*

SIX INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI RECEIVE U OF M AWARDS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Six international alumni of the University of Minnesota have been named recipients of the 2006 Distinguished Leadership Award for Internationals - a university-wide award for alumni, former students and friends of the university who have distinguished themselves as leaders in their professional careers.

This award is conferred on alumni, former students and friends of any campus (current or former) of the university who have attained unusual distinction in their careers within institutions or in public service and have demonstrated either sustained outstanding achievement and leadership or demonstrated promise of such on a local, national or international level.

A faculty selection committee, headed by Tom Fisher, dean of the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, reviewed the nominations and chose the six winners.

"The international alumni and friends of the University of Minnesota have gone on to do very impressive and important work in their home countries and around the world," said Gene Allen, associate vice president for international programs. "The goal of this award is to increase the visibility of their achievements and to highlight the global impact of a University of Minnesota education."

Recipients for 2006 are:

Soon Ang, Singapore, received a doctorate in management and information systems from the Carlson School of Management in 1993. Ang is the Goh Tjoei Kok Chair Professor in Management and the executive director of the Center for Cultural Intelligence at the Nanyang Business School at Nanyang Technological University. Ang's groundbreaking research on the measurement of "cultural intelligence" has had a major impact on the field of international education and cross-cultural training and counseling.

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Benedicta Chiwokwu Aguisabo, Nigeria, was a Humphrey Fellow at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs in 2001-02. Aguisabo is senior program officer of the ENHANSE USAID project, a five-year bilateral agreement between the United States and Nigeria to strengthen education in Nigeria. Aguisabo has been called the mother of early childhood education for her tireless work to achieve basic rights and protection for children. She was instrumental in establishing a government policy on school feeding.

Shenggen Fan, China, received a doctorate in applied economics from the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences in 1989. Fan is the division director of development strategy and governance at the International Food Policy Research Institute, one of the youngest division directors in the 30-year history of the institute. Fan has devoted most of his professional life to working in international development, especially in the areas of poverty and hunger. Fan received the prestigious Outstanding Young Scholar Award from the National Science Foundation of China in 2005.

Jostein Mykletun, Norway, received a master's and a doctorate degree in international relations/political science from the College of Liberal Arts in 1972 and 1979 respectively. He is the deputy director general of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which allows him to work at the crossroads of higher education, science, technology, innovation, commercialization, industry and business. One of his greatest achievements was the recent signing of the United States-Norway bilateral science and technology agreement, which will result in a stronger relationship between the United States and Norway. He was also instrumental in obtaining funding for "The Norwegian Centennial Interdisciplinary Chair" at the University of Minnesota.

Jose Suarez-Torres, Ecuador, received a master's of public health degree in 1979 and a doctorate in epidemiology in 1984 from the School of Public Health. Suarez-Torres is the founder and executive director of Fundación Cimas del Ecuador, a non-profit organization focused on the study of the environmental, developmental, and medical problems of Ecuador. He is also the director of the University of Minnesota's Minnesota Studies in International Development program in Ecuador, a unique model that combines study abroad and local development work. Suarez-Torres is described as an unofficial ambassador of the university for his ongoing support of students and the institution.

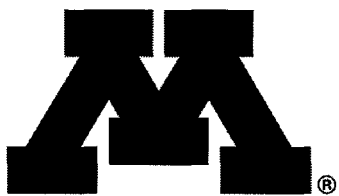
Winston C. Y. Yu, Taiwan, received a doctorate in animal science from the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences in 1979. He is secretary general of Taiwan's National Health Research Institute, which was modeled after the National Institutes of Health in the United States. As the institute's first leader, Yu developed the institute into a leading research organization with 700 employees. Yu is also an accomplished researcher in the field of human papilloma virus and its close ties to cervical cancer.

The winners are recognized individually in ceremonies hosted by their colleges, either at the university or in their home countries. Jostein Mykletun will receive his award during University President Robert Bruininks's visit to Norway in May 2006.

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The deadline for the next round of nominations will be in February 2007. See <http://www.international.umn.edu/awards/leader/leader.html> for more information, including longer biographies and photos of the recipients.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 24, 2006

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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U OF M KICKS OFF 2006 SPRING JAM

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The largest student-run celebration at the University of Minnesota, "Spring Jam," will feature events that run from today, April 24, through Saturday, April 29, on the Twin Cities campus.

The Minnesota Programs and Activities Council has planned many events throughout the week including live music performances, Ballyhoo, sport competitions, novelty entertainment, comedians, an art fair and philanthropic events. Numerous student organizations such as the residence halls and the Greek community form teams and compete during Ballyhoo, sport competitions and the student band competition.

This year's theme is "Movies That Rock." The theme is based on movies that are centered on a certain musical genre and/or based around a popular theme song. Examples of this combination include: "Footloose," "8 Mile," "Walk the Line," "Purple Rain," "The Doors" and "Selena."

The highlighted events:

Monday, April 24

X-Men Marathon

West Bank Auditorium. Doors open: 5:30 p.m. Show: 6 p.m.

Participants can watch "X-Men" and "X2" and win tickets for a premiere of "X-Men: The Last Stand." There will be movie trivia before and after each film with prizes provided by 20th Century Fox.

Tuesday, April 25

Mission: Impossible Marathon

West Bank Auditorium. Doors open: 5:30 p.m. Show: 6 p.m.

Students can watch both "Mission: Impossible I and II", and win free passes for the "Mission: Impossible III" screening on May 2. There will be movie trivia before and after each film with prizes provided by Paramount Pictures.

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Pictures.

Wednesday, April 26

Spring Jam Campus Kick Off

Coffman Union Plaza Front Plaza, 11 a.m.

Featuring free pizza and coke products, free BBQ provided by UPS and Student Athlete Fan Appreciation Day.

Ronald McDonald breakfast bags

Room 325 Coffman Union, 3 p.m.

This philanthropic event helps make breakfast bags for families with children who have life threatening illnesses. The Ronald McDonald House, located just one block from campus, aims to provide a home away from home for families of severely ill children receiving treatment at nearby hospitals.

Spring Jam 2006 Comedy Sportz

2-650 Moos Tower. 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 27

Greek and Residence Life Day

Coffman Union Front Plaza, 2 p.m.

Students can participate in fun activities such as inflatable games, rock climbing and speed ball provided by ROTC and free massages provided by Boynton Health Services, and enjoy free pizza, soda, popcorn and candy.

Friday, April 28

Spring Jam Campus and Community Day and Art Fair

Coffman Union Front Plaza, 10 a.m.

The event features Zach of MTV's "The Real World Key West," live performances by local bands, art works by 13 Twin Cities artists and free activities such as Henna tattoos, caricatures and Taroh card readings.

Battle of the Band Competition

Coffman Union Riverbend Plaza, 5 p.m.

Students compete in a Battle of the Bands style to the Spring Jam theme.

Saturday, April 29

U's YMCA 5K Run / Walk

Coffman Union Front Plaza, 10 a.m. \$15 entry fee.

This is an event to benefit the university YMCA and its programs including mentoring buddies, tutoring and

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

internship programs.

Ballyhoo Competition

Coffman Union Riverbend Plaza, 1 p.m.

Students compete in a dance performance to music that relates to the Spring Jam theme.

Block Party

Coffman Union Riverbend Plaza, 3:30 p.m.

This year's block party will feature popular local bands from the Twin Cities metro area. They include Perfect Enemy, Tagine, Root City, SJ Awards, Doomtree and a surprise special guest band.

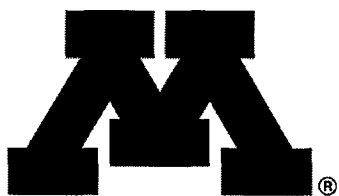
For a complete list of Spring Jam events, visit www.sao.umn.edu/springjam.

WHO: U of M students and staff

WHEN: April 24 to April 29

WHERE: U of M Twin Cities campus





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April 25, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

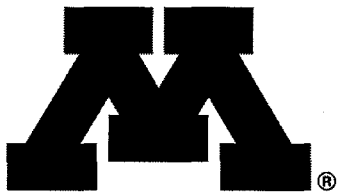
MARILYN CARLSON NELSON TO SPEAK AT U OF M CARLSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY MAY 14

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Marilyn Carlson Nelson, chair and chief executive officer of Carlson Companies, will deliver the keynote address at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management commencement ceremony at 6 p.m. Sunday, May 14, at Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

In her address, "Leading for Change: The Knapsack Approach," Carlson Nelson will discuss the need for a new type of leader in business and detail the attributes of this new style of leadership. Since 1998, Carlson Nelson has been chair and chief executive officer of Carlson Companies, whose annual sales total more than \$20 billion in more than 140 countries. In 2004, Carlson Nelson co-chaired the World Economic Forum's annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland. She is the current chair of the National Women's Business Council, a position to which she was appointed by President George W. Bush. Carlson Nelson graduated with honors from Smith College with a degree in international economics and a minor in theater. She also attended the Sorbonne in Paris and the Institute Des Hautes Etudes Economiques Politiques in Geneva, Switzerland, where she studied political science and international economics.

A series of traditions will proudly be carried out as the Carlson School prepares to award more than 1,250 degrees including about 600 bachelor of science in business degrees, about 550 master of business administration degrees, about 70 master of arts in human resources and industrial relations degrees and nearly 100 master of business taxation degrees.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu*

INNOVATIVE VITAL AGING ADVOCACY PROGRAM NOW ENROLLING FOR FALL

~ Students develop leadership skills and have a direct impact on their communities ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Spring brings graduation ceremonies and the hope that new alumni will go on to have successful careers and make a positive impact on society. But having an impact on the community is a class requirement for students in the non-credit Advocacy Leadership for Vital Aging (ALVA) certificate program at the University of Minnesota.

Now completing its fourth year, the ALVA program attracts a diverse group of adult learners who are committed to applying their skills and experience to a community project or initiative that furthers the vital aging movement and improves community life for all ages. Students attend seven, day-long sessions from September through April to hone their leadership skills and learn about vital aging issues and advocacy systems. Throughout the course, students immediately apply their new learning to individualized projects, while tapping into the resources and connections created through their network of fellow students, course presenters and alumni.

Since its inception, the program has spawned more than 90 unique vital aging advocacy projects throughout the state. Projects are as diverse as the students and the communities where they live. Take, for example, Amy Wilde and Janet Skeie, two students in this year's class.

Wilde has been a Meeker County Commissioner since 1997. "I was already a policy maker when I enrolled in this class," said Wilde. "I was looking for the big picture, academic perspective on aging issues, so I could make better, informed decisions in my community. In the end, I not only gained that academic perspective, but my project has--and will continue to have--a direct impact on my community."

After analyzing data from a survey of senior citizens conducted in 2004 by the Dassel and Litchfield city councils, Wilde identified a shortage of chore services in Meeker County and a lack of senior transportation services in Dassel. She focused her ALVA project on working through the Meeker Council to expand the chore services list and to create a promotion strategy to make residents aware of the services. And, she was also able

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

to obtain additional transit service for Dassel.

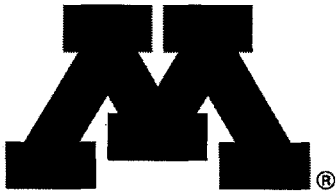
Skeie, and her husband Mark who is a 2004 ALVA graduate, took an entrepreneurial approach to their joint project. Discovering that there was a lack of comprehensive and holistic retirement planning resources, they formed a limited liability corporation to create a series of Mapping Your Retirement workbooks that cover time and purpose, health and finances. The workbooks are unique because they combine solid academic research with older adult personal stories and exercises which help structure the readers' thinking, thereby empowering them to make life choices that fit their values and preferences. The workbooks, currently in production, will be available at the end of the year.

“ALVA is really about helping individuals identify their passions and strengths and apply them to a community need,” said Jan Hively, founder of the Vital Aging Network and mentor to students in the ALVA program. “It's inspiring to watch the ongoing work of the ALVA alumni as they collectively help create vital communities throughout the state.”

The next ALVA class begins Sept. 8. Registration and scholarship information is available at www.van.umn.edu or by calling (612) 624-4000. The application deadline is July 11. All classes will be held at the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging, 2365 N. McKnight Road, Suite 3, North St. Paul.

The Advocacy Leadership for Vital Aging is a certificate program of the College of Continuing Education at the University of Minnesota and is produced in collaboration with AARP; the University of Minnesota Center on Aging; Hubert Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs; Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging; Minnesota Board on Aging; Minnesota Senior Federation; Vital Aging Network; and Volunteers of America, Minnesota.





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April 25, 2006

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james.hamilton@msffoundation.org
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

REFORESTING THE FAIRGROUNDS: MAJOR MINNESOTA STATE FAIR REFORESTING EFFORT TO KICK-OFF ON ARBOR DAY, APRIL 28

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A ceremony marking a major reforestation effort on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds will take place on Arbor Day, at noon Friday, April 28, at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, corner of Cooper Street and Lee Avenue, St. Paul. The event marks the kick-off of a fund-raising campaign to reforest the state fairgrounds with several varieties of disease and stress-resistant elm trees provided by University of Minnesota forestry and horticulture researchers.

Only about 80 of the fairground's more than 200 elm trees remain since 2002. Most were lost to disease, storm damage and stress. The new varieties--Asiatic elms field tested locally by a team of university horticultural and forestry researchers--have the potential to replace the Twin Cities metro area's more than 200,000 trees lost to Dutch Elm Disease. The new elms are also suitable for planting in many areas of the country, including throughout the Midwest, along the East Coast and in most parts of California.

The new disease-resistant elms for the state fairgrounds were selected for their desirable forms and ease of care and were donated by the university's departments of forest resources and horticulture and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's division of forestry. Fair officials and members of the research team will be on hand at the event to answer questions and demonstrate tree care and planting principals.

The ceremony is part of the "Reforest the Fairgrounds" campaign coordinated by the Minnesota State Fair Foundation, whose mission is to preserve and improve state fair buildings, grounds and educational programs. For more information on the campaign, go to www.msffoundation.org or call James Hamilton at (651) 632-2620.

WHO: Representatives from the Minnesota Tree Care Advisors program, faculty and students from the U of M departments of horticulture and forest resources

WHAT: Arbor Day celebration at Minnesota State Fairgrounds. Celebration begins with reading of Arbor Day proclamation. Planting of 12 trees to follow.

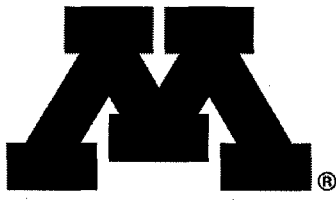
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WHEN: 12 noon Friday, April 28

WHERE: Minnesota State Fairgrounds, corner of Cooper Street and Lee Avenue, St. Paul





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April 25, 2006

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MINNESOTA BIOBLITZ 2006: A RACE TO DOCUMENT AS MANY SPECIES AS POSSIBLE WITHIN A 24-HOUR PERIOD

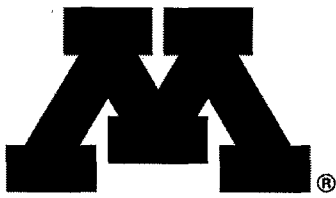
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Armed with sonar detectors, bug lights, live traps and laptops, volunteers, under the leadership of professional researchers and biologists, will explore the urban landscape—including the lawns of participating homeowners—in Minnesota Bioblitz 2006, a 24-hour event beginning at 5 p.m. Friday, May 19, in Falcon Heights.

Part contest, part festival, part scientific experiment, BioBlitz brings together scientists and volunteers of all ages in a race to document as many species as possible within a 24-hour period. A variety of animals will be live-trapped, identified, then chronicled before being released unharmed back into the wild. This year's event will take place at the future site of the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History on the southwest corner of Larpenteur and Cleveland avenues in Falcon Heights.

BioBlitz aims to increase the public's awareness of an area's biological diversity, as well as provide an environmental benchmark for natural resources managers of Minnesota parks. It's also an opportunity for volunteers to work alongside professional biologists to find out what they do and how they do it.

The event is free and open to the public. BioBlitz is co-sponsored by the Bell Museum of Natural History, Gibbs Museum of Pioneer and Dakota Life, Ramsey County Parks, City of Falcon Heights, St. Anthony Park Neighborhood Association and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Non-game Wildlife Program. For a complete schedule of BioBlitz activities, go to www.bellmuseum.org/bioblitz. The Bell Museum is part of the university's College of Natural Resources.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

FIVE OF SIX NEWLY ELECTED STATE FFA OFFICERS WILL ATTEND THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

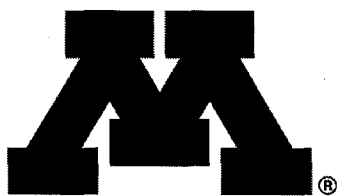
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Five of six newly-elected statewide Minnesota FFA officers named today will attend the University of Minnesota's Twin Cities campus this fall. Three of the six are currently enrolled and two are high school seniors who plan to attend the University of Minnesota this fall.

The new officers are Kayla Pearson, Cosmos, president; Jessica Nessel, Albert Lea, vice president; Brad Lanoue, Tracy, treasurer; Ann Miron, Forest Lake, secretary; Chris Sheehan, Kimball, reporter; and Londa Johnson, Winona, sentinel.

Pearson, Nessel, and Sheehan are current University of Minnesota students. Lanoue and Miron plan to enroll in the University of Minnesota College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences this fall.

FFA is a national youth organization with nearly 9,000 student members in Minnesota preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. More information on FFA and the new officers is available at <http://www.ffa.umn.edu/association/>.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 26, 2006

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INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND FAMILIES TO UNVEIL WALL HANGINGS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Three wall hangings made by spouses and partners of international students and international students themselves will be unveiled during an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Friday, April 28, at the Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative's (CTC) community center fireplace room, 1250 Fifield Ave., St. Paul.

Nickolai Kolarov, a U of M doctoral student in music and a CTC resident, will give a live cello concert during the open house. Kolarov graduated from the Bulgarian State Academy of Music, Sofia and received his master's in music from the University of Missouri, Kansas City. The unveiling and concert are free and open to the public. Refreshments with an international flavor will be provided.

Fifteen people created the quilts as a part of a new a new program launched by the University of Minnesota in an effort to reach out to families of international students who often feel isolated and lonely after moving to Minnesota.

Those participating in the program "Soup and Stitches" met once a week for several weeks this spring to build community amongst themselves, create a quilt, learn about resources available to them at the university and sample soups from their native countries. "Soup and Stitches" grew out of the efforts by the U of M Aurora Center for Advocacy & Education, Housing and Residential Life, the Office of Student Affairs, International Student & Scholar Services, the School of Social Work, university police and CTC to reach out to this community. The program is made possible by \$2,300 grant from TCF.

"Soups and Stitches gives us an opportunity to make families at CTC aware of services and support available to them, so this is very important," said Jamie Tiedemann, director of the Aurora Center, which provides education to prevent domestic violence and provides services to families who have experienced domestic violence along with services for victims of sexual violence and stalking.

Soup and Stitches participants have been all women and they come from 12 different countries including: Japan, Guatemala, India, Iceland, Bulgaria, Haiti, Thailand, Chile, China, Korea, United States and Malaysia.

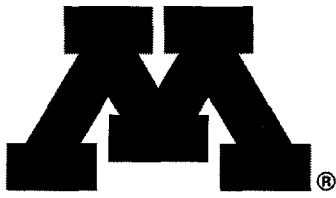
- more -

Avrora Moussorlieva, Kolarov' wife, enjoys the friendships that have flourished during Soups and Stitches.

“What I missed most from Bulgaria was my friends. I was a guide in a museum, so I was always talking with people. I missed having people around,” Moussorlieva said.

The open house is being sponsored by the International Student & Scholar Services, TCF Bank and the Textile Center.





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April 27, 2006

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USDA SECRETARY TO DELIVER COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS AT COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES GRADUATION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- USDA Secretary Mike Johanns will deliver the commencement address at the 2006 graduation ceremonies of the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 7, at Northrup Memorial Auditorium on the Twin Cities campus.

Johanns was selected to speak by the College's Student Board. "Thirty-five years ago Secretary Johanns was a graduating senior with skills, hopes and ambition. Today he is leading an organization that has a large impact on food, agriculture and the environment," said Jared Bitzan, president of the college student board and a senior majoring in agricultural education from Long Prairie, Minn.

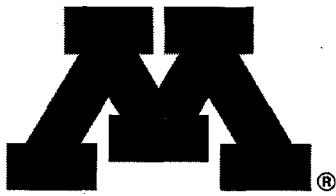
"This year's graduation at the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences is our largest graduating class in almost 20 years. We are very happy that Secretary Johanns will join us to celebrate the accomplishments of this next generation of leaders and innovators," said Charles Muscoplat, vice president and dean, College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences.

This year's graduation will also mark a time of transition for the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences. On July 1, the college will become part of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. This new, expanded college will be created by combining the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, the College of Natural Resources and the department of food science and nutrition.

WHAT: USDA Secretary Mike Johanns to speak at College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences commencement

WHEN: 2 p.m. Sunday, May 7

WHERE: Northrup Memorial Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis



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EXPERT ALERT

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INCREASING GAS PRICES AND ALTERNATIVE FUELS

\$3.00 for a gallon of gas is fast becoming a reality across the country. What has prompted the rise in gas prices? Is it simply the increased price of crude, or is there a strategy behind the pricing? Are there alternatives, what are they, and are they accessible to the average consumer? University of Minnesota experts who can speak about the issue of rising gas prices and alternative fuels are:

Akshay R. Rao, professor of marketing at the U's Carlson School of Management

Rao is the chairman of the department of marketing and logistics management and a professor of marketing at the U's Carlson School. He specializes in pricing and can answer questions on the sudden surge in gas prices recently - not only in what prompted the rise, but also in the area of pricing strategy.

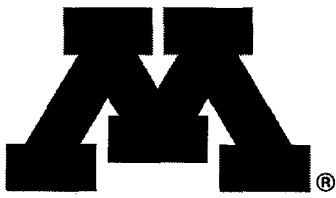
Vernon Eidman, professor in the applied economics department at the U's College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences

Eidman's research focuses on alternatives when it comes to gasoline. Specifically, he can talk about the use of ethanol and biodiesel, and how their use might offset gasoline needs in the future.

To interview Rao or Eidman, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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April 27, 2005

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Mark Cassutt, UNiversity News Service, (612) 624-8038*

U OF M CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY AND CITIZENSHIP AWARDED \$320,000 GRANT TO REVITALIZE CIVIC LIFE IN MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The Center for Democracy and Citizenship (CDC) at the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs has received a \$320,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (Battle Creek, Mich.) to support Minnesota Works Together, a long-term initiative to revitalize and strengthen civic life and civic values in Minnesota.

The overall goal of Minnesota Works Together is to enhance the capacities of individuals, communities and many institutions to work together to create healthy civic life. In its first phase, Minnesota Works Together will sponsor several projects, including public forums and house meetings on civic values and renewal, education opportunities on civic skills, and a Twin Cities Public Television documentary on civic life in Minnesota. The first step in that process will be a meeting with a bipartisan, bicameral group of state legislators to explore the role of the legislature in strengthening civic life.

“People are frustrated by bitter and unproductive partisan divisions, worried about tensions between immigrants and native-born Americans, and concerned about a declining sense of community in general,” said Harry Boyte, Humphrey Institute senior fellow and co-director of the center. “At the same time, we have found many, many positive examples of civic renewal in some communities to build upon. We have nicknamed this project the ‘from me to we’ initiative.”

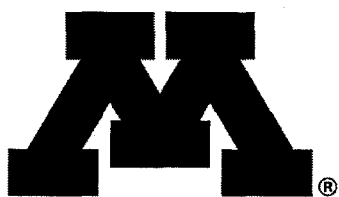
Ramsey County Commissioner Toni Carter, a member of a statewide leadership team that will help direct the project, remarked on the legacy of civic action in Minnesota and the importance of rebuilding a vital democratic culture. “Minnesota has such a wonderful heritage of citizens and government working together on tough problems, from schools and jobs to battling discrimination and restoring the environment,” said Carter. “We simply can’t let this heritage slip away. It is our greatest asset for the 21st century.”

Joining Carter on the bi-partisan leadership team are: former Gov. Al Quie; William Doherty, professor of family social science at the University of Minnesota; Rev. Peg Chamberlin, executive director of the Minnesota Council

of Churches; Gary Cunningham, CEO of NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center; Kent Eklund, president of the Fairview Foundation; and other civic leaders. Together, they will develop the agenda that will guide the activities of Minnesota Works Together.

For more information on the Minnesota Works Together initiative, contact Boyte at (612) 625-5509. To learn more about the center and its activities, visit CDC online at www.publicwork.org.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2006

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'U OF M MOMENT' FEATURE LINKS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 1

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- "University of Minnesota Moment" radio features for the week of Monday, May 1, are available to Minnesota radio stations for free.

The features are as follows:

Monday, May 1: "Melanoma Monday"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/melanoma_monday.mp3

Raw audio: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/melanoma_monday_raw.mp3

Tuesday, May 2: "Rebuilding New Orleans"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/livable_communities.mp3

Raw audio: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/livable_communities_raw.mp3

Wednesday, May 3: "Itasca Project"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/itasca_project.mp3

Raw audio: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/itasca_project_raw.mp3

Thursday, May 4: "Stress and Nicotine Addiction"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/stress_addiction.mp3

Raw audio: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/stress_addiction_raw.mp3

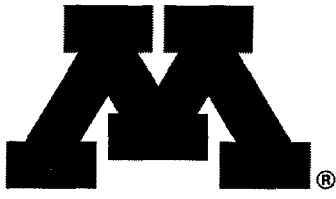
Friday, May 5: "Spring Raptor Release"

Fully produced :90 feature: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/raptor_release.mp3

Raw audio: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/raptor_release_raw.mp3

All of the features will be posted the day for which they are scheduled at <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service (612) 624-8038
Peggy Rinard, College of Biological Sciences, (612) 624-0774

U OF M SCIENTISTS DISCOVER GENES THAT PREVENT MOSQUITOES FROM TRANSMITTING MALARIA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota scientists have discovered a group of genes that make some mosquitoes resistant to malaria and prevent them from transmitting the malaria parasite. The finding could be used to develop strategies to control malaria, which kills more than one million people per year, most of them African children.

The research, co-authored by Ken Vernick, associate professor in the Center for Microbial and Plant Genomics, and Michelle Riehle, postdoctoral researcher in the center, is published in the April 28 issue of Science.

After feeding on human blood infected with the malaria parasite (*Plasmodium falciparum*), some mosquitoes transmit the disease to other humans. The study suggests that many other wild mosquitoes are genetically resistant and kill the parasite in the infected blood without transmitting it. For the study, wild mosquitoes were fed on blood from people who were naturally infected with the malaria parasite. The mosquito genes that reside in a small piece of one chromosome, called a "resistance island," protected the resistant mosquitoes from *Plasmodium* infection.

One mosquito gene in the resistance island resembles pathogen-recognition genes found in plants and vertebrate animals and appears to protect mosquitoes from *Plasmodium* infection in the laboratory, according to the study. The authors speculate that susceptible mosquitoes that transmit malaria may have defective immune systems.

"The study shows that the majority of malaria mosquitoes in nature may actually be genetically innocent of malaria transmission. When we have a way in the near future to specifically detect the guilty ones, the genetically susceptible mosquitoes, we will look for biological features that we could use to target them directly in new control measures," said Vernick.

Malaria is one of the most common and most deadly infectious diseases in the world. According to the World Health Organization, it affects hundreds of millions of people annually.

- more -

Malaria is endemic to Africa, parts of Asia, the Middle East, Central and South America, Hispaniola, and Oceania. Forty-one percent of the world's population live in areas where malaria is transmitted. It is characterized by extreme exhaustion associated with high fever, sweating, shaking, chills and anemia.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2006

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES 2006 SPRING COMMENCEMENTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The Surgeon General and the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States, Minnesota Senator Norm Coleman and UnitedHealth Group CEO William McQuire are among the speakers at this year's spring commencement ceremonies at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

This year will mark the final commencement ceremonies for the College of Human Ecology, College of Natural Resources and the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. They will merge with other colleges as part of the university's strategic position process.

The commencement ceremonies this spring are:

Medical School: 2:30 p.m. Friday, May 5, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.
Speaker: Mark DePaolis, family physician and humorous writer.

Mortuary science: 3 p.m. Friday, May 5, Coffman Union Theater, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.
Speaker: Ron Gjerde, president of the Lakewood Cemetery Association.

College of Natural Resources: 3:30 p.m. Friday, May 5, Northstar Ballroom, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul.
Speaker: Scott Mackenthun, who is graduating the spring with a bachelor's degree in fishery and wildlife and is secretary of the College of Natural Resources Student Board.

Institute of Technology: 7 p.m. Friday, May 5, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.
Speaker: U.S. Senator Norm Coleman.

College of Continuing Education: 10 a.m. Saturday, May 6, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.

Speakers: Jörg Pierach, founder and President of Fast Horse Inc., a Minneapolis-based public relations agency specializing in consumer marketing communications, and Anbon Cheng, who is graduating this spring with a bachelor of applied science degree in information technology infrastructure.

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Veterinary medicine: 7 p.m. Saturday, May 6, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.

Speaker: Marguerite Pappaioanou, professor of epidemiology at the U of M.

College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences: 2 p.m. Sunday, May 7, Northstar Ballroom, St. Paul Student Center, 2107 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

Speaker: United States Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns.

College of Human Ecology: 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.

Speakers will be the four chairs of the college's four departments: Becky Love Yust, design, housing, and apparel; Jan McCulloch, family social science; Allen Levine, food science and nutrition; and Jean Quam, School of Social Work.

School of Nursing: 2 p.m. Thursday, May 11, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.

Speaker: Christine (Tina) Lund, nurse executive with the Minneapolis VA Medical Center.

College of Education & Human Development: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 11, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.

Speaker: Steven Yussen, dean of the College of Education and Human Development.

Graduate School: 1 p.m. Friday, May 12, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.

Speaker: regent professor Apostolos Georgopoulos of the departments of neuroscience and neurology.

College of Pharmacy: 7 p.m. Friday, May 12, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.

Speaker: Dr. David Parra, a rotations preceptor at the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center, and a clinical pharmacy specialist in cardiology.

College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture: 2 p.m. Saturday, May 13.

Speaker: Dean Thomas Fisher and chair of each department.

College of Biological Sciences: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 13, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.

Speaker: Eric Jolly, President of the Minnesota Science Museum.

Law School: 10 a.m. Saturday, May 13, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.

Speaker: Minnesota Supreme Court Chief Justice Russell Anderson.

Humphrey Institute: 10 a.m. Sunday, May 14, Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis.

Speaker: James Johnson, vice chairman of Perseus, L.L.C. and chairman of the Kennedy Center for the

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Performing Arts.

College of Liberal Arts: 3 and 7 p.m. Sunday, May 14, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.
Speaker: William McGuire, chairman and chief executive officer, UnitedHealth Group.

Carlson School of Management: 6 p.m. Sunday, May 14, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church Street S.E., Minneapolis.

Speaker: Marilyn Carlson Nelson, chair and chief executive officer of Carlson Companies.

School of Public Health: 5 p.m. Monday, May 15, Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis.

Speaker: Vice Admiral Richard Carmona, United States Surgeon General.

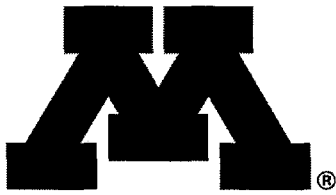
School of Dentistry: 2 p.m. Friday, May 19, Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis.

Speaker: Dr. Robert Brandjord, president of the American Dental Association.

Program in Physical Therapy: 2 p.m. June 17, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Speaker: Joan Purrington, president of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association.





STORY TIPS

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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For Immediate Release

April 28, 2006

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, and (612) 624-8038

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA AEROSPACE ENGINEERING STUDENTS TO UNVEIL THEIR MINI-SATELLITE DESIGN

~ U of M alumnus/astronaut Duane "Digger" Carey to give input ~

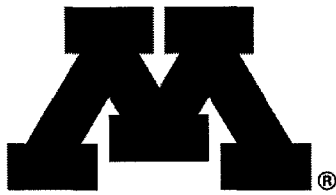
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A group of aerospace engineering students are the first University of Minnesota team to compete in a unique national student competition to create a mini-satellite. The winning team's design must be flight-ready by June 2007 and will be launched into low Earth orbit.

The U of M team will be talking about their project -- Minnesat -- with aerospace engineering alumni and exhibiting the design and components to U of M alumnus and retired astronaut Duane "Digger" Carey at 2:45 Monday, May 1, in the Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics department library, 107 Akerman Hall, 110 Union St. S.E., Minneapolis. For more information, visit <http://www.aem.umn.edu/proj-prog/nanosat/>.

Media is encouraged to attend the unveiling which includes a good opportunity for photos.

To interview Carey or the students please contact Mark Cassutt, University News Service, and (612) 624-8038.





UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

NEWS

University News Service
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2006

*Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720*

U OF M ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CEO MARGARET SUGHRUE CARLSON KICKS OFF GREATER MINNESOTA GOPHER STADIUM RALLY TOUR IN ST. CLOUD

~ Carlson will address Rotary Clubs in St. Cloud, Hibbing, Red Wing and Willmar ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Taking the University of Minnesota's Gopher stadium rallying effort on the road, Margaret Sughrue Carlson, the CEO of the U of M Alumni Association, will address Rotary Clubs in St. Cloud, Hibbing, Red Wing and Willmar over the course of the next two weeks. Carlson will discuss the need for the Minnesota State Senate to take quick action on the Gopher stadium bill in order to make a new Gopher stadium a reality in 2009.

Carlson's schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, May 2: 12 noon to 1:15 p.m. Rotary Club of St. Cloud. Location: St. Cloud Radisson Hotel, 404 W. St. Germain St., St. Cloud.

Thursday, May 4: 12 noon to 1 p.m. Hibbing Noon Rotary Club. Location: Hibbing Park Hotel, 1402 East Howard St., Hibbing.

Tuesday, May 9: 12 noon to 1 p.m. Red Wing Rotary. Location: St. James Hotel, 406 Main Street, Red Wing.

Wednesday, May 10: Noon to 1 p.m. Willmar Rotary Club. Location: Kandi Entertainment Center, 500 19th Ave. S.E., Willmar.

"One of my favorite U of M memories is stepping on campus for the first time in the fall of 1966 and going to a Gopher football game in Memorial Stadium," Carlson said. "My fellow Gopher fans and I look forward to rekindling that unique atmosphere in the fall of 2009. I urge our legislators to take quick action and return Gopher football to its true home - on campus!"

Carlson has been a leading advocate for the proposed new on-campus Gopher football stadium. The alumni

- more -

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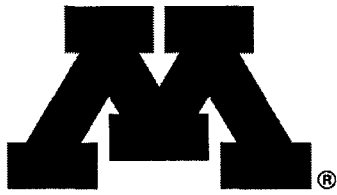
association made the first major gift of \$1 million to the university to jumpstart stadium planning and is now rallying support for this \$248 million facility, which will open in 2009 if approved this year by the Minnesota Legislature.

The stadium would be located at the site of the university's Huron Boulevard parking complex, just north of University Avenue and east of Oak Street. It would seat 50,000 people (expandable to 80,000 seats) and would have a collegiate look and feel, with a brick façade and two landscaped plazas. Existing, new and State Fairgrounds parking would accommodate projected game-day requirements of about 17,000 spaces.

Carlson has been chief executive officer of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, a 60,000-member organization, and associate vice president of the university since 1985. She is a long-time member and past president of Minneapolis Rotary Club #9.

For more information on the Gopher stadium proposal, see www.umn.edu/stadium.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2006

*Contacts: Nina Shepherd, Bell Museum, (612) 624-7389
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

'BLOOM!,' A CELEBRATION OF BOTANICAL ART OPENS MAY 13 AT U OF M BELL MUSEUM

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Five centuries of extravagant color and painstaking detail are on display in "Bloom! Botanical Art Through the Ages," the University of Minnesota Bell Museum of Natural History's new original exhibit opening May 13, and running through Aug. 27.

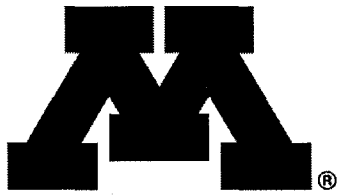
"Bloom!" features more than 60 flower and plant-themed drawings, paintings, prints, books, detailed botanical models and fine crafts from public and private collections around the country. Among the highlights are magnificent hand-colored prints and books from the 18th century, stunning botanical wall charts and whimsical hand-painted furniture and contemporary sculpture.

At the same time, the museum is hosting a juried exhibition of drawings, paintings, prints and artworks on paper and fabric of native Minnesota plants and animals by Minnesota artists. Many artworks from the juried show will be available for sale.

"Botanical art speaks for plants," said Tom Sullivan, Twin Cities arts critic and guest curator of Bloom! "It tells the stories of the lives of plant specimens and of the ways people put those plants to use in their own lives. Rooted in scientific observation, botanical art has a long tradition that evolves worldwide today."

An opening reception with Sullivan is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, May 11, at the Bell Museum, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. This event is free to museum members and \$5 per person for the general public. Other related events include gallery talks and tours with Sullivan, Bell Museum curator of plants and U of M professor George Weiblen and Minneapolis botanical artist and instructor Marilyn Garber; a public wildflower drawing event at Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden in Minneapolis; and demonstrations by artists including Vera Ming Wong, Marsha Micek and Janice Parranto.

Admission to the museum is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students and seniors, and free to kids under 3. Free admission to all visitors on Sundays. For general information, call 612-624-9050 or visit www.bellmuseum.org.



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For Immediate Release

April 28, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

FORECAST FOR RAIN SENDS SATURDAY'S SPRING JAM BLOCK PARTY INDOORS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL Due to today's weather and the forecast of constant rain and wind for tomorrow, Saturday, April 29, Spring Jam's Block Party will be moved to the Great Hall in Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

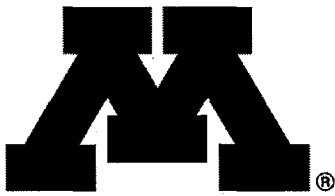
The 3:30 p.m. block party was to be held on the Coffman Union Riverbend Plaza.

The show will go on and features headliner Mason Jennings and popular local bands including Perfect Enemy, Tagine, Root City, SJ Awards and Doomtree. The Minnesota Programs and Activities Council sponsors spring jam.

Free pizza will be served following Jennings's performance.

For a complete schedule of events, call (612) 624-INFO or visit www.sao.umn.edu/springjam.





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May 1, 2006

Contacts: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214

'A DAY WITHOUT IMMIGRANTS'

Today, millions are expected to boycott jobs, schools and businesses as a way to show the economic power of immigrants. The rally, dubbed "A Day Without Immigrants," is expected to draw millions more than in previous years because of a proposed congressional bill that would make illegal immigrants felons. University of Minnesota faculty who can comment on the issue of immigration are:

Donna Gabaccia, professor of history and director of the Immigration History Research Center

As the director of the IHRS, Gabaccia's expertise lies heavily in the area of immigration history and international migration. She can also comment on immigrant life in the United States and how immigrants change mainstream society. Gabaccia can also put U.S. immigration history in global and comparative perspective.

Katherine Fennelly, professor at the U's Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs

Fennelly's areas of expertise include immigration and public policy as well as diversity and cross-cultural relations. Her research and outreach interests also include human rights of immigrants and refugees in the United States.

Erika Lee, associate professor of history at the U

Lee's research and teaching focus on immigration and 20th century U.S. history. She has published widely on the topic of defining the United States as a "nation of immigrants" and a "gate-keeping nation." She argues that this definition "has never been more true than in the twenty-first century. Immigrants continue to be at the center of changes in American society, politics, economy, and culture. And immigration laws and policies continue to figure prominently in changing ideologies of national identity, citizenship, and race, as well as technologies of national security and border control."

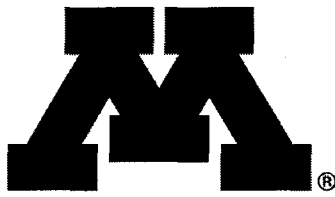
Louis Mendoza, associate professor and chair of the department of Chicano studies

Mendoza's research interests include Chicano literary and cultural studies and U.S. immigration literature.

To interview any of the experts above, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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May 2, 2006

*Contacts: Josephine Lee, (612) 625-9510
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082*

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PROFESSOR RECEIVES COUNCIL ON ASIAN PACIFIC MINNESOTANS LEADERSHIP AWARD

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Professor Josephine Lee, the driving force behind the establishment of an Asian American Studies program at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, has received a Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans Leadership Award.

Lee, a professor in the English department, is a leading scholar in Asian American studies and modern and contemporary theater and performance. Since her arrival at the University of Minnesota in 1994, Lee has worked tirelessly to promote and expand Asian American studies at the university. In 1998, Lee and other Asian American faculty started the Asian American Studies Initiative to work on building a meaningful curriculum and minor. The Asian American Studies Program was founded in 2004 and students can now receive an Asian American studies minor.

“For more than 20 years Asian American students and staff had lobbied for a program without success,” said Carolyn Nayematsu, an administrator in the Office of Multicultural and Academic Affairs. “Although the largest students of color group on campus, Asian American students had access only to the occasional offering of a class. Through professor Lee’s tireless efforts and service, students now know that each semester there will be a class and that it will apply to a minor. She has been the catalyst behind faculty efforts to obtain a minor in Asian American studies.”

“I get a lot of credit for helping to start the Asian American studies program, but it really has always been a collaborative effort,” Lee said. “My colleagues basically worked overtime and laid the foundation. Our faculty is a tremendous resource--superb scholars, dynamic researchers, and incredible artists, as well as terrific colleagues.”

Lee's ultimate goal is to establish an Asian American studies major at the university.

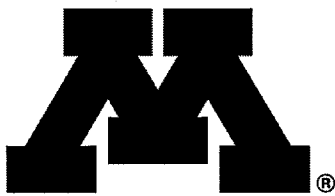
“Students have long been asking us for a major,” Lee said. “Over the years, a number of them have designed their own through the individualized degree programs already offered at the university. We hope that we will have an

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

own through the individualized degree programs already offered at the university. We hope that we will have an autonomous department, with a more accessible major degree, at some point in the not-so-distant future.”





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For Immediate Release

May 2, 2006

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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U OF M WOMEN OF COLOR MEETING FOCUSES ON BI-RACIAL EXPERIENCE IN MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Authors Sherry Quan Lee and Lori Young-Williams will be the guests at the University Women of Color (UWOC) Institutional Change Speaker Series from noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 9, in room 12 Morrill Hall, 100 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public.

In their performance titled "Chinese Black White Women Got the Beat," Quan Lee and Young-Williams, will share their separate, yet often similar, experiences as biracial persons growing up in Minnesota through poetry reading, music and dance.

Young-Williams, an associate administrator in the U of M Office of Disability Services, is a bi-racial black and white woman who grew up in Woodbury. Her experience has been one of embracing both sides of her family, white and black. Living in a predominately white suburb allowed her to see how assimilation is about survival. Attending the University of Minnesota allowed her to become friends with other women of color, but she was still seen as black. It wasn't until 1991 that she realized choosing to be biracial and not denying one parent over the other was not a bad thing. Sitting on the fence or being in the middle of two worlds allows her to float between two different worlds and see the good, the bad and amazing lives of her family.

Quan Lee is a program associate for the Split Rock Arts Program at the University of Minnesota. She teaches advanced creative writing at Metropolitan State University, St. Paul. She has also taught at the College of St. Catherine and the University of Minnesota. She was a selected participant for the Loft Literary Center's Asian Pacific Inroads Program, and in 2000 she was the mentor for that same program. She has been a volunteer and a consultant for SASE: The Write Place. She earned an Associate of Arts degree from North Hennepin Community College (honored as "Distinguished Alumni 2004"), a Bachelor's of Arts degree in creative writing and multicultural studies and an Master of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing from the University of Minnesota. Her memoir in verse, CHINESE BLACKBIRD, was published by the Asian American Renaissance, April 2002.

UWOC is a relatively new organization that seeks to create a space for all women of color within the university.

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

It sponsors monthly events and gatherings to build an active community, provide information and resources about the university and broader Twin Cities community and create networks with others to help eliminate isolation and increase cross-cultural understanding and connections. For more information on UWOC, visit its Web site at www.umn.edu/uwoc.

WHO: Authors Sherry Quan Lee and Lori Young-Williams
WHEN: Noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 9
WHERE: Room 12, Morrill Hall, 100 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis





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May 2, 2006

Contacts: Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

**PROVOST NAMES INTERIM DEANS OF
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LAW SCHOOL**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Guy-Uriel Charles and Fred Morrison have been named interim co-deans of the University of Minnesota Law School effective June 1, Senior Vice President and Provost Thomas Sullivan announced today.

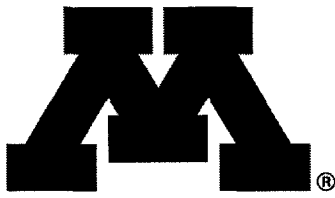
Law School Dean Alex Johnson Jr. announced last month that he decided to step down at the end of May.

“Professors Charles and Morrison will provide excellent leadership during this time of transition for the Law School,” Sullivan said.

Morrison joined the University of Minnesota Law School faculty in 1969 and is the Popham, Haik, Lindquist & Venum Professor of Law. He is a recognized scholar of international law and comparative public law. He teaches constitutional law, international law, local government law and comparative public law. Morrison previously served as interim dean 1994-95.

Charles joined the University of Minnesota Law School in 2000 and holds the Russell M. and Elizabeth M. Bennett Chair in Excellence. Charles teaches and writes in the areas of constitutional law, civil procedure, election law, law and politics, and race. He just returned from a spring visit at Columbia Law School, where he was the James S. Carpentier Visiting Professor of Law.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

POLICYMAKERS AND EXPERTS WILL DISCUSS 'REFORMING MEDICARE' AT U OF M HUMPHREY INSTITUTE SYMPOSIUM

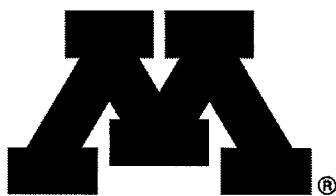
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- As the sign-up period for Medicare Part D (a prescription drug benefit) ends May 15, "Reforming Medicare" will convene a seminar of local and national experts and policymakers on health policy to assess the implementation of Medicare Part D, examine Medicare's larger financial and political future and discuss the upcoming challenges facing Medicare and people near retirement. Seminar registration and continental breakfast will be from 8:30 to 9 a.m., and the panel discussions—including a luncheon address—will continue from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, May 15, at the University Of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

In addition to state government officials and organizations that serve seniors, the conference will feature Lois Quam, CEO of Ovations, a division of UnitedHealth Group; Marilyn Moon, vice president and director of the health program at the American Institutes for Research; and former U.S. Sen. David Durenberger, National Institute of Health Policy chair.

The event is co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Politics and Governance (CSPG) at the Humphrey Institute and the non-partisan National Academy of Social Insurance. Funding for the seminar is provided in part by a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

For a complete agenda, visit CSPG online at www.hhh.umn.edu/centers/cspg/may15.html. The cost for the conference, which includes breakfast and lunch, is \$20 for the general public and \$10 for students, faculty members, and seniors. To register for this event, e-mail your name, address, and telephone number to cspg@hhh.umn.edu by May 9. Registration fees will be accepted at the door in the form of cash or check.

WHO: National and local experts on health policy and Medicare
WHEN: 8:30 a.m.– 4 p.m. Monday, May 15
WHERE: Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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May 3, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu*

GREAT CONVERSATION EXPLORES THE CHANGING FACE OF RETIREMENT

~ The U's Phyllis Moen and Marc Freedman of Civic Ventures to discuss "Social Forces Reshaping Retirement" ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The nation's largest generation is contemplating retirement. What does that mean for us as a country, and as individuals of all ages and backgrounds? Are businesses prepared for the knowledge shift, or to cater to individuals who want to stay past retirement age on a flexible basis? Are retirees prepared financially and socially to make the shift?

Retirement is not the final stage of life, but rather, an interlude between stages and a time for people to take a breath before moving on to the next chapter of their lives. However, according to Marc Freedman, founder of Civic Ventures, there is still much question around what, exactly, a person's purpose should be during this time. The University of Minnesota's Great Conversations series invites Minnesotans to join the debate during its final event of the season. The U's Phyllis Moen and guest Marc Freedman will discuss "Social Forces Reshaping Retirement" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis.

Moen is a pioneering researcher in work-life issues. She holds the McKnight Presidential Chair in the U's sociology department. She is the author of "The Career Mystique: Cracks in the American Dream" and editor of "It's About Time: Couples and Careers." Both these works expose serious shortcomings in our current system and propose new paradigms for work and retirement.

Freedman is founder and president of Civic Ventures and co-founder of the Experience Corps, one of the nation's largest service programs for older adults. Civic Ventures' philosophy is that society truly cannot afford to overlook, or worse, write off an older population that should be an enormous resource. Freedman's recent book, "Prime Time: How Baby Boomers Will Revolutionize Retirement and Transform America," was described by the Wall Street Journal as a "passionate argument that aging is an opportunity rather than a problem."

- more -

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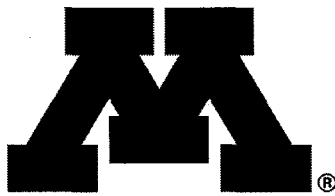
What is becoming apparent, according to Freedman, is that a large majority of older adults will continue to work in some fashion during their retirement years. Part of this is out of financial need; as people live longer, fewer can afford to “live well” that long on a fixed income. But it's not just about extending work years for financial reasons, but doing so with the goal of adding meaning to these years.

Still, Moen cautions, there is a wide divergence in goals but limited real possibilities for new careers, returning to school, taking on volunteer work, or starting a small business. “As a society, we have no institutions or organizational arrangements that foster second acts or take advantage of this experienced, energetic and growing segment of the population. Baby boomers are more technologically advanced than current retirees. The challenge is getting companies to see that they should invest in and hire older workers.”

Since 2002, the College of Continuing Education’s Great Conversations series has engaged more than 15,000 Minnesotans in dozens of ground-breaking discussions between the U’s faculty experts and their peers from around the world - an inspiring group of visionary activists, political strategists, ground-breaking researchers, and Nobel and Pulitzer Prize-winners. Single event tickets to the Tuesday, May 16 event are \$28.50 (\$23.50 for U of M faculty, staff, students, and University of Minnesota Alumni Association members). Tickets can be ordered from the U of M Ticket Office at 612-624-2345. More information is available at www.cce.umn.edu/conversations.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16
WHERE: Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis





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For Immediate Release

May 3, 2006

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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA TO RECOGNIZE INTERNATIONAL GRADUATES

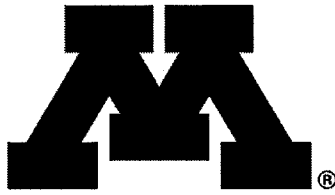
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota is planning a reception for international graduates from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, May 5 at the Humphrey Institute, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The event, sponsored by the U of M International Student and Scholar Services and the Office of International Programs, is open to international students graduating from the university during the 2005-06 academic year and their families, friends and colleagues. There will be live music by the band Tres Mundo, free food and a "Happy Memories" slide show. As an added attraction, the graduates can have souvenir photos taken with Goldy Gopher.

WHEN: 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, May 5

WHERE: Humphrey Institute, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis





UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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May 3, 2006

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SIGMUND FREUD'S 150TH BIRTHDAY

This Saturday is Sigmund Freud's 150th birthday. The work of this highly influential psychologist, who was often referred to as the "Father of Psychoanalysis," has been both a source for reverence as well as controversy in today's academic circles. University of Minnesota experts who can discuss Freud are:

Auke Tellegen, retired professor of psychology, University of Minnesota

Tellegen's area of expertise includes personality research and assessment. When it comes to Freud, she can speak to the science and psychology of Freud's time.

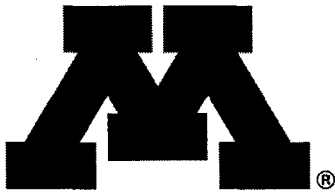
Madelon Sprengnether, professor of English at the University of Minnesota

Sprengnether is a professor at the U's English department and author of "The Spectral Mother: Freud, Feminism, and Psychoanalysis." Sprengnether's research looks at Freud and feminist psychoanalytic criticism. She can also talk about Freud's theories and written works.

To interview Tellegen or Sprengnether, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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STORY TIPS

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May 4, 2006

Contacts: *Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

U OF M MOTHER/DAUGHTER PARENTING EXPERTS LAUNCH RADIO SHOW ON MOTHERHOOD

~ Mother/daughter team makes perfect Mother's Day story ~

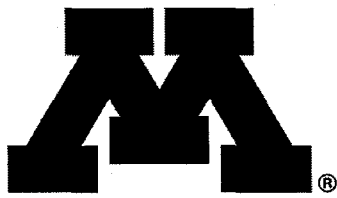
University of Minnesota developmental psychologist Marti Erickson, who is known for serving up parenting advice in weekly columns, will be hitting the radio airwaves. Erickson and her daughter Erin Erickson Garner are launching a new radio show on motherhood. Their show "Good Enough Moms" (GEMs) will begin airing Saturdays from 1 to 3 p.m. on FM 107 starting May 6.

The mother-daughter team will explore many facets of motherhood in today's world from confronting the daily joys and struggles of helping kids grow up well to balancing work and family. They will also tackle the big questions of how society views and values mothers and mothering.

The experience and knowledge Marti and Erin bring to radio sets their talk show apart. Erickson has spent years studying parent-child relationships, helping professionals learn best practices for working with children and families, and writing and speaking to diverse audiences throughout the world about children and families. Erin is completing her master's degree at the U of M's School of Public Health, specializing in maternal and child health. Erin and her husband have one child and their second child is due any day now.

To interview Marti and Erin, contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.





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May 4, 2006

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CENTER FOR URBAN AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS HOUSING FORUM TO DISCUSS MINNEAPOLIS CORRIDOR HOUSING INITIATIVE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The Minneapolis Corridor Housing Initiative: Engaging Communities on Affordable Housing, Density, and Design, will be the topic of the University of Minnesota Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) monthly forum from noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, May 12, in Room 1-142 at the Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The Corridor Housing Initiative is a partnership among neighborhoods, city government and a technical team of development consultants, design experts and facilitators to connect market opportunities with neighborhood goals. Forum speakers Ann Forsyth, director of the Metropolitan Design Center and professor and Dayton Hudson Chair of Urban Design at the University of Minnesota, and Gretchen Nicholls, executive director, Center for Neighborhoods, will present a community participation model to create great neighborhoods that support housing choices for a mix of incomes and households, with access to transportation options, retail amenities, parks and jobs.

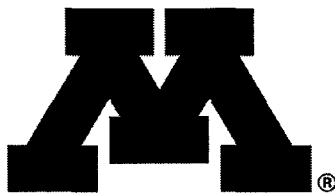
The event is a monthly brown-bag discussion of housing issues and research in the Twin Cities. Forums are held once a month during the academic year only, and are free and open to the public.

Due to limited seating, please RSVP to (612) 625-1551 by Wednesday, May 10.

WHEN: Noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, May 12

WHERE: Room 1-142 Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis





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May 5, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612)624-2801*

WINNER OF U OF M ESSAY CONTEST SAYS SCHOOL SAVED HER LIFE

~ Students to read essays on south steps of State Capitol on Friday, May 5 ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A winner of a state-wide essay contest says that her school saved her life. That student and other winners of the competition for students from Minnesota chartered public schools will read their essays between 10 a.m. and noon on the south steps of the State Capitol, Friday, May 5, as part of Minnesota's celebration of National Charter School Week.

The essay contest was sponsored in part by the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute Center for School Change. An essay written by Nicole, a 14-year-old student at St. Paul's Community of Peace Academy, has been named "most inspiring" among almost 150 essays written by Minnesota charter public school students.

"My school has changed my life by saving my life," Nicole wrote. Nicole's essay explains in part, "In fifth grade, my parents divorced, my beloved dog was killed, and I was forced to deal with an alcoholic father. I was so stressed out about friend's grades and the situation at home that I was contemplating suicide. . . My teacher at the time, Ms. DeMunck, was the only thing that saved me..."

While Nicole's essay was judged most outstanding, "many excellent essays were submitted," according to Joe Nathan, director of the Center for School Change. Students from throughout Minnesota submitted essays. First, second and third place winners include students in the metro area, as well as students from as far north as Northern Lights in Warba. Winners will receive modest cash awards, courtesy of Twin Cities Federal.

First place winners are: Kayla Bailey, New Century School, Hutchinson. (High school)

- Elizabeth Maakestad, St. Croix Prep, Stillwater. (Middle school)
- Kimberly Xiong, Community of Peace, St. Paul. (Middle School)

Along with the winning essays, students will present a variety of performances on the state capitol steps, including a puppet show, dancing, singing and juggling.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 8, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR AUGUSTEN BURROUGHS WILL DISCUSS HIS NEW BOOK 'POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS' AT U OF M BOOKSTORE MAY 22

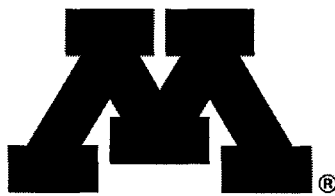
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Best-selling author Augusten Burroughs will discuss his new book "Possible Side Effects" at 7 p.m. Monday, May 22 at the University of Minnesota Bookstore, Coffman Memorial Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Burroughs, author of "Running with Scissors" and "Dry", has emerged as the radiant voice of nonfiction in America. "Possible Side Effects" finds Burroughs mining his scattered life indulgently in essays that deliver hilarity, breadth and knowledge. This collection of intimate stories find both the dark and illuminated places as Burroughs continues to explore subjects that other memoirists fear. "Possible Side Effects" includes essays on Nicorette addiction, lesbian personal ads and the women who answer them, stolen Harvard t-shirts and living in fear of the tooth fairy among others.

Burroughs will sign copies of his book following the discussion. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, or to order a signed copy visit www.bookstore.umn.edu/genref/authors.html.

WHO: Author Augusten Burroughs
WHAT: Reading & discussion
WHEN: 7 p.m. Monday, May 22
WHERE: University of Minnesota Bookstore, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis





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May 8, 2006

Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

TICKETS FOR SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR ADDRESS REMAIN

~ Former Supreme Court Justice to keynote U of M Alumni Association event ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Tickets are still available for a special appearance by former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor at 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 23, in Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. Justice O'Connor is the keynote speaker for the 2006 annual celebration of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association. It will be one of her first public speeches since her retirement in January 2006 (see media logistics below).

O'Connor became the first woman confirmed to the nation's highest court, in 1981, and was often the moderate "swing vote" on an increasingly polarized court. She once wrote, in a dissenting opinion: "If indeed the choice is between adopting a balanced case-by-case approach ... and adopting a rigid rule that destroys everything in its path, I will choose the former." Among her decisions were denying indefinite holding of U.S. citizens as enemy combatants, halting the 2000 presidential vote recount in Florida, and upholding both capital punishment and key abortion rights. Prior to joining the judiciary, O'Connor was majority leader of the Arizona State Senate. In 2004, Forbes magazine called her the fourth most powerful woman in the United States and the sixth most powerful in the world.

"We are delighted to have former Supreme Court Justice O'Connor as our special guest and keynote speaker," says Robert Stein, volunteer president of the UMAA board of directors, graduate and former dean of the University of Minnesota Law School, and current executive director of the American Bar Association. "Her legacy as one of the most influential justices in our nation's history makes this an event not to be missed."

Individual tickets start at \$30 for the program only. Student tickets are available for \$15. All tickets are subject to facility and handling fees.

Complete ticket pricing and event information is available at www.alumni.umn.edu/oconnor. To reserve individual tickets, call (612) 624-2345; to order online, visit www.northrop.umn.edu. To become a UMAA member, visit www.alumni.umn.edu.

- more -

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The UMAA's 102nd Annual Celebration is presented by Gray Plant Mooty and The Mooty Foundation. The association's 2006 signature partner is Marshall Field's.

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is an independent, 57,000-member organization dedicated to connecting alumni, students and friends in lifelong support of the University of Minnesota and each other.

MEDIA ADVISORY:

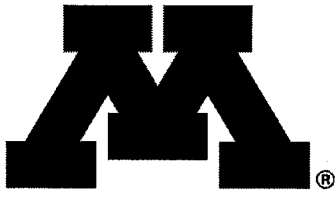
Press credentials and tickets are required for this event. If you plan to cover Justice O'Connor's address, please contact Jeff Falk at (612) 626-1720 or jfalk@umn.edu to confirm your attendance and reserve a press ticket.

Please note: No audio or visual recording devices will be allowed in Northrop Auditorium - before, during, or after O'Connor's address. No flash photography. **O'Connor will not be available for interviews during her visit to the Twin Cities.**

WHEN: 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 23

WHERE: Northrup Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis





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May 9, 2006

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (651) 485-3214 (cell)

BRUININKS PRAISES SENATE ACTIONS TODAY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The following is a statement from University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks regarding Minnesota Senate passage today of both the university's biomedical sciences research facilities authority and a Gopher football stadium:

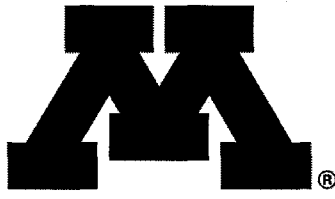
"Today, the Minnesota Senate took historic action on two very important priorities for the University of Minnesota: our biomedical sciences research initiative and the plan to bring Gopher football back to campus.

Biomedical sciences research is critical to the economic future of our state. This legislation will help Minnesota get its competitive footing to build the Medtronics and 3Ms of tomorrow.

On the stadium front, we're pleased that to see a Gopher stadium bill pass both the House and Senate. We're grateful to all of the representatives and senators for stepping forward in support of bringing Gopher football back to campus.

The U's plan has been developed over the past three years, raised significant private financial support and involved thousands of volunteer hours. We're confident the House and Senate will work out their differences to pass a final bill that the governor will sign. The U is prepared to begin work on the stadium immediately."





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May 9, 2006

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

U OF M BOARD OF REGENTS TO MEET THIS WEEK ~ Board to review budget for 2006-07, act on promotions, tenure ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Board of Regents will hold its May meeting on Thursday, May 11, and Friday, May 12 at the McNamara Alumni Center in Minneapolis. The board will review the university's proposed 2006-07 operating budget, act on the annual promotion and tenure recommendations and also hear the annual report on intercollegiate athletics from Athletics Director Joel Maturi.

The schedule for the meeting is as follows:

Thursday, May 11, 2006

9:45 - 11:45 a.m. Facilities Committee, West Committee Room. The committee will review and act on plans for renovation of the Mayo Auditorium and Kohltoff Hall as well as construction of a new equine center on the St. Paul campus.

9:45 - 11:45 a.m. Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, East Committee Room. The annual promotion and/or tenure recommendations will be considered. Athletics Director Joel Maturi will give his annual report on the state of intercollegiate athletics.

1:45 - 3:45 p.m. Educational Planning and Policy Committee, West Committee Room. The committee will consider a resolution authorizing a tuition waiver beginning in fall 2006 for undergraduate students admitted to the university who are the children of veterans who have died as a result of service to their country.

1:45 - 3:45 p.m., Finance and Operations Committee, East Committee Room. The committee will be updated on the enterprise financial system replacement project.

4 p.m. Board of Regents awards ceremony and reception, Boardroom. The board recognizes the recipients of the Distinguished McKnight University Professor Awards, John Tate Award for Undergraduate Advising,

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Outstanding Community Service Awards, Josie R. Johnson Award for Human Rights and Social Justice and President's Award for Outstanding Service along with the new inductees of the Academy of Distinguished Teachers.

Friday, May 12, 2005

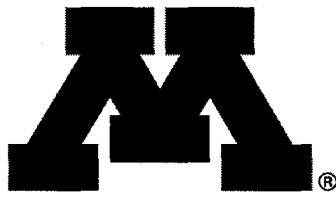
9 a.m. - noon. Board of Regents meeting, Boardroom. The board will review the proposed operating budget and tuition for 2006-07 and the proposed capital budget for 2006-07 and take action on the University Plan, Performance and Accountability Report.

More information on the Board of Regents meeting can be found at www.umn.edu/regents.

WHEN: Thursday, May 11, and Friday, May 12, 2006

WHERE: 600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis





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May 9, 2006

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SCIENCE MUSEUM PRESIDENT ERIC JOLLY TO SPEAK AT U OF M COLLEGE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES COMMENCEMENT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Eric Jolly, president of the Science Museum of Minnesota, will deliver the keynote address at the University of Minnesota College of Biological Sciences commencement ceremony, which will be held at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

The title of Jolly's address is "Science As a Tool for Creating Our Future." Jolly is known for his contributions in mathematics and science education and for his work with youth, family and community organizations. He frequently works with such organizations as the American Association for the Advancement of Science, National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering and the National Science Teachers Association. Jolly has lectured throughout the world and published numerous articles, books and curricula. His curricula are currently used in 16 countries. Jolly did his undergraduate work in physics and psychology, and received his doctorate in psychology from the University of Oklahoma.

Lisa Hoang, candidate for a bachelor of science degree in biology, will deliver a student address titled "Heroes." Hoang, who was born in Vietnam and moved to Minneapolis with her parents when she was 8 years old, is the first member of her family to graduate from college.

University of Minnesota Regent Patricia Simmons and Robert Elde, dean of the College of Biological Sciences, will confer bachelor's degrees on 275 students who will participate in the ceremony. Simmons is a physician at the Mayo Clinic and a professor in the department of pediatric and adolescent medicine at Mayo Medical School. She received her bachelor's degree from Carleton College and her medical degree from the University of Chicago.

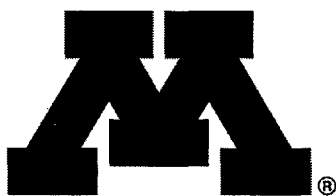
The College of Biological Sciences offers bachelor's degrees in biochemistry; biology; ecology, evolution, and behavior; genetics, cell biology, and development; microbiology; neuroscience; and plant biology. These programs prepare students for opportunities, from molecules to ecosystems, to improve human health, develop renewable resources, enhance agriculture and restore the environment.

- more -

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“Many of the world’s most pressing problems, including global warming, the threat of infectious diseases, and human impact on global ecosystems, are biological in nature,” says Elde. “Our goal is to prepare students to address those problems and improve quality of life for people in Minnesota, the nation and the world.”





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May 9, 2006

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Amy McBeth, Consulate General of Canada Minneapolis, (612) 492-2903,
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720*

CONFERENCE TO SHOWCASE RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENTS IN CANADA AND UNITED STATES

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Denis Tanguay, executive director of the Canadian Geoexchange Coalition, will be the keynote speaker at the upcoming conference on Canadian and U.S. renewable energy research and development set for 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 11 at the University of Minnesota, Cargill Building for Microbial and Plant Genomics, 1500 Gortner Ave., St. Paul. In addition to the speakers and topics listed below, there will be exhibits from businesses and organizations associated with renewable energy, featuring state-of-the-art technology.

“Many of the critical environmental issues we face today, from global climate change and mercury-laden waters, to drilling in the Arctic and smog alerts, can be traced to decisions we make concerning energy procurement and use. The stakes are too high to sit by and wait for future energy scenarios and their associated environmental impacts to unfold. Leading the transition from non-renewable to clean, renewable energy is an urgent and massive undertaking that will require support from constituencies across the economic, social and political spectrum. Developing partnerships with Canada on these issues is a logical step for Minnesota,” said Richard Hemmingsen, director of the University of Minnesota Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE).

“Canada is a world leader in the development of renewable energy and environmental technologies that are geared to reducing our future dependence on fossil fuel and to addressing the primary causes of global climate change. Many of these technologies are now at or near the commercial stage,” said Kim Perry Butler, consul general of the Consulate General of Canada in Minneapolis. “Through our partnership with IREE, we hope to raise a greater awareness of Canadian technologies that can contribute to Minnesota’s future energy needs.”

The conference is at 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 11, at the University of Minnesota's Cargill Building for Microbial and Plant Genomics, 1500 Gortner Ave., St. Paul. Registration is \$40; \$20 for students, and includes lunch. The University of Minnesota Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment and the Consulate General of Canada Minneapolis are sponsoring the conference.

- more -

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Conference agenda highlights:

8:30 a.m. Opening Remarks

- Bob Elde, dean, College of Biological Sciences, University of Minnesota
- Kim Perry Butler, consul general, Consulate General of Canada, Minneapolis

8:50 a.m. Panel 1: Hydrogen Production and Application.

Facilitated by Lanny Schmidt, Regents professor, department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, University of Minnesota

- Robert Parsons, hydrogen specialist, Manitoba Energy, Science and Technology: Manitoba's Hydrogen Economic Development Strategy
- Jamie Bakos, manager environmental services, Giffels Associates: Renewable Solar Hydrogen Production
- Craig Murray, vice president for Manufacturing and Value Added Processing, Saskatchewan Research Council: Transitional Hydrogen Technology for Transportation
- Lanny Schmidt: Response

10:25 a.m. Panel 2: Biofuels/CO2 Sequestration.

Facilitated by David Kittelson, director of Center for Diesel Research, University of Minnesota

- Ron Kehrig, vice president of Bio-Products and Bio-Processes, Ag West Bio, Inc.: Canola-based Biodiesel
- Debbie Rosenblatt, Emissions Research and Measurement, Environment Canada: Canada's Biodiesel Emissions Research
- Bob Stobbs, program director, Clean Coal/Carbon Energy INet: CO2 Capture Technologies from a Canadian Perspective
- Elizabeth Wilson, assistant professor, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota: U.S. Perspective on Geologic CO2 Sequestration
- David Kittelson: Response

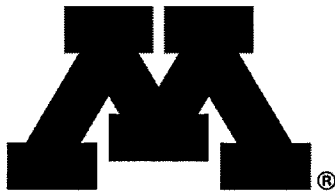
12:20 p.m. Lunch Keynote Speaker: Denis Tanguay, executive director, Canadian Geoexchange Coalition: Future of Renewable Energy in Canada

For more information, visit IREE's web site at <http://www1.umn.edu/iree/events.html>.

WHEN: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 11

WHERE: University of Minnesota, Cargill Building for Microbial and Plant Genomics, 1500 Gortner Ave., St. Paul





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May 10, 2006

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GOLDEN GOPHER GREAT TONY DUNGY JOINS STADIUM RALLY AT STATE CAPITOL ON THURSDAY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Golden Gopher Great Tony Dungy, the current head coach of the Indianapolis Colts, will join supporters of an on-campus Gopher football stadium at a rally on Thursday, May 11, at the Minnesota State Capitol. The University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) and two Gopher athletics booster clubs, the Goal Line Club and the M Club, will sponsor the event.

“The Gopher stadium bill has now passed both the House and Senate, but we still need them to iron out their differences to get a bill the governor will sign,” said Margaret Carlson, CEO of UMAA. “Tony Dungy is a U of M alum who is committed to Gopher football. We’re pleased to welcome him back to Minnesota to help us get our stadium bill into the end zone.”

The event will begin at 9:30 a.m. on the steps of the Capitol, with a brief program starting at 10 a.m. In the event of rain, it will be moved inside.

The public is encouraged to attend. There will be complimentary special “Golden Gopher” edition Krispy Kreme donuts provided by the Maple Grove Krispy Kreme.





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JACQUELINE JOHNSON NAMED CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS

~ Bruininks praises Buena Vista U leader's vision for regional, national reputation of UMM ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks announced the appointment today of Jacqueline Johnson as the new chancellor for the University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM). Johnson's appointment is effective Aug. 1, pending approval by the Board of Regents on May 12.

"Dr. Johnson has a proven track record as a strong leader with a deep commitment to liberal arts education," said Bruininks. "Her demonstrated leadership ability, administrative and academic experience and unique understanding of the regional and national reputation of the Morris campus and the university's mission made her the top candidate for this position."

Johnson comes to UMM from Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa, where she served as vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty. Previously, she served as vice president for academic affairs at St. Martin's College in Washington and chair of the department of anthropology and sociology at Grand Valley State University in Michigan. Johnson holds a doctorate in sociology from Purdue University and a bachelor's degree from Macalester College, St. Paul.

"We conducted a rigorous national search to find a suitable replacement for retiring Chancellor Sam Schuman. We have big shoes to fill," said Robert Jones, senior vice president for system administration. "Dr. Johnson received strong support from across the Morris community."

Jones said Johnson has a strong record of success in securing research funding, public support, and private gifts to support key strategic initiatives; articulating the value of a liberal education; demonstrating positive educational outcomes; creating diverse environments; and promoting campus civic engagement and responsibility to the surrounding community and region.

- more -

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Nancy Carpenter, a UMM associate professor who chaired the search committee, said, "Dr. Johnson will be, like Dr. Schuman before her, a passionate advocate for our liberal arts mission. We're looking forward to her leadership in this new era in our history, and are confident that she will be able to build on the good work Sam Schuman has done for our institution."

The University of Minnesota, Morris, one of the university's five campuses, is named one of the top five public liberal arts colleges in the nation by U.S. News & World Report in its 2006 rankings of America's Best Colleges. Declared "a model liberal arts college" by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools in its recent re-accreditation report, UMM's mission as an affordable, undergraduate college complements its small, residential atmosphere.





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May 11, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

GROUNDBREAKING INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE EXPLORES GLBT COLLECTIONS AT ARCHIVES, LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The history of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) people worldwide and the people who preserve and maintain that historical record are the subjects of GLBT ALMS (Archives, Libraries, and Museums), the first-ever world conference for professionals from archives, libraries and museums that house GLBT collections. The conference will be held May 18 - 21 at Elmer L. Andersen Library, 221 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The conference will bring together international experts to focus on issues involved in preserving GLBT history. More than 30 panels and sessions will explore current issues in the field, including censorship, dealing with sexually explicit material, integrating GLBT collections into the classroom, working with the media, preservation techniques and more. The conference is sponsored by the University of Minnesota Libraries, the Tretter Collection in GLBT Studies, and Quatrefoil Library, all of which are based in the Twin Cities.

Jean-Nickolaus Tretter, founder and curator of the Tretter Collection, says that preservation issues are critical for GLBT collections around the world.

“Too often, the heterosexual world will rewrite our history and ignore the gay facets of our lives. We need to preserve GLBT history and culture because no one else will do it for us,” Tretter said. “They’ll do it about us, but they won’t do it for us. When they do it about us, it isn’t always truthful.”

Keynote speakers at the ALMS conference include gay icons Barbara Gittings and Frank Kameny. Gittings has been a volunteer worker for gay rights since 1958, when she founded the first East Coast chapter of the gay rights group Daughters of Bilitis. She marched in the first gay picket lines in the 1960s at the White House and at Independence Hall. During the 1970s she was active in the American Psychiatric Association, running gay exhibits at APA conferences that showed gay people as healthy and normal and furthering the drive to have homosexuality dropped from the official list of mental disorders. Though she is not a librarian, Gittings found a home in the gay group that formed in 1970 in the American Library Association, the first gay caucus in a

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

professional association. For the next 16 years she headed the group and campaigned to get positive GLBT materials into libraries and out to users and to end discrimination against gays as library workers and patrons. In 2003 the American Library Association rewarded her with its highest honor, lifetime honorary membership.

Kameny was a pioneer in the gay rights movement in America during the 1960s. He and friend Jack Nichols, a longtime leader in the gay civil rights movement, established the Mattachine Society of Washington, a homophile group that had started in the 1950s in Los Angeles. Unlike many other gay leaders of the time, Kameny embraced direct action along the lines of the black civil rights movement. He believed that gay people should fight a “down-to-earth, grass-roots, sometimes tooth-and-nail” battle. Under Kameny’s leadership, the group charged to the forefront of the nascent gay rights movement. The Mattachine Society of Washington attempted to reform the government’s exclusionary policies toward homosexuals in federal employment and successfully lobbied the ACLU to take up the cause. For his pioneering efforts, Kameny is considered one of the fathers of the gay rights movement.

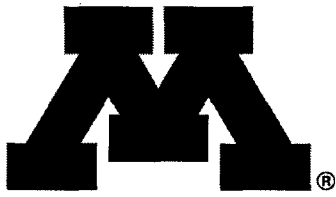
Conference registration is \$250 for the full conference or \$75 for a one-day pass. Conference details, including information on presenters sessions, and how to register, is available at <http://www.lib.umn.edu/events/glbtaims>.

The University of Minnesota Libraries is one of the university’s and the state’s greatest intellectual and capital assets. Quatrefoil Library is located in St. Paul, Minn., and exists to collect, preserve and share materials and information relevant to GLBT and other sexual minority communities. The Jean-Nickolaus Tretter Collection in GLBT Studies, housed at the University of Minnesota, contains more than 30,000 items (books, textiles, glassware, film, art works and three-dimensional objects) spanning more than 40 centuries of GLBT history.

WHEN: May 18 to 21

WHERE: Elmer L. Andersen Library, University of Minnesota, 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis





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May 11, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

EXPERTS FROM GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES WILL DISCUSS UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE AND DRUG PRICING AT U OF M FORUM

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The Center for German and European Studies at the University of Minnesota will present forums on universal health care and affordable drug costs on June 5 and 6. Participants are experts from Germany and the United States, representatives of the federal and state organizations responsible for drug coverage, insurers, medical doctors and management members of pharmaceutical companies, responsible especially for health care policy, health management and pricing.

The United States drug market is crucially important for the global pharmaceutical industry. Germany has the largest European market for pharmaceuticals. For both countries' health care systems the management of drug quality and costs pose major challenges. In the United States this issue has assumed special urgency. With the introduction of full drug coverage in Medicare, the provision of drugs has become central to discussions in health policy. How to expand and secure healthcare coverage for all Americans promises to be a crucial topic also for the November 2006 midterm elections to the U.S. Congress. Germany's recent health care reforms directly address these issues and much is to be learned from a high-level sharing of experiences.

Starting at 9 a.m. Monday, June 5, in the Johnson Great Room of the McNamara Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis, the program will address the topic "Universal Healthcare: Access, Quality, Affordability—Experiences and Best Practices in Germany and the USA." Keynote speakers are Ulla Schmidt, minister of health, Federal Republic of Germany, and Roby Thompson, associate dean for clinical affairs, School of Medicine and chair and CEO, University of Minnesota Physicians. Panel participants will include: Ann Robinow, vice president and general manager, Patient Choice, and Gary Oftedahl, interim president and medical director, Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement.

At 9 a.m. Tuesday, June 6, in Cowles Auditorium, of the Hubert H. Humphrey Center, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, the forum will tackle "Keeping Drug Costs Affordable—Experiences and Best Practices in Germany and the USA." Speakers will include Stephen Schondelmeyer, director, PRIME Institute, U of M; Steven Sheingold, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Richard Bruzek, vice president pharmacy

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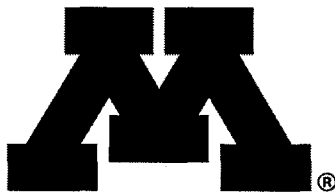
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services, HealthPartners; Ulrich Dietz, head, Department of Drug Coverage, German Ministry of Health; and Rainer Hess, Chairman of the Joint Committee, Germany.

The deadline for registration for both programs is May 22. Registration fees are \$650 for both days or \$150 for June 6 (Drug Costs forum) only. Registration information, along with full program schedules and speaker biographies, is available at www.cges.umn.edu.

The Center for German and European Studies at the University of Minnesota promotes trans-Atlantic dialogue on public issues of major common concern and is considered one of the nation's top centers for innovative interdisciplinary teaching and research on Germany and Europe.





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May 11, 2006

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MORE THAN 600 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EXPECTED AT U OF M WORLD LANGUAGES DAY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- More than 600 Minnesota high school juniors are expected at the third annual University of Minnesota World Languages Day. These language students will attend three 40-minute mini-classes in 20 of the nearly 40 foreign languages taught at the U of M. A few of the class titles include: Everyone's a Winner with Hebrew!; Sweden: From Viking Raids to Rap Music; Survival Finnish; Introduction to Arabic; and Latinos in the Twin Cities.

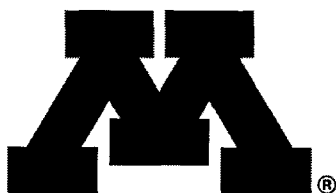
Most classes are taught in English, with a selection taught in French, German and Spanish. Classes are fast-paced and include verbal language practice through games, song, comedy and even food. World Languages Day gives Minnesota students an opportunity to explore language beyond what they are learning in high school, and helps them develop new cultural and global perspectives.

Program description: World Languages Day is presented by the College of Liberal Arts Language Center. The Language Center's goal is to enhance second language instruction at the university. In keeping with this overall goal, the center provides audio, video and computer facilities and equipment, assists in the preparation of instructional material for audio, video and computer language use, and offers training and consultation to instructors concerning the application of new instructional technologies.

The College of Liberal Arts offers nearly 40 languages taught through nine departments. Offerings include the languages the Classical world, Swahili, Arabic, Vietnamese, Hmong, Korean, Japanese, Chinese, Hindi, Urdu, Turkish, Dakota, Ojibwe, most European languages and others.

WHEN: 9:45 a.m. – 12:05 p.m. Tuesday, May 16

WHERE: Jones Hall, 27 Pleasant St. S.E., and Folwell Hall, 9 Pleasant St. S.E., Minneapolis



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EXPERT ALERT

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May 11, 2006

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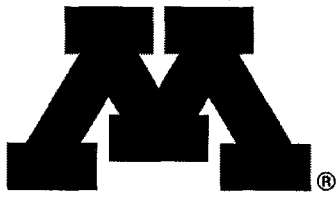
MEDICARE PART D

The sign-up period for Medicare Part D ends on May 15, and policymakers and consumers will begin to assess the implementation of this new prescription drug benefit. What is Medicare's larger financial and political future? What are the upcoming challenges facing Medicare and near-retirees? University of Minnesota experts who can talk about Medicare Part D:

Lawrence Jacobs, professor at the U's Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs

Jacobs is an expert on health care policy, and he can speak about the history of Medicare and American health policy. Jacobs can also offer analysis on the political implications of the success or failure of Medicare Part D. Lawrence R. Jacobs is the Walter F. and Joan Mondale Chair for Political Studies and director of the Center for the Study of Politics and Governance at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. He also is a professor in the University of Minnesota's Department of Political Science.





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May 15, 2006

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INSTITUTE ON RACE AND POVERTY REPORT RELEASED TODAY REVEALS DISTURBING EXTENT OF SCHOOL SEGREGATION IN TWIN CITIES REGION

~ Brighter future envisioned ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A new report being released today (Monday, May 15) by the Institute on Race & Poverty (IRP) at the University of Minnesota reveals the disturbing extent of school segregation in the Twin Cities region. However, the authors of the report envision a brighter future if an already successful school choice program is expanded and existing affordable housing programs are broadened. The report, "The Choice Is Ours: Expanding Educational Opportunity for all Twin Cities Children," describes how economic and racial segregation harms children and the region. The report is available at www.irpumn.org.

Expanding the promising school choice program, coordinated with enhanced suburban housing policies, can help lead to equal access to opportunity for the region's disadvantaged children and their families, according to the report. That program, "Choice is Yours," permits some students in segregated Minneapolis schools to attend schools that are not burdened with high poverty enrollments in the western suburbs.

"We're concerned by the degree of racial and economic segregation in Minneapolis schools. The Minneapolis Public School District alone cannot solve this, but with greater participation from the western suburbs, we can make more progress," said Myron Orfield, executive director of IRP.

The first four years of the program at a pilot scale were successful. Academic achievement was higher for participating "Choice is Yours" students than for eligible students who chose to remain in Minneapolis schools.

"Choice is Yours is a model that should be expanded to include more schools, and more districts, as part of a comprehensive approach to provide quality, integrated schools for all of the region's children," Orfield said. Following are some highlights of the report.

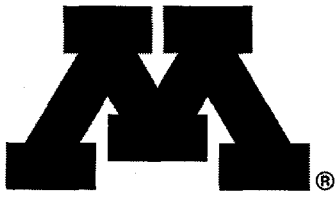
- Schools in the Twin Cities region, like many of the region's neighborhoods, are segregated. There are already many severely segregated schools in the central cities, and a growing number of suburban schools are, or quickly

- more -

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are becoming, segregated.

- Economically and racially segregated schools and their students face performance challenges largely because of segregation. Students from all socio-economic backgrounds perform worse in high-poverty schools, and better in low-poverty schools.
- Graduation rates hover around 55 percent in Minneapolis public schools, where three-quarters of the students are poor; much of the rest of the region enjoys graduation rates of 88-100 percent.
- Segregated schools, and neighborhoods, isolate children from the socio-economic diversity that fosters high expectations, and cultures that support them; they isolate children from the networks important for accessing, and learning to access, academic and life opportunities.
- Even among only the poor, isolation in poor schools and neighborhoods falls disproportionately on persons of color.
- Families who can, tend to choose schools that do not have excessive poverty enrollments. This quickly worsens school segregation, makes neighborhoods unstable, and worsens residential segregation.
- When all of a region's schools provide equal access to educational opportunities, families can live anywhere, assured that their children can attend good public schools. School integration policies, applied at a metropolitan scale, can offer this assurance, thus improving outcomes for children and their schools, and stabilizing neighborhoods.
- Unfortunately, federal desegregation law does not enable integration plans that can operate at the geographic scale that corresponds with housing markets and segregation patterns in metro regions. While significant school integration progress was made during the 1960s and 1970s, it slowed during the 1980s, and has quickly been worsening ever since.
- Since the 1990s, however, litigation in state courts has become a promising way for disadvantaged students to seek redress of their right to equal educational opportunity. State-court litigation against the State of Minnesota and City of Minneapolis during the 1990s led to a settlement creating the promising interdistrict school choice model, "Choice is Yours."
- To help integrate schools, and ensure equal access to opportunity, affordable housing should not be concentrated in racially or economically segregated areas. Decisions to site units should be coordinated with an expanded school choice program so opportunities are available for families to live near the schools their children attend in places where job opportunities also are more abundant.



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May 15, 2006

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U OF M PROFESSOR AVAILABLE TO SPEAK ABOUT THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF TV'S 'WILL & GRACE' AS SERIES FINALE NEARS

~ Show changed attitudes about gay men ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- There is no question that NBC's "Will & Grace" played an important role in television history, said Edward Schiappa, professor and chair of the communication studies department and the Paul W. Frenzel Chair of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota. The "Will & Grace" series finale is Thursday, May 18.

Schiappa supports his claim by referencing studies conducted with U of M researchers including Dean Hewes, also professor of communication studies, and Peter Gregg, instructor and doctoral graduate communication studies department.

"There is no question in my mind that 'Will & Grace' has played an important role in changing attitudes about gay men," says Schiappa. "There are at least two empirical studies that have been done that support this. We did the first several years ago, and it will be published later this year in Journal of Homosexuality. We found that the more folks watched Will & Grace, the less prejudice they reported toward gay men."

"The most important finding was this: The fewer gay friends or co-workers they reported, the stronger the relationship between viewing frequency and lower prejudice," Schiappa said. "In fact, there was no significant relationship between viewing and prejudice for those who already had a lot of gay contacts."

Schiappa, Gregg, and Hewes surveyed 245 college students and found a significant correlation between positive experiences of the series Will & Grace and lower levels of anti-gay prejudice.

"The more viewers watched and enjoyed Will and supporting character Jack, the lower their level of prejudice," Schiappa said. Most notably, such correlations were "strongest among those with the least amount of prior direct personal contact with gay men --a finding that strongly suggests the TV series influences viewers' attitudes."

- more -

The researchers have created a theory called the Parasocial Contact Hypothesis, Schiappa said.

“Our Parasocial Contact Hypothesis contends that positive experiences with minority characters can reduce prejudice in a manner similar to direct contact with people,” Schiappa said. Fifty years of research and 700 studies have already supported what is known as the Contact Hypothesis, which holds that direct interpersonal contact, under certain circumstances, between majority and minority groups can contribute to lower prejudice. For example, white people who have contact with black people on equal terms are less likely to be prejudiced than those without such contact. Mass communication researchers have also proven that most viewers treat televised characters as real, and “parasocial” interaction is mentally processed similarly to direct interaction, Schiappa said.

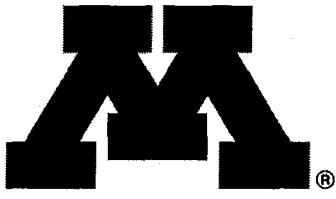
“Through the medium of television, viewers actually develop a relationship with the characters, and this parasocial relationship leads to lessened prejudice,” he said. Will and Jack are two very different gay men, so your understanding of the category of “gay men” is going to be more complex the more you watch the show. As Gordon Allport, “father” of the Contact Hypothesis, says: A differentiated category is the opposite of a stereotype.

Schiappa reports he knows of another study “in the publication pipeline” that replicates the findings of the Will & Grace study. “That study also proves that Will & Grace reduces prejudice, even though the authors’ theory for explaining that change is a bit different. They noted that viewers who like Grace and identify with her will, in turn, feel more positively about the gay characters. Being a ‘friend of a friend’ is another way that prejudice can be reduced.”

Schiappa, Gregg, and Hewes published three studies supporting the Parasocial Contact Hypothesis, in March of 2005 in Communication Monographs. For copies of the studies or visit:

<http://www.comm.umn.edu/department/pch/>





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May 15, 2006

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NEW LASER TECHNIQUE THAT STRIPS HYDROGEN FROM SILICON SURFACES ENABLES LOWER-TEMPERATURE SEMICONDUCTOR PROCESSING

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A team of researchers have achieved a long-sought scientific goal: using laser light to break specific molecular bonds. The process uses laser light, instead of heat, to strip hydrogen atoms from silicon surfaces, a key step in the manufacture of computer chips and solar cells.

The new technique was developed by Philip Cohen, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Minnesota, working with Vanderbilt University researchers Leonard Feldman, Norman Tolk and Zhiheng Liu along with Zhenyu Zhang from Oak Ridge National Laboratory. It is described in the May 19 issue of the journal Science.

“We live in the silicon age,” said Tolk, who is a physics professor at Vanderbilt. “The fact that we have figured out how to remove hydrogen with a laser raises the possibility that we will be able to grow silicon devices at very low temperatures, close to room temperature.”

Microelectronic devices are built from multiple layers of silicon. In order to keep silicon surfaces from oxidizing, semiconductor manufacturers routinely “passivate” them by exposing them to hydrogen atoms that attach to all the available silicon bonds. However, this means that the hydrogen atoms must be removed before new layers of silicon can be added. “Desorbing” the hydrogen is usually done by heating to high temperatures (800 C), which can create thermal defects in the chips and so reduce chip yields.

“One application that we intend to examine is the use of this technique to manufacture field effect transistors (FETs) that operate at speeds about 40 percent faster than ordinary transistors,” said Cohen. According to Cohen, it should be possible to reduce the processing temperature of manufacturing FETs by 100 degrees Celsius, which should dramatically improve yields.

The research was carried out at Vanderbilt’s W.M. Keck Free-electron Laser Center. The free-electron laser is a

special kind of laser with the advantage that its beam can be tuned through a wide range of frequencies in much the same way that you can dial up different frequencies on a radio.

Because the silicon/hydrogen system has been intensively studied, the researchers knew the strength of the bond between the silicon and hydrogen atoms. The bonds between atoms act something like an atomic spring. Like tiny springs, they tend to vibrate at certain frequencies and are most likely to absorb light photons that vibrate at these frequencies. As a result, light tuned to these “resonant” frequencies can force the bond to break.

When the researchers scanned the laser through the frequencies that they had calculated would resonate with the silicon-hydrogen bond, they found that the rate of hydrogen desorption peaked at an incident wavelength of 4.8 microns (1/6,250th of an inch). They also tested the system on silicon surfaces covered with a mixture of hydrogen and deuterium. Deuterium is an isotope of hydrogen: Instead of the single proton that hydrogen has as a nucleus, deuterium has a proton and a neutron. It has the same chemical characteristics as hydrogen but it weighs about twice as much. This weight difference means that the silicon-deuterium bond vibrates more slowly than the silicon-hydrogen bond, so the resonant wavelength is very different than for hydrogen-silicon.

Prior theoretical work in collaboration with Baio Wu, then a postdoctoral fellow at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, predicted that a substantial fraction of the hydrogen could be excited but that temperatures well above room temperature would be needed for an effective process. But once they got the setup right, the researchers found that the laser desorption process:

- Strips hydrogen from the silicon surface even at room temperature.
- Generates surprisingly little heat. In the infrared wavelengths used by the researchers, silicon is basically transparent.
- Exhibits a high degree of selectivity. With the hydrogen/deuterium mixture, the researchers demonstrated that they can remove large numbers of hydrogen atoms without detaching many of the deuterium atoms.

Selectivity of this kind could provide a way to control the growth of nanoscale structures with an unprecedented degree of precision, and it is this potential that most excites Cohen. “By selectively removing the hydrogen atoms from the ends of nanowires, we should be able to control and direct their growth, which currently is a random process,” he said.

So far, three patent disclosures have been filed by the University of Minnesota, along with Vanderbilt University, on this process. At this point, the researchers can only speculate on the reasons why their technique succeeds where so many others have failed. The main clue is the totally unexpected observation that the hydrogen atoms appear to detach from the surface in pairs, as hydrogen molecules, rather than as individual atoms. Additional research will be needed to work out the atomic mechanism involved.

This project was supported by grants from the Department of Energy, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the National Science Foundation.



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U OF M PROFESSOR CHAIRS BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION THAT STUDIES LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Learning support services such as learning centers and tutoring are effective in raising student retention and graduation rates in postsecondary institutions. However, these services are often met with ambivalence and negative perception among legislators, higher education decision makers and faculty members. That's one of the findings of a report on learning support services done by the American Council of Developmental Education Associations (ACDEA)'s Blue Ribbon Commission.

The Commission, chaired by David Arendale, a University of Minnesota General College professor who specializes in issues relating to academic access in postsecondary education and developing strategies to increase the success of underrepresented student populations in college, is made up of members who are leaders representing the major professional organizations involved with developmental education and learning assistance. The commission is charged with conducting a strategic analysis of the profession and to report their findings back for guidance regarding potential planning decisions by the ACDEA member organizations.

The commission has issued a strategic review of the field and provided recommendations for its improvement.

The review indicated that learning support services such as developmental courses, learning centers and tutoring contribute to student retention and graduation at all types of postsecondary institutions," said Arendale. "In spite of this, legislators, higher education decision makers and faculty members sometimes view these programs with ambivalence. This report also describes the strengths, challenges, and opportunities in developmental education and learning assistance and recommends a variety of actions that professional associations in the field might take during what the commission considers to be a crucial time for the field."

The report identifies strengths in the field of learning support, including a high quality and passionate professionals, a documented history of higher student academic success, increased access to higher-level employment opportunities, and collaborative and flexible initiatives that extend from within the university setting to P-12 and into the workforce.

- more -

The report also points out weaknesses in the field such as limited access to grants or funding, negative perceptions and lack of prestige for the profession and the professionals in it, limited access to relevant graduate programs, resources and sabbaticals and lack of support for conducting research in this area.

“This report is intended as a catalyst for conversation and reflection at this crucial time,” said Arendale.

The report is available from the Blue Ribbon Commission website, <http://blueribboncommission.org/> The web site also provides a link to a web-based discussion forum for public comment and conversation of the report and the issues it raises. For additional information, contact Arendale at (612) 625-2928.





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May 15, 2006

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'SECRET GARDENS EXHIBITION' GRAND OPENING JUNE 3 & 4

~ The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum kicks off the summer exhibition with a fun-filled weekend of activities for the whole family ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Explore a world of wonder and engage in hands-on learning and imaginative discovery at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum's Secret Gardens Exhibition, June 3 through Sept. 10. Imaginations will soar as children and their families discover the hidden secrets of 20 uniquely designed and interpreted exhibits on display throughout the Arboretum grounds. The fun begins at the Arboretum's Grand Opening Celebration, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, June 3 and 4, featuring activities for the entire family, from creating miniature flower arrangements to meeting the exhibit designers and learning about the garden that inspired Frances Hodgson Burnett to write the 1911 classic "The Secret Garden."

GRAND OPENING WEEKEND EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES (Saturday, June 3 & Sunday, June 4)

- **Meet the Designers, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.:** From whimsical to wonderful, some of the secret spaces are gardens while others are architectural structures designed to reveal the landscape. All are unique interpretations that will elicit very personal responses from visitors of all ages. Find out what inspired the designers and learn more about their design process.
- **Create a Miniature Flower Arrangement, 12 - 2:30 p.m., Oswald Visitor Center Great Hall:** Inside the Secret Garden authors Carolyn Strom Collins and Christina Wyss Ericksson will help children and adults make a simple garden-inspired arrangement to take home.
- **Hear About the Original Secret Garden, 3 p.m., Oswald Visitor Center, MacMillan Auditorium:** Authors Carolyn Strom Collins and Christina Wyss Ericksson will talk about the garden that inspired Frances Hodgson Burnett to write the 1911 classic The Secret Garden.
- **Secret Garden Demonstration, 3 p.m., Oswald Visitor Center, MacMillan Auditorium:** Watch as the authors demonstrate how to create a miniature tabletop secret garden at home, using common household items. Plus, take home a 'secret garden recipe.'
- **Author Signing, 3:45 p.m., Oswald Visitor Center, MacMillan Auditorium:** Authors Carolyn Strom Collins and Christina Wyss Ericksson will sign copies of their children's book "Inside the Secret Garden."
- **Summer Book List:** Pick up a Secret Gardens visitor guide for a list of recommended reading to help your

- more -

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kids pass the summer. Visitor Guides are available in the Oswald Visitor Center; books are available in the Arboretum Gift Store.

• **Terrace Grill:** Head outside to the restaurant terrace for hot-off-the-grill burgers, brats, and hotdogs. You can also select from our regular menu, indoors.

SECRET GARDENS EXHIBITION SUMMER EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

The Secret Gardens Exhibition is complemented by an array of specially designed programs for all ages. All activities are free with general Arboretum admission, unless otherwise noted.

Can You Find the Key?:

Families are invited to take a self-guided tour of the Secret Gardens Exhibition installations to uncover hidden keys. There are 20 exhibits and 20 keys to having fun with plants and nature- a concept called "Green Fun." Children can show their completed list of secrets at the gift store to get a special prize and keep their list for Green Fun ideas to do this summer. "Can You Find the Key?" family guides are available at the Oswald Visitor Center.

Thursdays in the Garden / Free Family Programs

A Midsummer Night's Tale: *Thursday evenings, June - Aug., 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.*

Next to the Rose Garden. Arboretum general admission FREE for all ages after 4:30 p.m.

Gather under the canopy of a huge maple as a series of story-readers, story-tellers and puppeteers present stories of plants and the earth. Hear tales from different cultures and places that feature connections between plants and people through children's literature selections, including: Oliver's Vegetables, Tops & Bottoms, The Enormous Turnip, The Girl with A Green Ear, Chocolate Porridge, and others. Each evening will conclude with a craft, writing, or activity related to the evening's theme that families can do at the Arboretum or take-home to further explore and enjoy plants on their own. The program changes weekly allowing families to engage in a new adventure each time they visit.

Weekend Drop-in Family Programs

Green Keepsakes: *Saturdays & Sundays, June - Aug., 12 noon to 3 p.m.*

Marion Andrus Learning Center

Learn a new plant secret each month at the Marion Andrus Learning Center by participating in family activities that include planting and art projects. Record summer's passing by creating a personalized family journal that can be updated each time you visit. Do a page of leaf rubbings, then search for its tree at the Arboretum or in your own neighborhood. 'Paint' another page with fresh rose petals--can you find the flowers that match? Write about your experiences, adding your own photos and drawings. Take time to read one of the changing selections of outstanding children's books about plants and nature in the Kid's Corner. A booklist for parents will be available to take home.

Garden Hot-Spots Family Program: *Saturdays & Sundays, June - Aug., 12 - 3 p.m.*

Morgan Terrace

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Stop by a Garden Hot-Spot and discover what secrets are hidden under leaves, beneath the bark, underground or high overhead in the Arboretum gardens. Is it the tiny wiggling critters living in the mulch? Or maybe the microscopic sacs of oils that give flower petals and herb leaves their scents? In Garden Hot-Spots families will explore plant life, discover insects, examine plants close-up, observe blooming gardens and engage all five senses.

Observing Nature

Birding Walks: Secret Nooks & Crannies

Wednesdays, 9 a.m.: June 7, July 5, Aug. 2, and Sept. 6

Saturdays, 9 a.m.: June 17, July 22, Aug. 19, and Sept. 16

Walks begin at the Sensory Garden Parking Lot

Come on a birding walk with Minnesota Landscape Arboretum naturalist Matt Schuth as he explores the secret nooks and crannies of the "wild" Arboretum. Observe the birds, learn their calls and discover the creatures and plants that share their habitats. Bring your own binoculars and dress for a walk in any weather.

Secrets of the Wild Side Walks:

Saturdays, June 10 & 24, July 15 & 29, and Aug. 12 & 26, 11 a.m.

Walks begin at the Sensory Garden Parking Lot

Get off the beaten track and explore the hidden corners of the Arboretum. With the help of Arboretum staff and docents, discover the secret lives of the plants and insects, and delve into the natural history of Minnesota's prairies, woodlands, bogs and sedge meadows.

Other Offerings

Picnic in the Garden: *Thursdays & Sundays, June 1 - Sept. 28*

Picnic among the flowers with a special Arboretum picnic basket. Enjoy gourmet cheeses, meats, fruits, artisan breads, something sweet and a beverage. Kids' meals available upon request. Pre-order your picnic baskets and pay when you pick them up. Place your order by calling 952-443-1434.

The Secret Gardens Grand Opening Celebration is free with general Arboretum admission (\$7 adults, ages 15 and younger free, members free). For more information about the Secret Gardens Exhibition and upcoming events, visit www.arboretum.umn.edu or call 952-443-1400.

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 3 and Sunday, June 4

WHERE: Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska





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U OF M PRESIDENT AND PROVOST TO MAKE A MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT INVOLVING THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks and Provost Thomas Sullivan will hold a press conference to make a major announcement involving the College of Education and Human Development at 11:15 a.m. Thursday, May 18, in the atrium of Burton Hall, 178 Pillsbury Drive S.E., Minneapolis.

WHAT: Press conference
WHEN: 11:15 a.m. Thursday, May 18
WHERE: Atrium of Burton Hall, 178 Pillsbury Drive S.E., Minneapolis





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May 17, 2006

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MINNESOTA BIOBLITZ 2006: A RACE TO DOCUMENT AS MANY SPECIES AS POSSIBLE WITHIN A 24-HOUR PERIOD

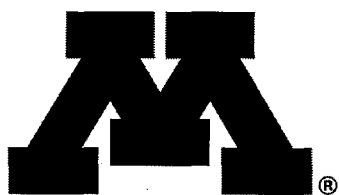
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Armed with sonar detectors, bug lights, live traps and laptops, volunteers, under the leadership of professional researchers and biologists, will explore the urban landscape—including the lawns of participating homeowners—in Minnesota Bioblitz 2006, a 24-hour event beginning at 5 p.m. Friday, May 19, in Falcon Heights.

Part contest, part festival, part scientific experiment, BioBlitz brings together scientists and volunteers of all ages in a race to document as many species as possible within a 24-hour period. A variety of animals will be live-trapped, identified, then chronicled before being released unharmed back into the wild. This year's event will take place at the future site of the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History on the southwest corner of Larpenteur and Cleveland avenues in Falcon Heights.

BioBlitz aims to increase the public's awareness of an area's biological diversity, as well as provide an environmental benchmark for natural resources managers of Minnesota parks. It's also an opportunity for volunteers to work alongside professional biologists to find out what they do and how they do it.

The event is free and open to the public. BioBlitz is co-sponsored by the Bell Museum of Natural History, Gibbs Museum of Pioneer and Dakota Life, Ramsey County Parks, City of Falcon Heights, St. Anthony Park Neighborhood Association and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Non-game Wildlife Program. For a complete schedule of BioBlitz activities, go to www.bellmuseum.org/bioblitz. The Bell Museum is part of the university's College of Natural Resources.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 18, 2006

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U OF M TO HOUSE NEW \$21 MILLION RESEARCH CENTER

~ NSF announces five-year grant to a consortium of universities to support a new engineering research center for fluid power based at the University of Minnesota ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Discovering ways to reduce fuel consumption, developing devices for people with mobility impairments and designing state-of-the-art rescue robots are just three of the goals of a new multimillion-dollar research center that will be based at the University of Minnesota.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) recently announced a \$15 million, five-year grant to support the new Engineering Research Center for Compact and Efficient Fluid Power. Industry partners will augment NSF funding with \$3 million, and seven universities involved in the center will contribute an additional \$3 million.

"This center will advance fundamental knowledge, providing a platform for technology that will spawn new industries. We are impressed with the ambitious goals of the center for research and education and the strong partnership with industry," said Lynn Preston, leader of the Engineering Research Centers Program at NSF.

"Back in the 1950s and 1960s, the United States led the world in fluid-power research, but now Europe and Asia have passed us by," said Kim Stelson, a mechanical engineering professor at the University of Minnesota and director of the new research center. "We hope that this new center will get us back on track in this growing field."

Stelson said the University of Minnesota led the effort for the new research center and built an outstanding team of fluid-power researchers from across the country, which resulted in the proposal's success.

Fluid-power technology encompasses most applications that use liquids or gases to transmit power in the form of mechanical work or pressure. The complexity of these systems ranges from a simple hydraulic car jack to sophisticated airplane controls that rely on high-pressure hydraulic systems. Fluid power is a \$33 billion industry. Industry areas include aerospace, agriculture, construction, health care, manufacturing, mining, and transportation.

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With help from the National Fluid Power Association, more than 50 companies have agreed to provide support for the research center. Seven of those companies have annual sales of more than \$500 million.

“This kind of industry support for an NSF-sponsored research center is unprecedented,” said Steven Crouch, dean of the Institute of Technology, the University of Minnesota’s college of engineering, physical sciences, and mathematics. “It clearly shows that we have the support to ensure the center’s success.”

Researchers at the center will study ways to use fluid power more efficiently in manufacturing, agriculture, construction and mining. Each 10 percent improvement in efficiency of current uses of fluid power in these industries will save about \$7 billion a year in U.S. energy costs. Researchers will also work to develop hydraulic-hybrid passenger cars that are less expensive and more efficient than current electric hybrids. A 10 percent improvement in efficiency in national passenger-car energy use will save about \$100 billion a year.

Another goal of the research center is to develop portable, wearable and autonomous fluid-power devices capable of operating for long periods of time without external energy sources. This technology could lead to new medical and rehabilitation devices and robots that could be used in rescue missions.

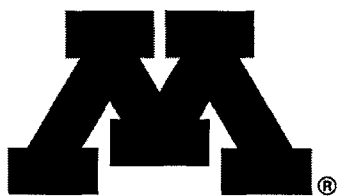
“This center will allow the University of Minnesota to take a leadership role in defining new research frontiers in mechanical engineering,” said Peter McMurry, head of the University of Minnesota’s mechanical engineering department. “Our students also will have the benefit of working with a team of top researchers from around the world in a variety of disciplines, including biomedical engineering, chemistry, computer science and manufacturing.”

In addition to research, the center will be involved in developing youth education programs, improving efforts to increase student diversity in engineering, designing internship and exchange programs for undergraduate and graduate students, and offering short courses and labs for industry workers.

Other core universities involved in the center are the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Georgia Institute of Technology, Purdue University and Vanderbilt University. Outreach universities include the Milwaukee School of Engineering and North Carolina A&T State University. Outreach institutions include the National Fluid Power Association, Project Lead the Way and the Science Museum of Minnesota.

Twin Cities area industry partners include Caterpillar, Toro, Eaton Corp., R.T. Dygert International, Sauer-Danfoss and Tennant Co.

NSF-funded Engineering Research Centers conduct pioneering research in emerging technologies and train the next generation of engineers to be leaders in innovation. Each center, while based at one university, is a collaborative partnership drawing together individuals and resources from other universities, industry partners, and pre-college teachers and students.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2006

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U OF M CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION STUDIES CONFERENCE TO HIGHLIGHT PRIVACY ISSUES

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's Center for Transportation Studies (CTS) 17th Annual Transportation Research Conference will highlight privacy issues. The conference will be held Wednesday, May 24 and Thursday, May 25, at Saint Paul RiverCentre, 175 Kellogg Boulevard, St. Paul.

The conference begins with the session "Privacy and Movement: New Challenges for Technology-Enhanced Transportation" at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 24. Professor Colin Bennett, a leading privacy scholar from the University of Victoria in British Columbia, will describe current and future risks associated with technology-enhanced transportation systems at the individual, commercial and societal levels. Following his address, three local panelists will respond and share their thoughts including: Ken Keller, a professor of science, technology and public policy in the university's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs; Marthand Nookala, assistant administrator of public works with Hennepin County; and Dan Murray, vice president of research with the American Transportation Research Institute.

Privacy will also be examined in one of the first concurrent sessions. "Privacy and Movement: Balancing the Benefits and Risks," at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, will be moderated by Lee Munnich, director of the State and Local Policy Program at the Humphrey Institute, and include three presentations:

- Max Donath, director of the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Institute at CTS, will present "Using ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems) to Reduce Teenage Road Mortality: Impact on Privacy."
- Dan Murray, American Transportation Research Institute, will present "Commercial Benefits and Risks from ITS."
- Minneapolis Police Lt. Gregory Reinhardt will talk about "Law Enforcement and ITS."

Other highlights of the conference include:

- 11:45 to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Thomas DeCoster, executive director of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Leadership Institute, will deliver "From Pearl Harbor to Helicopters: How to Lead in a Multigenerational Transportation Workplace." DeCoster's presentation will

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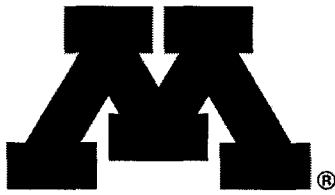
Helicopters: How to Lead in a Multigenerational Transportation Workplace.” DeCoster’s presentation will explore the work-related values that differentiate generations. He will discuss specific leadership practices and processes unique to each generation, with particular emphasis on employee recruitment, motivation, and retention.

- 1:45 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, the session will focus on Homeland Security. Panelists will discuss the Twin Cities Metro Evacuation Traffic Management Plan. Nathaniel Bird, from the U of M’s department of computer science and engineering, will discuss detecting abandoned objects in public areas and Shashi Shekhar, from the U of M’s department of computer science and engineering, will talk about large scale evacuation route planning algorithms.

- 8:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Thursday, a panel will highlight the center’s new Access to Destinations Study. Since traditional measures of congestion do not describe whether people’s ability to access destinations has been affected, the U of M research study aims to measure accessibility for a better understanding of how our transportation and land use system is performing, how it has changed, and how future investments and policies will impact that system.

Other concurrent sessions will touch on topics ranging from the Hiawatha LRT to a political history of the interstate highway system. To view the full conference schedule, see www.cts.umn.edu/events/rescon. To register, contact Shirley Mueffelman at (612) 624-4754 or e-mail conferences2@cce.umn.edu, or register online at register.cce.umn.edu and enter Event ID #178179.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 20, 2006

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GOPHER FOOTBALL HEADED BACK TO CAMPUS

~ Bruininks praises bipartisan legislative support for stadium set to open in 2009 ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The Minnesota Legislature approved a new, \$248 million Gopher football stadium today in a strong bipartisan vote. The bill passed the House of Representatives 96 to 37 and the Senate 43 to 24. Construction of the new on-campus stadium will begin this summer, university officials said.

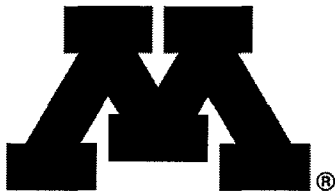
“Bringing Gopher football back to campus will strengthen our university community and give Minnesotans even more pride in their flagship public research university,” said university President Robert Bruininks. “Our academic mission, the quality of our student life and community involvement in the U will all benefit greatly from today’s action. We’re grateful to all the legislators who have been with us on this plan and who gave it such overwhelming bipartisan support today.”

Athletics Director Joel Maturi added, “For years, we have been the only Big 10 school without an on-campus football stadium. This new facility will have a huge positive impact on our football program, recruiting and all of our athletic programs.”

The 50,000-seat open-air stadium will cost approximately \$248 million. As part of the legislation, the university will exchange 2,840 acres of undeveloped land in Dakota County with the state for use as a metropolitan area nature preserve. That brings the total state share of the cost to 55 percent. The university will raise private funds and implement a student fee to pay for the rest.

“From the beginning, our plan has been hugely reliant upon private fundraising,” said Bruininks. “Passing the Legislature and being signed by the governor gives us enormous momentum to raise the dollars necessary to get this thing built. It’s an exciting time at the U.”

If signed by Gov. Tim Pawlenty, the stadium, which would be called TCF Bank Stadium, is set to open in 2009. University officials said they will be meeting with architects already this week.



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EXPERT ALERT

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May 22, 2006

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THE DAVINCI CODE

Jesus was married to Mary Magdalene, they had children together, and their descendants still walk the earth today. That is the premise of Dan Brown's best-selling novel 'The DaVinci Code' and the movie by Ron Howard that opens in theaters everywhere today. University of Minnesota experts who can talk about the DaVinci Code are:

Jeanne Kilde, Institute for Advanced Study, University of Minnesota

Kilde has taught extensively on religion in America, and she has lectured on the DaVinci Code for a number of organizations. She can speak to Dan Brown's commingling of verifiable historical information on the real person, Mary Magdalene, a contemporary and disciple of Jesus, and the popular legends about her that arose in the Medieval period. She can also discuss the ways in which the DaVinci Code taps into popular interests about early Christianity and its relationship to contemporary religious thought and practice, in particular the role of the divine feminine in the book.

Steve Mathews, Department of History, University of Minnesota, Duluth

Mathews specializes in Christian History and the intellectual history of Western Europe. His specific areas of research include the history of Christianity and Science, and Christian art and literature from antiquity through the Renaissance and Reformation. He has traveled and lectured numerous times on the historical aspects of the DaVinci Code. When asked to list historical inaccuracies in the DaVinci Code, Mathews argues that it would be easier to list the accuracies instead.

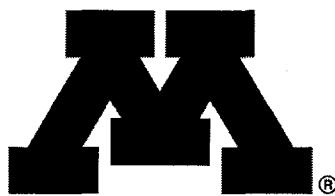
Michael Gaudio, Department of Art History, University of Minnesota

Gaudio is an assistant professor in the U's art history department, and he is an expert in the visual culture of early modern Europe and the Americas. Whether it is the Vitruvian Man, the Mona Lisa, the Last Supper, or Madonna of the Rocks, Gaudio can comment on all these DaVinci pieces mentioned in the DaVinci Code.

To interview any of the experts above, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2006

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**U OF M PROFESSOR TO HELP REVOLUTIONIZE THE WAY HONG KONG VIEWS
AND CARES FOR ITS ELDERLY POPULATION**

~ U's Terry Lum is one of four internationally renowned professors involved ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota social work professor Terry Lum is one of four internationally renowned professors who will lead a project aimed at revolutionizing the way Hong Kong views and cares for its elderly population.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club, the largest foundation in Hong Kong, unveiled the project called "CADENZA: A Jockey Club Initiative for Seniors" Friday in Hong Kong. The jockey club is providing HK\$380 million or roughly \$49 million in U.S. currency to fund the five-year project, Lum said.

Five components comprise the project including: a leadership program designed to encourage more faculty members and post doctoral students to specialize in gerontology (the scientific study of social and psychological aspects of aging.); an education and training program for care workers and professionals who are the front line of working with the elderly; a public education program targeting the whole community; a demonstration unit to pilot new approaches to home and residential care taught in the education and training program; and an evaluation of each piece of the project.

Hong Kong had had a relatively young population who didn't have older people around as they grew up, so a negative attitude toward the elderly grew there, Lum said. So the first part of the CADENZA Project will be to work to turn that attitude around, Lum said.

"One of the first things we will do is launch a public opinion campaign to develop a positive image for the older population," Lum said.

After all, the elderly population in Hong Kong is projected to increase from 11.7 percent in 2003 to 27 percent in 2033, according to the Hong Kong Census and Statistics Department.

"In academics in Hong Kong, they can use more experts in gerontology, so we need to work to develop that, "

- more -

Lum said.

As the elderly population increases in Hong Kong, the need for good care will also grow. "We want to increase the skills in professionals on how to care for older people," Lum said.

The CADENZA project aims at a lofty goal, but Lum believes it's achievable. "We want to develop a culture change in long term care," Lum said. "Currently in Hong Kong, there is more of a medical model or a hospital building where older people live."

"Most older people don't like that--they don't like living in nursing homes, so we want to create more of a community model, so that older people become a more integral part of the community and so we have more family involvement," Lum said.

In creating this living model for older people, the project leaders want to demonstrate to the government that the new way will be better and will not increase costs, he said.

"We want to show the government that there is an alternative to current long term care. And we can improve the quality of care and the quality of life and not increase the public investment," Lum said.

The project is very unique and the jockey club's funding of CADENZA is the biggest investment made in aging in Hong Kong, he said.

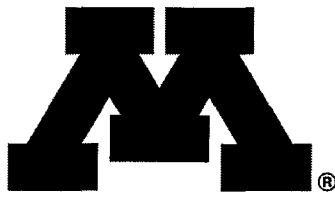
Lum believes Hong Kong is just the beginning.

"If we can successfully implement this, we could shape the way long term care is provided in other places," Lum said. "My hope is that Hong Kong is the window to the west in developing this model and the it will get repeated in other cities including cities in China."

Other professors involved in the project are: professor Ada Mui of Columbia University; professor Iris Chi, University of Hong Kong, University of Southern California; and professor Jean Woo, Chinese University of Hong Kong.

"CADENZA" stands for "Celebrate their Accomplishments; Discover their Effervescence and Never-ending Zest as they Age." The name was chosen because the Italian word *cadenza*, a musical term referring to a virtuoso solo passage near the end of a movement in a concerto, is also used figuratively to describe the apex of one's life and the celebration of a lifetime's accomplishments.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2006

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U OF M CARLSON SCHOOL RECEIVES FULL FUNDING FOR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND ANNOUNCES TWO NEW GIFTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota will begin construction this fall on Hanson Hall after full funding (\$26.6 million) for the project was approved by the State Legislature as part of the university's overall bonding bill, which awaits Gov. Tim Pawlenty's signature.

"The state's investment will pay great dividends for future generations of Minnesotans," said Jim Campbell, interim dean at the Carlson School of Management. "We can now serve more of the state's best and brightest students who will go on to become entrepreneurs and the state's business and community leaders."

Hanson Hall, named in honor of University of Minnesota alum Herbert M. Hanson, Jr., will allow the school to serve at least 50 percent more students by 2008. This fall, the school will welcome about 45 percent more freshmen. For the third year, applications rose by more than 30 percent. Construction will start this fall and a ground breaking is planned for September 28.

The Carlson School is also proud to announce two other recent commitments: alumni Mac and Sonia McDonald have committed \$1 million to the construction of Hanson Hall and David and Shirley Hubers have also committed \$1.5 million for a new undergraduate scholarship endowment.

A 1960 Carlson School undergraduate alum who serves on the school's board of overseers, Mac McDonald was chairman of Signet Bank, which launched Capitol One Financial Corp. In 1997, Forbes recognized McDonald as one of Corporate America's Most Powerful People. He and his wife Sonia live in Richmond, Va.

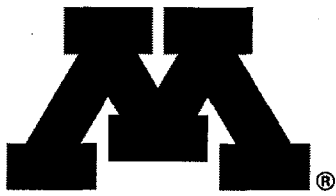
David Hubers, who received a bachelor of science degree (1965) and master of business administration degree (1970) from the Carlson School and serves on the school's board of overseers, is the former chairman of American Express Financial Advisors. He and his wife reside in North Oaks.

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The Carlson School seeks to raise more than \$21 million for scholarships and other construction costs. The state funding of \$26.6 million will cover two-thirds of the \$39.9 million Hanson Hall building costs. The school is planning significant scholarship endowments and will double the number of undergraduate students who receive scholarships and triple the scholarship dollars awarded.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 24, 2006

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U OF M STUDENT RECEIVES CONGRESSIONAL AWARD GOLD MEDAL FOR VOLUNTEER WORK

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota student Jaymes Grossman will receive the Congressional Award Gold Medal. at a presentation on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., Wednesday, June 21.

Grossman, 18, is a junior at the University of Minnesota with a double major in electrical engineering and computer engineering. His sister, Jansina, 16, has also won the award, which fosters leadership and community involvement by recognizing young people between 14- and 24-years-old who set and achieve challenging goals that include community service and social development and citizenship.

Jaymes and Jansina, children of Karen and Glen Grossman of Blaine, were looking to do community service work and picked to work with the ALS Association, which battles Lou Gehrig's Disease.

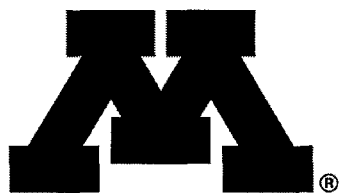
"My uncle has ALS so we want to work to raise awareness for the disease," Jaymes said.

Both Jaymes and Jansina logged more than 400 volunteer hours that included giving speeches to school and community groups, organizing a fundraiser walk and writing a paper on ALS. For physical goals, both completed the 31-mile St. Paul Classic Bike Tour, weightlifted and did aerobic dancing.

"We commend your willingness to give of yourself to voluntarily help others in the community and your achievements in personal development, physical fitness and explorations," John Falk, chairman of the Congressional Award National Board of Director, said about the Grossmans.

"I did not do volunteer work to earn the awards, but it is nice to be recognized," Jaymes said. "Volunteering for the ALS Association is a great experience. It's good to do something that benefits other people rather than just doing things for yourself."

Prior to the Congressional Award Gold Medal, the Grossmans also received the Congressional Bronze and Silver Awards plus a Presidential Award from the ALS Association for outstanding community service.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 30, 2006

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U OF M RANKS SECOND IN NANOTECH INDUSTRIAL OUTREACH

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota ranks second among U.S. universities in industrial outreach in nanotechnology and microtechnology, according to the results of a survey published recently in the May/June 2006 issue of the nanotechnology trade publication *Small Times*. The university was also rated ninth in nanotech research, making it the highest-ranking Big 10 university in these categories.

Fifty universities responded to the *Small Times* survey in early 2006, answering questions about funding, facilities, research, courses, degrees, industrial partnerships, patenting and other issues pertaining to nanotechnology and microtechnology. Respondents also were asked to rank their peer institutions in the areas of nanotech research and commercialization.

The University of Minnesota was specifically recognized for work in the university's Nanofabrication Center, Characterization Facility and Particle Technology Laboratory, as well as the university's well-established chemical engineering and materials science programs.

"The University of Minnesota is pleased to be recognized as a leading institution for nanotechnology," said Steve Campbell, professor of electrical and computer engineering and director of the Nanofabrication Center. "Nanotechnology is the second most heavily funded area of federal research and is anticipated to be a \$2 trillion market by 2015."

Campbell also explained that the university opens its labs, such as the Nanofabrication Center, Characterization Facility and Particle Technology Lab, to both faculty and companies for research. Users pay a fee to use leading-edge nano research equipment.

"By spreading the cost of these systems over a large user base, a wide range of capabilities can be made available," Campbell said. "These capabilities will help keep Minnesota among the leaders in this rapidly emerging area."

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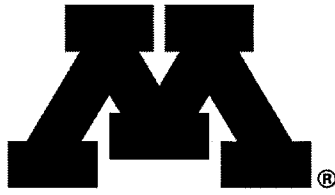
According to Small Times, the University of Minnesota industrial outreach goal is, “ ... to help the university and business communities find commercial opportunities for nanotechnology, particularly in nanoparticles and nanostructures.”

A complete list of universities who participated in the survey and additional information about their micro and nanotech resources are included in the May/June 2006 issue of Small Times magazine. The publication also includes a guide to the nation’s top universities in micro and nanotechnology, based on responses to the survey, which was sent to more than 100 research institutions.

The link to the online version of the article is

http://www.smalltimes.com/document_display.cfm?document_id=11552





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EMBARGO: 1 P.M. EDT WED., MAY 31

May 30, 2006

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BIODIVERSITY KEY TO SUSTAINABLE BIOFUEL ACCORDING TO U OF M RESEARCHER'S FINDINGS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Ecosystems containing many different plant species are not only more productive, they are also better able to withstand and recover from climate extremes, pests and disease over long periods of time.

These findings, published in the June 1 issue of *Nature*, are the culmination of 12 years of experiments conducted by David Tilman, Regents Professor of Ecology at the University of Minnesota, to explore the value of biodiversity. The research was carried out at Cedar Creek Natural History Area, near Cambridge, a field station operated by the university's College of Biological Sciences.

"This is exciting because it shows that biodiversity can be used to produce a sustainable supply of biomass for biofuels," Tilman says.

For more than 50 years, scientists have debated the hypothesis that biodiversity stabilizes ecosystems. The University of Minnesota study is the first to provide enough data -- gathered over a sufficient time period in an experiment that controlled biodiversity -- to confirm the theory. The time period of the study allowed researchers to evaluate the average net effects of diversity on resistance to and recovery from drought, pests, disease and other disturbances. Tilman and his collaborators began the work in the early 1990s and began publishing a series of landmark papers in 1994.

Biodiversity of global ecosystems has decreased as global population has increased because diverse ecosystems such as forests and prairies have been cleared to make way for agricultural fields planted with monocultures, buildings and roads.

Tilman's research has shown that ecosystems containing many different plant species are more productive than those containing only one of those species. A return to biodiversity may prove to be the key to meeting energy needs for the growing number of people on the planet and for restoring global ecosystems.

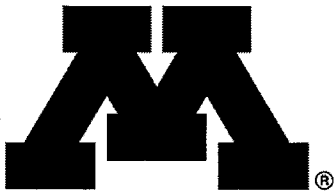
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“Diverse prairie grasslands are 240 percent more productive than grasslands with a single prairie species,” Tilman says. “That’s a huge advantage. Biomass from diverse prairies can be used to make biofuels without the need for annual tilling, fertilizers and pesticides, which require energy and pollute the environment. High diversity allows us to produce biofuels with low inputs, and this means that we can get more energy from an acre of land, year after year, with high certainty. Because they are perennials, you can plant prairie grass once and mow it for biomass every fall essentially forever.”

The research was carried out in 168 plots, each of which was randomly planted with 1-16 perennial grasses and other prairie plants. Over 12 years, rainfall during the growing season varied more than twofold and average daily high temperatures ranged from 21.5 C to 24.4 C. Stability was dependent on diversity and root mass. Roots store nutrients and buffer against climate variations. Prairie plants, which are perennials, have far more root mass than crops such as corn, which must be replanted annually.

EMBARGO: 1 p.m. EDT, Wednesday, May 31, 2006





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 30, 2006

*Contacts: Kelly O'Brien, College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-4109
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

NEW BOOK BY U OF M PROFESSOR EXAMINES DISPARITIES OF WEALTH IN AMERICA AS IT DIVIDES ACROSS RACIAL LINES

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Rose Brewer, professor of African American and African Studies at the University of Minnesota, is a co-author of "The Color of Wealth: The Story Behind the U.S. Racial Wealth Divide" (The New Press), a new book that lays bare the roots of the racial wealth divide and reveals the astonishingly decisive role the U.S. government has played in shaping our unequal society.

According to the authors, for every dollar owned by the average white family in the United States, the average family of color has less than a dime. Wealth, not income alone, may be the most revealing index of inequality in America.

"It's important to understand that the racial wealth divide for African Americans is not simply historical," said Brewer, who contributed expertise on the African American experience to the writing of this book. "Being turned down for mortgages, neighborhood redlining and other exclusionary practices that destroy wealth building capacity mean that governmental enforcement of antidiscrimination laws are as needed today as 50 years ago."

The Color of Wealth, written by five leading experts on the racial wealth divide who recount the asset-building histories of Native Americans, Latinos, African Americans, Asian Americans and European Americans, is a uniquely comprehensive multicultural history of American wealth. With its focus on public policies—how, for example, many post-World War II GI Bill programs helped whites only—The Color of Wealth is the first book to demonstrate the decisive influence of government on Americans' net worth.

Published in conjunction with one of the country's leading economics education organizations, United for a Fair Economy, the book makes the case that until government policy tackles disparities in wealth, not just income, the United States will never have racial or economic justice.

- more -

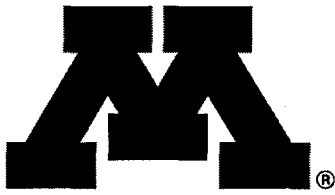
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Brewer has written extensively on economics, sociology, culture and feminism relative to issues of race and class. Brewer was a longtime board member of United for a Fair Economy (UFE) and continues to serve on the board of Project South: Institute for the Elimination of Poverty and Genocide. She also serves on the board of Environmental Justice Advocates of Minnesota. She was a founding member and continues to be active in the Black Radical Congress.

Brewers' co-authors include: Meizhu Lui, Barbara Robles, Betsy Leondar-Wright and Rebecca Adamson.

Brewer is available in the Twin Cities throughout the summer to discuss *The Color of Wealth*. *The Color of Wealth* can be found at <http://www.racialwealthdivide.org/>.





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May 31, 2006

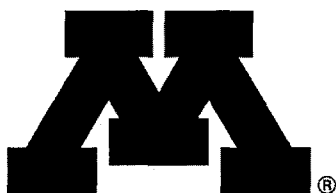
Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

GOV. PAWLENTY TO SIGN 2006 BONDING BILL AT THE U OF M CARLSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Gov. Tim Pawlenty will be at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management to sign the 2006 bonding bill on Thursday, June 1. The event starts at 8:30 a.m. in the atrium of the Carlson School, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The governor will be joined by Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost Thomas Sullivan and incoming Carlson School Dean Alison Davis-Blake. Following the signing there will be a reception with Carlson School overseers, faculty, staff and guests.

WHO: Gov. Tim Pawlenty
WHAT: Signing of the bonding bill
WHEN: 8:30 a.m. Thursday, June 1
WHERE: Carlson School, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis





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STORY TIPS

Internal only

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For Immediate Release

May 31, 2006

Contacts: *Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

JWB 1, 2006

JUNE 5TH MARKS 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ELVIS PRESLEY'S SCANDALOUS TV PERFORMANCE

~ U of M pop culture and Elvis expert available to comment ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL-- June 5th marks the 50th anniversary of Elvis Presley's controversial performance on the Milton Berle Show. During that performance in 1956, the young Elvis shook and shimmied his hips to "Hound Dog" in ways that launched a huge national controversy in what was then a more mild-mannered nation.

Some people simply weren't ready for what they saw, says Gil Rodman, associate professor of communication studies at the U of M. "The Milton Berle show was the first where Elvis did not play guitar thus hiding his hips. In the performance, he shakes and shimmies, humps the microphone and nearly does a crotch grab. By 1956 standards, this was unbelievable. This was a time when Lucy and Desi slept in separate beds on their TV show even though they were married in real life and you couldn't say the "p-word" (pregnant) on TV. For Elvis to move the way he did at that moment was scandalous."

As this anniversary approaches, it is an opportune time to do a story about how this was a pivotal moment in American culture and a key point in the history of rock and roll music. It also offers a good chance to compare what rock stars do today to what Elvis did then or how Elvis' impact went beyond music and contributed to a shift in Americans' attitudes. University of Minnesota pop culture and Elvis expert Gil Rodman can provide a pop culture scholar's insight for all such stories. Rodman wrote the book "Elvis After Elvis."

To interview Rodman, contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801





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EMBARGO: UNTIL 6 A.M. CDT JUNE 21

June 1, 2006

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

STUDY BY U OF M RESEARCHERS INDICATES THAT STATE-MANDATED HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAMS REDUCE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A new study by University of Minnesota researchers indicates that state-mandated high school exit examinations (HSEEs) lower the high school graduation rate, denying diplomas to thousands of young people per year who otherwise would have graduated from high school.

While many of these would-be high school graduates will never receive a credential, others go on to earn a GED (the General Educational Development exam). According to the authors, this is not necessarily a good thing, since GED credentials are not generally rewarded as richly as high school diplomas in the paid labor market.

The study, "High School Exit Examinations and State-Level Completion and GED Rates, 1975-2002," appears in the June 21 issue of Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis (the education policy journal of the American Educational Research Association). It is authored by John Robert Warren, associate professor of sociology, Rachael Kulick, graduate student, department of Sociology, and Krista Jenkins, former University of Minnesota undergraduate student.

"Despite growing evidence that state-mandated high school exit examinations have deleterious consequences for high school graduation rates without improving learning or labor market preparedness, such policies are being implemented in additional states over the next few years," said Warren. He went on to note that, as their article went to press, more than 40,000 high school seniors in the state of California are on the verge of being denied diplomas as a result of their failure to pass California's high school exit exam.

Critics of state HSEEs contend that these policies reduce rates of high school completion particularly for race/ethnic minorities and for economically disadvantaged students (Center on Education Policy 2005; National Board on Educational Testing and Public Policy 2000). The present study lends support to such claims. According to Warren, "the negative impact of state-mandated HSEEs on high school graduation rate grows stronger as states' poverty rates increase and as states become more racially/ethnically diverse."

About half of all states require students to pass an HSEE in order to obtain a high school diploma, and similar

- more -

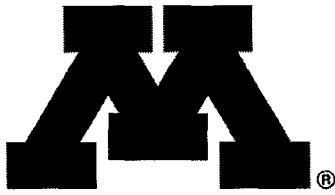
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requirements will soon be in place in Washington and elsewhere.

Although the details of states' HSEE policies vary, students typically first take state HSEEs in ninth or 10th grade and can generally retake state HSEEs several times before their scheduled graduation date. Pass rates on state HSEEs—reported at the state, school district, and school level—are highly publicized, and there are often serious consequences for teachers, principals and school administrators whose students do not pass at high rates.

Embargo: until 6 a.m. CDT June 21





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 2, 2006

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

U OF M ANNOUNCES NEW APPOINTMENTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota today announced the appointment of professor Kathryn VandenBosch as interim dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. In addition, the university announced that vice president for agricultural policy and dean of the current College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, Charles Muscoplat, will become vice president for statewide strategic resource development.

VandenBosch will assume the interim dean position July 1, heading the new college formed by an academic realignment that brings together the current College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, College of Natural Resources and the Department of Food Science and Nutrition from the College of Human Ecology. VandenBosch is head of the Department of Plant Biology and recently served as interim director of the Microbial and Plant Genomics Institute.

“Professor VandenBosch is a deeply respected member of the university faculty,” said Provost Thomas Sullivan. “She demonstrates exemplary commitment to service that is critically important at this time. We anticipate she will supply exceptional leadership to support and sustain the momentum and growth of the new college in this period of transition to the permanent deanship.”

VandenBosch received her doctorate from the University of Massachusetts in 1984. In her current role as head of the Department of Plant Biology, her research focuses on the cell biology of plant and microbe symbioses. She has also served as a member of the University Senate Committee on Finance and Planning and the strategic positioning task force that developed the new college.

In his new position as vice president for statewide strategic resource development, Muscoplat will have strategic leadership responsibilities for the university's statewide economic development planning as well as maintaining its academic initiatives.

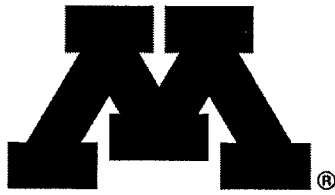
“Vice President Muscoplat's academic and corporate experience make him uniquely qualified and positioned to help lead the university's bold new approach to economic development,” said President Robert Bruininks.

- more -

Muscoplat became vice president for agricultural policy and dean of the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences in September 1999. He is also a professor of medicine and microbiology in the University of Minnesota Medical School. Prior to his university appointments, Muscoplat was vice president for medical affairs at MGI Pharma, Inc., having served the company (formerly known as Molecular Genetics, Inc.) in various executive positions since 1983. He holds a doctorate degree in veterinary microbiology from the University of Minnesota, and was a faculty member in veterinary medicine from 1976 to 1983.

A national search for a dean for the new college is currently underway.





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For Immediate Release

June 6, 2006

Contacts: *David Ruth, University News Service, (612) 624-1690*

TCF BANK STADIUM ARCHITECT TO BE NAMED AT BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING THURSDAY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota officials will announce the architectural firm chosen to design the new football home of the Golden Gophers in their update on TCF Bank Stadium to the Board of Regents.

The announcement will be part of the 10:15-11:30 a.m. Thursday work session in the Board of Regents Boardroom, sixth floor, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis.

President Robert Bruininks, along with other university officials, and a representative from the architectural firm will be available for interviews following the meeting.

The schedule for the Board of Regents is as follows:

Thursday, June 8

8 - 10 a.m. Educational Planning and Policy Committee, West Committee Room. Officials from the University of Minnesota, Duluth and Rochester campuses will report on strategic positioning.

8 - 10 a.m. Finance and Operations Committee, East Committee Room. The annual operating budget (FY2006-07) and capital improvement budget (FY2007) will be discussed.

10:15 - 11:30 a.m. Board of Regents work session, Boardroom. University officials will update the board on planning and construction plans for the new TCF Bank Stadium.

1:30 - 2:45 p.m. Board of Regents work session, East Committee Room. Senior Vice President Frank Cerra will discuss the Academic Health Center's strategic positioning.

3 - 5 p.m. Facilities Committee, West Committee Room. Discussions of various facilities items, including the

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

design for the addition to the Carlson School of Management.

3 - 5 p.m. Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, East Committee Room. Discussions of various items, including a report on the university's employee healthcare plan and post-tenure review.

Friday, June 9

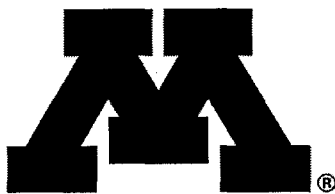
9 - 11:30 a.m. Board of Regents, Boardroom. The board will act on the university's operating and capital budgets, along with addressing these topics: report of the president, report of the chair, code of ethics annual review, annual U of M Alumni Association report and a post-legislative session update.

More information on the Board of Regents meeting can be found at www.umn.edu/regents.

WHEN: Thursday, June 8, and Friday, June 9

WHERE: 600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis





EXPERT ALERT

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June 7, 2006

Contacts: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214

SOMALIA

Much tension remains in Somalia as the capitol, Mogadishu, was overtaken by an Islamic militia two days ago. Somalia has been lacking an effective government since 1991, and the capitol was controlled mostly by a number of warlords who have been pushed from their strongholds in Mogadishu. A University of Minnesota expert who can speak about the situation in Somalia is:

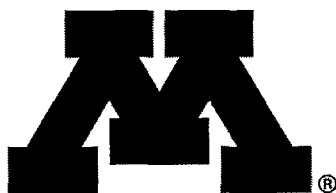
Abdi Samatar, professor of geography, University of Minnesota

An East-African native, Samatar has taught courses on Africa and the Islamic world. His area of expertise focuses on Somalia, and he is fluent in the language. Samatar can speak about the current situation in Mogadishu and put it in a larger perspective. The outcome of the takeover, he says, will depend, in large part, on the reaction of the international community. Samatar can also comment on what this means to the Somali population in Minnesota, as many maintain relationships and strong connections with friends and family in Somalia.

To interview Samatar, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 8, 2006

Contacts: David Ruth, University News Service, (612) 624-1690

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SELECTS HOK SPORT TO DESIGN NEW TCF BANK STADIUM

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota officials announced today that HOK Sport of Kansas City, Mo., will design the new TCF Bank Stadium. The announcement was made during the Board of Regents monthly meeting at the McNamara Alumni Center on the university's Twin Cities campus.

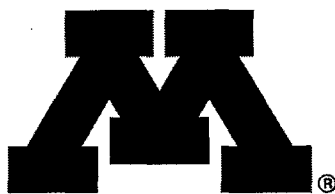
In addition to designing some of the most highly-touted sports facilities in the nation, including Jacobs Field in Cleveland, Camden Yards in Baltimore and the new Arizona Cardinals stadium in Phoenix, HOK Sport is well established in collegiate football facility design, as well. The firm has worked with football programs at Penn State, Virginia Tech, Georgia Tech, the University of Florida, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Alabama.

"We believe HOK is an ideal firm to help create a facility that renews our Big Ten football traditions and meshes with the campus and our neighborhoods," University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks said. "We're excited to have them on board to help build the first new stadium in our conference in nearly 50 years."

"Opportunities don't come along very often to design a new football stadium on a major American college campus," said Scott Radecic, HOK Sport senior principal. "We are honored and genuinely excited to participate in the design of a new fan experience for the Big Ten Conference and the proud Golden Gophers program."

Construction of TCF Bank Stadium will begin this summer, with the goal of opening in 2009. Gopher football will be returning to campus after playing in the Metrodome since 1982.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 8, 2006

Contacts: *Kelly O'Brien, College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-4109*
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U OF M PROFESSOR TO GIVE KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT YAD VASHEM IN JERUSALEM

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Stephen Feinstein, director of the University of Minnesota's Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, will deliver the keynote address at a special conference for educators, "Teaching the Holocaust to Future Generations." The conference will take place at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem from June 26-29.

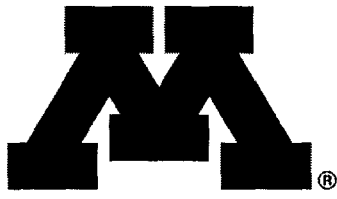
Feinstein is a nationally-recognized expert on the role of art in Holocaust memory and teaching who has curated numerous exhibitions of Holocaust-related art, including the recent showing of work by survivor Daisy Brand at the Northern Clay Center and "Witness & Legacy," which toured nationally in the mid-1990s. Feinstein is the author and editor of "Absence/Presence: Critical Essays on the Artistic Memory of the Holocaust."

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Yad Vashem documents the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, maintains records of each of the six million victims, and imparts the legacy of the Holocaust through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of non-Jews who saved Jews during the Holocaust.

The Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies (CHGS), a unit of the university's College of Liberal Arts, is widely recognized as a resource for the study of Holocaust-related art. This weekend, June 10 – 13, CHGS will host the annual conference of the Association of Holocaust Organizations. Topics to be addressed will include the use of art, theater and film in Holocaust memory and teaching.

Feinstein is available to speak about the use of art in Holocaust memory and teaching, and the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies in general.





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June 9, 2006

Contacts: *Phyllis Cuttino, Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, (202) 777-3516*
Julie Lund, Humphrey Institute, (612) 624-1190
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U OF M HUMPHREY INSTITUTE TO HOST ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON 'THE LINK BETWEEN VIOLENCE AND HIV'

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Five female AIDS activists from around the globe will share their stories at a roundtable on "The Link Between Violence and HIV" from noon to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 14, at the Humphrey Institute, Cowles Auditorium, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The conversation, moderated by Diane Knust, a lecturer with the University of Minnesota's School of Social Work and a consultant with the Midwest AIDS Training Education Center, is part of a seven-day national tour sponsored by the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS (GCWA).

The presenters are:

Mary Fisher, founder of the Mary Fisher CARE Fund at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and UNAIDS special representative.

Ida Mukaka, director of community outreach for the Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia.

Celina D'Costa, advocacy officer for HIV/AIDS programs for Project Concern International in India

Deborah Elizabeth Davis Zelaya, support worker for the Association of People Living with HIV in Honduras

Dresden Jones, sexual violence prevention coordinator for the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault

A light lunch will be available at no charge at 11:30 a.m., with the program from noon to 1:30 p.m. The program is open to the public. Please RSVP by e-mailing UNAMinnesota@gmail.com.

This program is sponsored by the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, the Minnesota AIDS Project, the United Nations Association of Minnesota, the University of Minnesota School of Public Health, the University of Minnesota School of Social Work, the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and the Minnesota Coalition of Battered Women.

The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS is a broad-based alliance of community organizations, networks of

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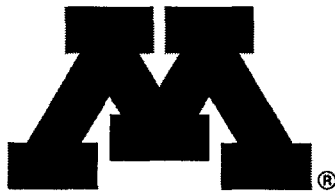
women living with HIV, and United Nations agencies supported by activists, political leaders, and celebrities that seeks to find, advocate for, and support real solutions for women and girls in the global fight against AIDS. This event is part of a seven-day tour of Detroit, Houston, Minneapolis and the District of Columbia. For more information, see <http://womenandaids.unaids.org/tour>.

WHO: Five female AIDS activists from around the globe share their stories

WHEN: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 14

WHERE: Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, Cowles Auditorium, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis





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For Immediate Release

June 12, 2006

Contacts: Jenn Rowe, Facilities Management (612) 625-3466
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA STUDENTS DONATE 1,700 POUNDS OF FOOD TO HOPE FOR THE CITY

~ Trucks to pick up donation today ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL-- When University of Minnesota students moved out of university residence halls at the end of the semester, they donated nearly 1,700 pounds of food to Hope for the City, a Minnesota-based, nonprofit organization that collects overstock products from top retailers, medical companies and food distributors nationwide. Hope for the City then donates the items to people in need locally, across the country and around the world.

Hope for the City will pick up the food today at 1 p.m. at The ReUse Warehouse, 883 29th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

At the end of each school year, the university's Recycling Program partners with the department of Housing and Residential Life to promote the charitable giving program. The mission is two-fold: to keep the food from ending up in the waste stream and to donate it to those who are in need.

"Keeping waste from the landfill results in significant cost savings," says Chris Hruza, coordinator of the U's Recycling Program. "Partnering with the students to contribute to charity gets them involved in our work and helps them to understand how their efforts impact university operations. It is a win-win for us and for the charities."

The University of Minnesota's Recycling Program recycles more than 3,000 tons of waste each year. The program also manages the ReUse Warehouse, a depot for used university property. Instead of spending money to transport items to a landfill, the university stores and sells usable furniture and office equipment at the warehouse. This gives university departments an opportunity to claim items for use in their business units. Items not claimed by university departments are made available to the public after 60 days.

The ReUse Warehouse is open to the public on Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The ReUse Warehouse accepts checks and cash only. Contact the ReUse Warehouse at (612) 626-9152, or see www.reuse.umn.edu for

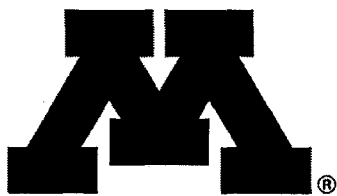
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accepts checks and cash only. Contact the ReUse Warehouse at (612) 626-9152, or see www.reuse.umn.edu for more information.

Photo opportunity: Trucks pickup food at 1 p.m. Monday, June 12





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June 12, 2006

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U OF M BOARD OF REGENTS DESIGNATES KEN KELLER PRESIDENT EMERITUS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- At its June 9 meeting, the University of Minnesota Board of Regents announced that Ken Keller has been designated president emeritus of the university. Keller served as the university's president from 1984 to 1988.

"In his term as university president, Ken Keller recorded many notable achievements that included a fundraising campaign, which raised more than \$300 million to support faculty chairs," said Board Chair Anthony Baraga. "Since then, he has continued to serve the university in countless ways and in many capacities."

Keller currently is the Charles M. Denny Jr. Professor of Science, Technology and Public Policy at the university's Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. He originally joined the university's chemical engineering and materials science faculty in 1964. He later was appointed dean of the Graduate School and as vice president for academic affairs. Keller also served as a senior fellow for science and technology at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York from 1990 to 1996.

Throughout his career, Keller has been a member of and chaired numerous government advisory boards and professional societies. He is a member of the National Research Council Board on Life Sciences and recently completed terms as chair of the National Research Council's Board for the Technical Assessment of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and of the Medical Technology Leadership Forum. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

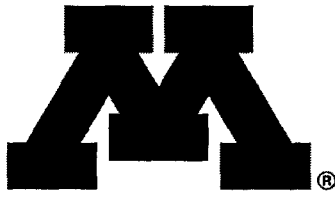
For more than 20 years, Keller's scientific research focused on fluid mechanics and mass transfer in biological systems, with particular emphasis on blood flow phenomena. For this work, Keller received the American Institute of Chemical Engineers' Food, Pharmaceutical and Bioengineering Division Award. His current research interests include the impact of science and technology on international politics and economics, the policy issues raised by high technology medicine and the role of American institutions of higher education in research and development. Keller received a Distinguished Alumnus Award from Johns Hopkins University in 1996 and was named Twin Citian of the Year in 1987.

- more -

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In August, Keller will begin a three-year leave of absence to become director of the Bologna Center of the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

PARTNERSHIP CREATES SUPPORT FOR CHINESE HISTORY RESEARCH BY U OF M STUDENTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Researching the Far East in the Midwest just got easier for graduate students at the University of Minnesota. The Chinese Heritage Foundation at The Minneapolis Foundation and the University of Minnesota's College of Liberal Arts recently announced the creation of an endowed graduate fellowship in history to support university graduate students who are researching World War II in East Asia, with a strong emphasis on China.

The fellowship, known as The Chinese Heritage Foundation Fellowship, is being created by the Dr. M. F. Tchou Memorial Fund and the Choi-Chiu and King-Wo Lam Family Fund of the Chinese Heritage Foundation. Together with a match from the university's 21st Century Graduate Fellowship Endowment, funds will support one or more full-time graduate students each year beginning in September.

"I look forward to our foundation contributing to Minnesotan's understanding of Chinese history. We will work hard to improve and deepen our knowledge of each other and build mutual understanding," said Ming Tchou, founder and president of the Chinese Heritage Foundation.

"The College of Liberal Arts is committed to helping students discover history's intersection with culture, politics, art, and more. This fellowship created in partnership with the Chinese Heritage Foundation will foster that research, and we are grateful for the foundation's support," said Steven Rosenstone, dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

About the Chinese Heritage Foundation: Established in 2004 within The Minneapolis Foundation, the Chinese Heritage Foundation welcomes the support and participation of all people, without regard to cultural background or national origin, of the United States and beyond. Foundation goals are to promote the understanding of Chinese history, to perpetuate and promote Chinese visual and performing arts, music and culture. For more information, please visit: www.chineseheritagefoundation.org.

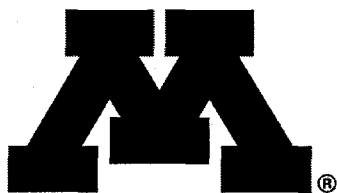
About the College of Liberal Arts: At the heart of the University of Minnesota, CLA has served the state of

- more -

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About the College of Liberal Arts: At the heart of the University of Minnesota, CLA has served the state of Minnesota and its people with distinction-improving people's lives and contributing to the public good through path-breaking research, service to communities, and teaching. CLA has 540 dedicated and award-winning faculty who are making the discoveries and creating the knowledge in the arts, social sciences and humanities.





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June 13, 2006

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Martin Moen, College of Natural Resources, (612) 624-0793

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA TO HOST FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ANIMALS IN ORGANIC PRODUCTION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus will be the international epicenter for organic livestock producers and researchers, when the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) holds the first-ever international conference on organic livestock from Wednesday, Aug. 23 to Friday, Aug. 25.

Leading organic livestock researchers and producers from throughout the world will share state-of-science research findings and production information during the event.

Complete information about the conference, including online registration, can be found at:
http://www.ifoam.org/events/ifoam_conferences/IFOAM_Animal_Production_Conference.html

The conference will begin on Aug. 23 with tours of organic livestock farms in the Twin Cities area, including lunch and a tour of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. <http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/>

During the evening of Aug. 23, opening remarks will be delivered by Minnesota Commissioner of Agriculture Gene Hugoson, and the university's Dean of Extension Bev Durgan. The opening keynote will be given by Dr. Fred Kirschenmann of Iowa State University's Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture. Dr. Kirschenmann will discuss, "Animals in an Organic System - Exploring the Ecological, Social, and Economic Functions of Animals in Organic Agriculture."

Dr. Mette Vaarst of the Danish Institute of Agricultural Sciences, will speak on "Sustaining Animal Health and Food Safety Through Organic Methods" during the morning keynote on Aug. 24. Dr. Vaarst's keynote address will be followed by workshops on organic poultry, dairy, sheep, hogs, and beef, as well as organic livestock standards. Groundbreaking research will be presented on differences between antibiotic-resistant bacteria on organic versus conventional livestock farms.

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Noted author, researcher and acclaimed speaker Dr. Temple Grandin will present the evening keynote, which will be held in the North Star Ballroom of the St. Paul Student Center. Dr. Grandin, an autistic woman who has developed humane livestock handling systems used worldwide, will present "Animals in Translation," which explores how animals see the world.

The evening of Aug. 24 will conclude with a dance party in the North Star Ballroom, with music provided by The Pheromones.

Dr. David Wallinga from the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, will give the morning keynote on Aug. 25. Dr. Wallinga will discuss "Antibiotic Resistance and the Organic Alternative." There will be workshops on humane treatment, biosecurity, animal health, market access, milk quality and food safety.

The closing keynote will be given by Jim Riddle, the university's coordinator for Organic Agriculture Outreach, who will discuss "Fostering Organic Livestock Research - Priorities and Preferences." The program will conclude with reports from session moderators on key findings of the conference, along with a conference resolution, presented by Angela Caudle, IFOAM's executive director.

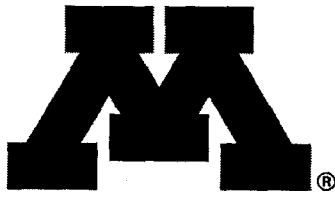
Sponsors for the conference include Organic Valley, Newman's Own Organics, Northland Organic Foods, Stoneyfield Farm, Indian Herbs, Horizon Organic, FiBL - Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, MOSES - Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Services, Organic Choice, Organic Trade Association (OTA), the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the University of Minnesota.

Delicious local organic food will be served throughout the conference, with donations from Gardens of Eagan, Organic Valley, Stoneyfield Farm, Horizon Organic, Nancy's Organic Yogurt, The Wedge, French Meadow Bakery, Coop Partners Warehouse, and Cornercopia, the university's Student Organic Farm on the St. Paul campus.

WHEN: Wednesday, Aug. 23, to Friday, Aug. 25

WHERE: Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., University of Minnesota,
St. Paul





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June 13, 2006

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U OF M NATIONAL STUDENT ADVERTISING TEAM IS ONE OF THE TOP TEAMS IN NATION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's National Student Advertising Competition (NSAC) team took third place in the nation's premier competition for college and university advertising students.

Sponsored by the American Advertising Federation (AAF), the NSAC competition was held in San Francisco June 11-12, during the AAF's annual convention. The 16 schools that competed were selected from more than 160 schools that competed in regional events held around the country in April. The University of Minnesota team of 26 students, which is sponsored by the U of M's School of Journalism & Mass Communication (SJMC), won first place in their regional competition in April.

Minnesota is the only school in the country to send its NSAC team to the national competition four out of the past five years. The SJMC's 2002 NSAC team also finished third in the national competition.

Howard Liszt, a senior fellow in the SJMC and the retired CEO of the Campbell Mithun advertising agency in Minneapolis, is the team's faculty adviser. Liszt praised the students' performance at the national competition. "The top four schools finished very close in the scoring," Liszt said. "Our students did a brilliant job both presenting and fielding questions. I couldn't be prouder of all of them."

The NSAC competition is governed by the AAF's Academic Committee, a group of advertising educators and practitioners from across the country who oversee the policies and procedures of the competition. Each year, a corporate sponsor provides an assignment or case study outlining the history of its product and current advertising situation. Students must research the product and its competition and devise a completely integrated communications campaign for the client. This year's client was Postal Vault, a Dallas-based company that manufactures mailboxes and delivery receptacles designed to protect and secure mail and parcel packages. Recent clients have included Yahoo!, Toyota, Pizza Hut, The New York Times, and Bank of America.

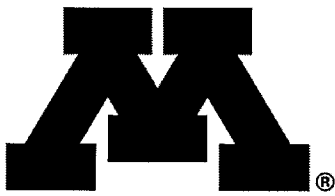
The School of Journalism & Mass Communication at the University of Minnesota prepares students to be

- more -

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The School of Journalism & Mass Communication at the University of Minnesota prepares students to be leaders in communication fields and to be thoughtful, productive citizens in their communities and in public life by promoting the advancement of knowledge about mass communication as it relates to the individual, community and society.

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Contacts: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214

CARP COPULATION

Yes, you read correctly. A combination of factors, including the time of year, fresh water, the increased water temperature and the rapid growth of aquatic plants, are all responsible for a hormonal surge in female carp. A direct result is a significantly increased amount of carp mating activity in our lakes. According to reports and professional expertise, this activity lasts for hours at a time and can be easily observed when accidentally strolling around the lake. A University of Minnesota carp expert is:

Peter Sorensen, professor, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota

Sorensen can comment on carp mating behavior as well as carp in general. The surge of hormones in female carp can be smelled, and according to Sorensen, "most freshwater fish are like dogs--they get around their environment by sniffing." Sorensen has done extensive research on pheromones and used his research for practical application in the area of population control, including carp control.

To interview Sorensen, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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STORY TIPS

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June 14, 2006

Contacts: *Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

CHAIRS, CHAIRS EVERYWHERE, BUT DON'T SIT DOWN

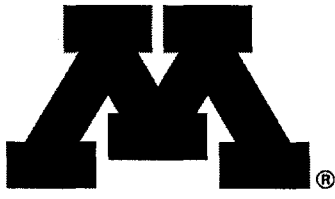
~ Exhibit features the perfect chair for sitting if you're wearing a sword ~

The desire to sit tempts visitors as they enter the University of Minnesota Goldstein Museum of Design, but no sitting is allowed. The chairs are on display for the exhibition "The Chair: 125 Years of Sitting" until Sept. 2. The exhibit gives reporters the opportunity to do a fun or creative story about the piece of furniture many people spend much of their time sitting on.

The exhibition showcases chairs from the late 19th century through the 20th century. Many designers who otherwise focused on architecture have found the chair to be a very attractive form to design. And, chair designers take a lot into account when making the chairs. One chair on display, a Chippendale Corner Chair, which was made in about 1770, allowed people to sit comfortably without removing their swords.

While visitors don't get to sit in the chairs, one person did get that chance to add a unique twist to the exhibit. The department of Design, Housing and Apparel's human dimensioning lab completed scans of a person sitting in some of the chairs to allow visitors to see how bodies are held in the chair and how chairs are designed for different functions. The scan of the F.P.E. (Fantastic, Plastic, Elastic) chair, reveals the sitter in an uncomfortable position with no room to shift. F.P.E. was also designed for a taller person positioning the sitter's feet off the floor. To do a story about this exhibit and to interview Goldstein Director Lin Nelson-Mayson, contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 15, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

U OF M CARLSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT CHINA EXECUTIVE MBA PROGRAM RANKS FIRST IN CHINA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- For the second consecutive year, the U of M Carlson School of Management China Executive MBA program was ranked first among joint executive MBA programs in China, according to 10 leading Chinese media organizations. The media recognized the Carlson School program because of its use of a global team of faculty, global management instruction and strong alumni networking opportunities. The ranking was based on a survey of 4,000 media members affiliated with Brandtimescn.com, a major media conglomerate in China.

The Carlson School partners with Lingnan (University) College, Sun Yat-sen University to offer the degree. Graduates receive a degree from the Carlson School.

“The China Executive MBA program gives students an opportunity to learn from Carlson School and Lingnan (University) College faculty in their own country and to apply that learning in their current professions at home and abroad,” says Michael Houston, interim dean of the Carlson School and associate dean of International Programs.

“Under this joint Global Executive MBA program with Lingnan (University) College, the China Executive MBA students are able to bring forward issues within their companies, receive an excellent management education and adapt their education to the local marketplace,” says Mahmood Zaidi, China Executive MBA academic director. “This joint program allows them to do this successfully.”

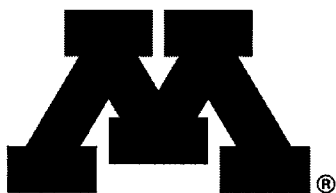
About the China Executive MBA program -- The Carlson School’s joint China Executive MBA program was launched in 2001 and has graduated four cohorts of students. Students take 16 courses over 16 months and participate in a two-week residency in Minneapolis, where they visit Fortune 500 companies. Classes are held over the weekend to accommodate working professionals. Students also have a chance to participate in a virtual team project with their peers at other Carlson School joint Global Executive MBA programs in Warsaw, Vienna and Minneapolis. This past year, teams of 12 students from around the world collaborated to develop plans for

- more -

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introducing several new global businesses. In May, the fourth class of China Executive MBA students traveled to Minneapolis to participate in graduation with other Carlson School MBA students from around the globe.

The Carlson School also has joint global executive MBA programs with the Warsaw School of Economics and the Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien in Vienna. The Carlson Executive MBA program began in 1981.



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June 16, 2006

Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

JUNE IS DAIRY MONTH

June is celebrated as Dairy Month nationwide, an opportunity to highlight Minnesota's dairy farmers.

The nation's sixth largest milk-producing state, Minnesota's dairy industry generates \$2.7 billion in economic activity annually. The state counts 5,300 dairy farms and more than 450,000 cows. But the state's dairy industry is facing challenges. Facing competition from farms in the western U.S.:

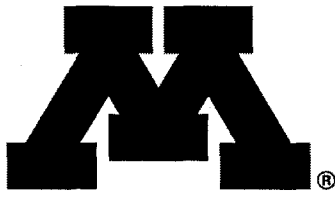
- The number of dairy farms in Minnesota has dropped 72 percent in the last 20 years
- The number of dairy cows is down almost 50 percent.
- Milk production is down 23 percent.

Neil Broadwater, University of Minnesota Extension educator in dairy

Broadwater is available to discuss the state of Minnesota's dairy industry. Broadwater says that the viability of the dairy industry in Minnesota is of great economic and food production concern to the people of Minnesota. While there are several reasons for the decline in the state's dairy industry, Broadwater says, education can have a major impact on whether dairy continues as a growing Minnesota industry. Educating producers and industry professionals on new technologies and modernization of dairy operations will enhance profit and the lifestyle of dairy farm families across the state.

To interview Broadwater, please contact Jeff Falk at jfalk@umn.edu or 612-626-1720.

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EMBARGO: 12:01 A.M. CDT JUNE 21

June 20, 2006

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STUDY BY U OF M RESEARCHERS INDICATES THAT STATE-MANDATED HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAMS REDUCE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A new study by University of Minnesota researchers indicates that state-mandated high school exit examinations (HSEEs) lower the high school graduation rate, denying diplomas to thousands of young people per year who otherwise would have graduated from high school.

While many of these would-be high school graduates will never receive a credential, others go on to earn a GED (the General Educational Development exam). According to the authors, this is not necessarily a good thing, since GED credentials are not generally rewarded as richly as high school diplomas in the paid labor market.

The study, "High School Exit Examinations and State-Level Completion and GED Rates, 1975-2002," appears in the June 21 issue of *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* (the education policy journal of the American Educational Research Association). It is authored by John Robert Warren, associate professor of sociology, Rachael Kulick, graduate student, department of Sociology, and Krista Jenkins, former University of Minnesota undergraduate student.

"Despite growing evidence that state-mandated high school exit examinations have deleterious consequences for high school graduation rates without improving learning or labor market preparedness, such policies are being implemented in additional states over the next few years," said Warren. He went on to note that, as their article went to press, more than 40,000 high school seniors in the state of California are on the verge of being denied diplomas as a result of their failure to pass California's high school exit exam.

Critics of state HSEEs contend that these policies reduce rates of high school completion particularly for race/ethnic minorities and for economically disadvantaged students (Center on Education Policy 2005; National Board on Educational Testing and Public Policy 2000). The present study lends support to such claims. According to Warren, "the negative impact of state-mandated HSEEs on high school graduation rate grows stronger as states' poverty rates increase and as states become more racially/ethnically diverse."

About half of all states require students to pass an HSEE in order to obtain a high school diploma, and similar

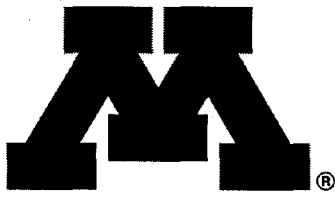
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requirements will soon be in place in Washington and elsewhere.

Although the details of states' HSEE policies vary, students typically first take state HSEEs in ninth or 10th grade and can generally retake state HSEEs several times before their scheduled graduation date. Pass rates on state HSEEs—reported at the state, school district, and school level—are highly publicized, and there are often serious consequences for teachers, principals and school administrators whose students do not pass at high rates.

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Embargo: 12:01 a.m. CDT June 21



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June 21, 2006

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GOLDEN GOPHERS TO BE PART OF NEW "BIG TEN CHANNEL"

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Golden Gopher athletics will be part of a new television channel announced today in Chicago by the Big Ten Conference, University of Minnesota officials said. The new "Big Ten Channel," which is scheduled to launch in August 2007, is a 20-year partnership between the conference and Fox Cable Networks.

University Athletics Director Joel Maturi said the new channel, combined with new television contracts with ABC and ESPN, will result in a significant increase in the number of televised Gopher athletics events.

"In addition to seeing more Gopher football and basketball on TV, this new channel will double the number of Big Ten women's athletic events that get TV air time," said Maturi. "The new channel is also going to be great news for our other programs as the number of televised 'Olympic' Big Ten sports is expected to go from 25 per year to 170."

The partnership with Fox Cable Networks will help the new channel get solid local and nationwide coverage, Maturi said. "Not only do they have one of the best track records at successful new channel launches, but the new channel will be available at launch through DIRECTV's Total Choice package, available in more than 15.4 million homes."

The Big Ten Conference negotiates television broadcast rights for all members of the conference. Revenue from those agreements is split equally among all 11 members of the conference.

Maturi said that any additional revenue from the creation of the new channel would be used to strengthen academic support for student-athletes, maintain the viability and competitiveness of the university's 25 athletics programs and move the Athletics Department toward greater financial self-sufficiency.

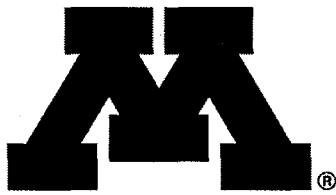
"Like the other Big Ten universities, our athletics programs are an important doorway to our institution," University President Robert Bruininks said. "The new 'Big Ten Channel' will result in higher visibility for Gopher athletics and the entire University of Minnesota both in our state and nationally."

- more -

Each Big Ten member institution will have 60 hours of academic programming time each year on the new channel. "This is an exciting new venture and opportunity for us to show what one of the best public research universities in the world can do," he said.

More information on the Big Ten Channel can be found at www.gophersports.com.

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June 21, 2006

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Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214

SUPERMAN RETURNS

Superman can easily leap tall buildings in a single bound, but how does he do it? "Superman Returns" premieres at theatres nationwide June 28, and it will likely be a summer blockbuster. A University of Minnesota expert who can comment on the superhero is:

Jim Kakalios, professor of physics, University of Minnesota

Kakalios, author of the book "The Physics of Superheroes," will be available for interviews beginning June 26. Kakalios' book takes a real, and often humorous, look at the actual science behind the powers of superheroes like Superman, Spider-Man and The Fantastic Four. Surprisingly, Kakalios found that the writers of the comics often got the science right behind some of the superheroes abilities.

Kakalios began using examples from comics to teach physics to his students in 2001. His experience with his Physics of Superheroes Freshman Seminar, and the popularity of big budget superhero movies, suggested to him that there might be a broad audience interested in learning the physics concepts that underlie our modern technological lifestyle, explained in a fun and accessible manner.

To interview Kakalios or obtain a copy of the book, contact Mark Cassutt at (612) 624-8038 or cassu003@umn.edu, or Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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June 21, 2006

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Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu*

MINNESOTA'S WINE TRAIL

Who needs Napa Valley when wine is flowing throughout Minnesota? This month Minnesota unveiled its first-ever wine trail, the Three Rivers Wine Trail. A University of Minnesota expert who can discuss Minnesota's wine industry is:

Kent Gustafson, professor, University of Minnesota Tourism Center

Gustafson is available to discuss Minnesota's growing wine industry. Gustafson sees the trail as a way to create a niche tourism market around the science of making wine.

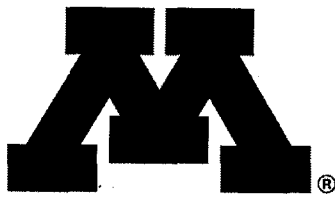
The Three Rivers Wine Trail of Minnesota includes seven wineries and vineyards that wind from Chisago City down along the Mississippi, Cannon and St. Croix rivers to Lake City. The trail invites wine connoisseurs to spend a day or weekend visiting the wineries and vineyards and, of course, sampling wine.

Twenty-five years ago, growing wine in the harsh Minnesota climate was almost impossible. Today there are 19 small wineries, thanks in part to the University of Minnesota, which developed cold-hardy grapes varieties that are both tough and tasty.

Just this spring the University of Minnesota's Horticultural Research Center released the much-anticipated Marquette, a cold-hardy, disease-resistant grape that yields a pinot noir-like red wine comparable to that produced in sunny California. Marquette marks the fourth variety released in six years by the University's grape-breeding program - a shot in the arm for the emerging Minnesota wine industry and an unlikely boost for traditional Minnesota agriculture.

For more information on the Three Rivers Wine Trail, visit www.threeriverswinetrail.com.

To interview Gustafson, please contact Jeff Falk at jfalk@umn.edu or (612) 626-1720. Radio stations: please specify preferred call-in time.



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June 21, 2006

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MASS SAME-SEX WEDDING CEREMONY AND U OF M LIBRARIES GLBT HISTORY COLLECTION TO BE BIG PART OF PRIDE FESTIVAL THIS WEEKEND

Same-sex couples take part in wedding ceremonies

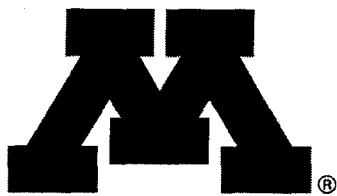
Same-sex couples will gather at the Twin Cities GLBT Pride Festival this weekend for both a mass wedding ceremony and individual ceremonies. University of Minnesota sociology professor Kathleen Hull is available to speak about why wedding ceremonies are important to same-sex couples. "In the current political context, same-sex wedding ceremonies send an important symbolic message. Many people want their relationships to be taken seriously," she said. "Same-sex wedding ceremonies represent an effort to create a kind of legality outside official law, a way to create law when there isn't any," Hull says. Hull's new book, "Same-Sex Marriage: The Cultural Politics of Love and Law," explores what marriage means to gays and lesbians in the United States.

U of M special collection tracks once invisible GLBT history

Imagine the history of a community of people never or rarely mentioned in history books. Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) people and their impact on society have long been invisible, but a University of Minnesota Libraries special collection is an international leader in preserving GLBT history. With the Twin Cities' GLBT Pride Festival this weekend, it's the perfect time to do a story about the world-renowned Jean-Nickolaus Tretter Collection in Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender (GLBT) Studies. Exhibits featuring parts of the collection will be on display in the History Pavilion in Loring Park, Minneapolis Friday and Saturday June 24 and 25. Tretter is available for interviews about GLBT history and the importance of preserving it.

Tretter just returned from a privately-funded trip to attend the first-ever Moscow Pride and to Germany where he acquired rare pieces for the collection. One piece is volume six of "Der Eigene," the first ongoing homosexual publication in the world. A GLBT history exhibit from the Tretter Collection was on display at Moscow Pride and it will now travel to Pride events in Warsaw, Stockholm and Jerusalem.

To interview Hull or Tretter, contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 625-2801



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For Immediate Release

June 22, 2006

*Contacts: Rhonda Zurn, Institute of Technology, (612) 626-7959
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

U OF M TO MAKE MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING K-12 EDUCATION INITIATIVE AT MEETING WITH PROJECT LEAD THE WAY PARTICIPANTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota Senior Vice President Robert Jones will make a major announcement regarding a key university education initiative – The Consortium for Post-Secondary Academic Success – at a meeting that includes 40 high school teachers who are participating in the state’s first-ever Project Lead the Way Summer Training Institute.

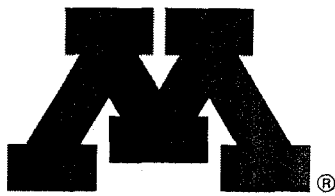
The university’s Institute of Technology is hosting the Summer Training Institute to teach teachers how to introduce high school students to the scope, rigor and discipline of engineering and engineering technology prior to entering college. The institute is part of Project Lead the Way, a national pre-engineering program designed to build excitement for careers in engineering. The university has partnered with the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) and the Minnesota Department of Education to offer the program in Minnesota schools. The program’s goal is to increase the overall number and diversity of students pursuing degrees in engineering.

“Statistics show that the United States is producing 5 percent fewer engineers per capita than it did 20 years ago,” said Steven Crouch, dean of the Institute of Technology. “We hope programs like Project Lead the Way will make a difference in the future of our state and our nation by stirring the curiosity of students at an earlier age.”

WHO: Robert Jones, senior vice president, Steven Crouch, dean of the Institute of Technology, representatives of MnSCU and the Minnesota Department of Education and 40 high school teachers and administrators

WHEN: 12:30 p.m. Monday, June 26

WHERE: Room 101, Walter Library, 117 Pleasant St. S.E., Minneapolis



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June 22, 2006

Contacts: Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

MINNEAPOLIS AS AN ARCHITECTURE DESTINATION

~ New Guthrie Theater to open Sunday, June 25 ~

The new Guthrie Theater, designed by internationally-renowned architect Jean Nouvel, opens Sunday, June 25, and is the latest striking addition to Twin Cities' architectural and cultural landscape. The Guthrie is Nouvel's first completed North American project, and one of the largest theatrical arts building projects in the country. It's opening comes on the heels of several arts and cultural building projects by architects with international reputations. Earlier this month, the Minneapolis Institute of Art opened a new wing, which was designed by Michael Graves. Just prior to that, the new \$125 million Minneapolis Central Library, designed by Cesar Pelli, opened. The Children's Theatre Company, designed by Michael Graves, celebrated its opening last October. And a little more than a year ago, the new Walker Art Center, designed by Herzog & de Meuron, opened. A University of Minnesota expert on Minneapolis as an architecture destination is:

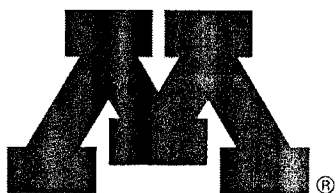
Thomas Fisher, Dean of the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, University of Minnesota

Fisher is available to speak about the changing face of Twin Cities' architecture and how Minneapolis has become a touted destination for architects.

Fisher has served as the editorial director of Progressive Architecture and Building Renovation magazines, as the historical architect for the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, as the Regional Preservation Officer at the Western Reserve Historical Society and as a historian with the Historic American Engineering Record. He has lectured or juried at more than 30 different schools of architecture and more than 60 professional societies.

To interview Fisher, contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.

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For Immediate Release

June 22, 2006

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PROMINENT CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AND MATERIALS SCIENCE ALUMNI RETURN TO U TO CELEBRATE DEPARTMENT'S WORLD-CLASS LEGACY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The inventor of the "Post-it" and the "father of modern chemical engineering" are just two of the more than 300 prominent University of Minnesota chemical engineering and materials science alumni gathering this weekend in Minneapolis from around the world.

This first-of-its-kind alumni gathering celebrates the world-class legacy of the department of chemical engineering and materials science and mobilizes alumni to ensure the department's future success. The chemical engineering program is currently the top-ranked program of its kind in the nation according to the National Research Council.

"The department of chemical engineering and materials science is a shining jewel at the University of Minnesota," said Steven Crouch, dean of the university's Institute of Technology, the college of engineering, physical sciences and mathematics. "The culture of excellence and the family-like atmosphere the department has created is something we all strive to achieve."

The following individuals are available for interviews:

- Art Fry (Bachelor of Science '55) is a retired 3M scientist and creator of the "Post-it".
- Neal Amundson (Bachelor of Science '37, Master of Science '41, Ph.D. '45) was department head for 25 years and is considered nationally to be the "father of modern chemical engineering." Amundson Hall is named in his honor.
- W. Richard Schmeal (Ph.D. '65) is a retired executive of Shell Oil.
- Robert Sundahl (Bachelor of Science '58, Master of Science '64, Ph.D. '66) is a retired executive of Intel Corporation.
- Frank Bates is the current department head.

Other notable University of Minnesota chemical engineering and materials science alumni include Robert Gore, the inventor of "Gore-Tex"; Lee Raymond, former CEO of ExxonMobil; the late Harry Heltzer, former CEO of 3M; Robert Brown, president of Boston University and former provost of MIT; and Franklin Orr, director of

- more -

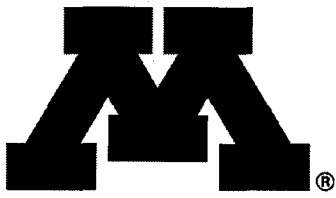
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

the Global Climate Energy Project and former dean of engineering at Stanford.

WHO: Prominent University of Minnesota alumni including Art Fry, the inventor of the Post-it[®], and Neal Amundson, the “father of modern chemical engineering”

WHEN: 2 -2:30 p.m. Friday, June 23

WHERE: Room 151, Amundson Hall, 421 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis



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June 26, 2006

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA NAMES KENT PEKEL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CONSORTIUM FOR POST-SECONDARY ACADEMIC SUCCESS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Robert Jones, senior vice president for the Office of System Academic Administration at the University of Minnesota, today announced that Kent Pekel has been named executive director of the newly created Consortium for Post-secondary Academic Success. Pekel's appointment will be effective July 1.

"I am delighted that Kent has accepted our offer to become executive director of the consortium. He brings a unique breadth of experience to the position, from federal education policy and national education transformation knowledge to local urban school leadership development and school reform," said Jones. "Kent has demonstrated success in working to address the substantial achievement gap issues present in Minnesota, and to promote excellence and high standards for all students. We feel he is the right person to help the university increase its collaboration with school districts, education organizations and other stakeholders in improving the education of our children."

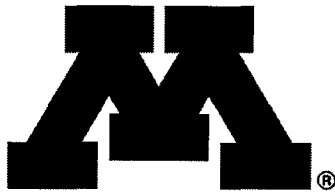
Pekel was most recently a senior policy associate for America's Choice, Inc. where he coordinated the launch of the State Alliance for High Performance, a national initiative to help states raise student achievement. Before this, he spent five years working in a leadership capacity for the St. Paul Public School system, including the position of executive director of research and development, where he led the district's school reform agenda. Pekel has also served in the U.S. Department of Education, the State Department and the White House in Washington, D.C., and as a classroom teacher at Jefferson High School in Bloomington and an English language instructor in Wuhan, China.

The new Consortium for Post-Secondary Academic Success is part of the office of the senior vice president for system academic administration and was initiated by President Robert Bruininks to better serve the needs of the education community. It will engage and will include educators, university faculty and representatives from school districts, state education organizations, and the business community as well as University faculty and staff, building collaborative efforts and addressing other critical education issues. As executive director, Pekel will coordinate collaborative university pre K-12 initiatives with school districts and education organizations to

- more -

improve the coherence, relevance and visibility of university pre K-12 activities. He will also work with the consortium to improve public and private pre K-12 education systems, especially preparing youth for higher education, ensuring access and closing the achievement gap for underrepresented groups.

Pekel earned a masters of education degree from Harvard University. He holds a bachelor's degree from Yale University.



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June 28, 2006

Contacts: Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

The barnacle-like zebra mussel poses a continuing threat to North America's industrial, agricultural and municipal water supplies. The zebra mussel as well as other aquatic invasive species continue to be a costly nuisance for freshwater shipping, boating, fishing, and clamming as well. A University of Minnesota expert on zebra mussels and other aquatic invasive species is:

Doug Jensen, University of Minnesota Extension Service in Duluth

Jensen is an aquatic invasive species specialist with the U's Aquatic Invasive Species Information Center in Duluth. A zebra mussels specialist, Jensen frequently provides public presentations on zebra mussels, as well as other aquatic invasive species, and ways to prevent and minimize their impacts.

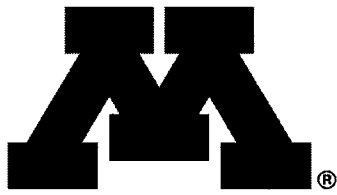
Jensen's expertise includes other invasive species such as sea lampreys, Eurasian watermilfoil, and the, as Jensen puts it, "new kid on the block," the New Zealand mud snail.

Jensen can also speak about a new national initiative called "Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers" - an effort to stop aquatic nuisance species by educating or showing Minnesotans how to help minimize the spread of these invasive species in our rivers and lakes. To find out more about "Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers," go to <http://www.protectyourwaters.net/>.

Another initiative Jensen can talk about is called "Habitattitude." This effort is directed at aquarium hobbyists, backyard pond owners, water gardeners and others who are concerned about aquatic resource conservation, and gives practical advice on how to, for example, dispose of goldfish, i.e., not to flush them down the toilet. To find out more about "Habitattitude," go to <http://www.habitattitude.net/>.

To interview Jensen, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 29, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720*

**STEVEN MILES, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PROFESSOR AND NOTED
AUTHOR, WILL DISCUSS HIS NEW BOOK OATH BETRAYED**

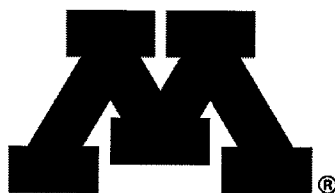
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Steven Miles, a University of Minnesota professor of medicine and internationally recognized author, will discuss his new book "Oath Betrayed: Torture, Medical Complicity, and the War" at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 18 at the University of Minnesota Bookstore in Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Using extensive research, including eyewitness accounts from victims of prison abuse, documents from the FBI, army criminal investigations, as well as prisoner autopsy reports and medical records obtained through the Freedom of Information Act, Miles shows the role of medical professionals in the abuse and neglect of prisoners in U. S. military prisons in Iraq, Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay. Oath Betrayed documents the profound betrayal of traditions that have shaped the U.S. medical corps and America's abdication of its leadership role in international human rights while contradicting the official U.S. government version of the truth.

Miles will sign copies of his book following the discussion. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, or to order a signed copy visit www.bookstore.umn.edu/genref/authors.html.

WHEN: 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 18

WHERE: University of Minnesota Bookstore, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis



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June 30, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

FOLLOWING THE SUN; U OF M SOLAR CAR TEAM PACKING UP FOR THE WORLD SOLAR RALLY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Last summer the University of Minnesota Solar Car went down to the wire with competitors in the North American Solar Challenge Race where they eventually finished in second place. From 3 to 4 p.m. Thursday, July 6, in the courtyard south of the Mechanical Engineering building, 111 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis, the solar car team will announce its plans to participate in the World Solar Rally in Taiwan. Media is invited to inspect the car and ask questions about the race before Borealis III is packed up and shipped to Taiwan.

"A new team of undergraduate students has disassembled, rebuilt, and modified Borealis III to accommodate the new rules of the World Solar Rally," said Patrick O'Connor, project manager. "Competition in the rally will provide an invaluable hands-on education of the race environment and supreme working knowledge of systems engineering."

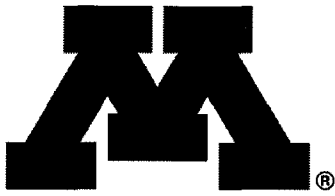
University students have been working on Borealis III since January 2004. The U of M Solar Vehicle Project was founded by a group of undergraduates in the Institute of Technology in 1990. The team is an undergraduate project and remains true to its origins as a student administered, designed and built project that teaches members about engineering and management in a complete product development environment.

Borealis III is one of the university's most visible commitments to the support and use of renewable energy. The university's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE) is among more than 60 sponsors of the project.

WHAT: U of M Solar Vehicle Project announces participation in World Solar Rally

WHEN: 3-4 p.m. Thursday, July 6

WHERE: South (in the courtyard) of Mechanical Engineering, 111 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis



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June 30, 2006

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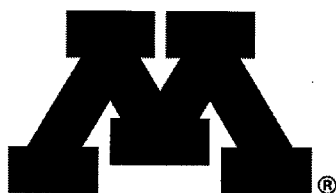
SUSAN WOLF APPOINTED MCKNIGHT PRESIDENTIAL PROFESSOR

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Susan Wolf has been appointed the McKnight Presidential Professor of Law, Medicine & Public Policy at the University of Minnesota effective July 1.

Wolf is the Faegre & Benson Professor of Law at the Law School, professor of medicine at the Medical School, and a faculty member in the Center for Bioethics. She is also founding chair of the university's Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences and founding director of the Joint Degree Program in Law, Health & the Life Sciences. Her research and teaching focus is on health law, law and science and bioethics.

"Susan Wolf has shown great leadership -- in her own scholarship and in the programs she has helped build here at the university," said University President Robert Bruininks. "We're pleased to have her working on the often thorny -- but always interesting -- interdisciplinary issues where society, health, technology and the environment intersect."

The McKnight Presidential Professorships are assigned at the President Robert Bruininks' discretion, and are intended to attract or retain the best faculty in fields of critical importance at the university. These professorships are made possible by a \$15 million gift from the McKnight Foundation.



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June 30, 2006

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JULY 1 MARKS MAJOR STEP IN UNIVERSITY'S JOURNEY TO BECOME ONE OF THE TOP THREE PUBLIC RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES IN WORLD

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A key part of University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks' plan to transform the university into one of the top three public research universities in the world is moving forward. The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, will now have 17 colleges instead of 20.

Three new colleges emerge from what had been six in one of the boldest realignments of academic programs in the university's history, which takes effect Saturday, July 1. It's a move that will increase curriculum quality and selection, lead to more efficient operations, provide fertile ground for collaborative research, and save, by early estimates, nearly \$3 million to \$4 million dollars during the next two to three years.

"This marks another step in our journey to transform the university," Bruininks said. "It represents how we want the university to meet the future: by striving for excellence in education and research, meeting the needs of our communities, and making the very best use of our resources."

This transformation is designed to strengthen the university's leadership in academic fields that are of critical importance to society, Bruininks said.

The current College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) is joining together with General College and the College of Human Ecology's (CHE) department of family social science and School of Social Work to form the new CEHD. The college will have 200 faculty members and about 6,000 students.

The new College of Education and Human Development is poised to become a world leader in creating and advancing knowledge in the fields of education, family systems, human welfare and human development across the lifespan by conducting rigorous research; identifying and applying creative solutions to the pressing problems of individuals, families, societies and countries in timely, relevant ways; and transmitting knowledge through quality publications and products, teaching and public engagement, and the dissemination of research findings.

- more -

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The new College of Design will encompass all of the design disciplines at the university — graphic design, apparel design, retail merchandising, interior design, housing studies, architecture and landscape architecture — by combining CHE's department of design, housing, and apparel with the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. The change will strengthen the university's leadership in academic research and education in the area of design. The new structure will also strengthen existing programs and allow the College of Design to pursue new degree programs in areas such as industrial design. College faculty will forge interdisciplinary partnerships across the design disciplines to respond to new design specialties just now emerging in the marketplace, such as experience design, services design, and interactive design. The College of Design will have 46 faculty members and 93 adjunct faculty members. It will serve 1,771 students.

The College of Natural Resources, CHE's department of food science and nutrition and the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences join to become the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS). This expanded college will encompass food production and systems, environmental science, and renewable resources. The nationally distinctive college is being designed to enhance the university's biological and social science contributions to the environment, agriculture, human health, food systems, and natural resources in the 21st century. CFANS will have 275 faculty members and 2,500 students.

The new alignment saves money. Part of the cost savings come from the smaller payrolls of the new colleges: There used to be a dean for each of the six colleges, for example, and, now there are three; the university will have fewer associate deans; and it has eliminated duplicate directors. Additional cost savings come from the university implementing best administrative practice principles as recommended by strategic positioning task forces.

"We're saving by being smarter, more efficient and more effective in the way the university carries out its mission," said Provost Thomas Sullivan.

The money saved will not go to the central administration, but will stay at the college level, and though the deans will consult with the provost about those dollars, the money is intended to enhance the academic offerings of the colleges. The dollars will also be reinvested in the academic initiatives that lay the groundwork for the university to become one of the three top public research universities in the world within the decade.

While creating more cost efficiency was important, it's the increased quality of teaching and research that is the big winner in the creation of the new colleges.

"Education for students at the university is about being part of a coherent but larger intellectual community," Sullivan said. "These new colleges are going to strengthen the work of our faculty through the new academic synergies that will be created through cross-disciplinary work, and the changes will also improve the quality of the student experience."